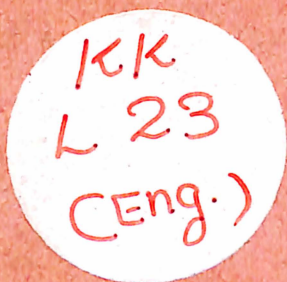


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REPORT
ON THE
ADMINISTRATION
OF
COCHIN
FOR
THE YEAR 1113 M. E.

(17th AUGUST, 1937, to 16th AUGUST, 1938)



ERNAKULAM

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, COCHIN GOVERNMENT PRESS.

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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 Chalakudi, 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 17th 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., LL. D., 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, 190 male and 190 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 corresponds in all official matters. Certain departments of administration—Agriculture, Ayurveda, Co-operation, Panchayats, Public Health, Uplift of the Depressed Classes and Development of Cottage Industries—have been transferred to the charge of a Minister for Rural Development, and His Highness has expressed his intention generally to act on the advice of the Minister in all subjects relating to the administration of these transferred subjects. The Diwan and the Minister are 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-eight members, of whom thirty-eight 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 is the High 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—Mattancheri, Ernakulam, Trichur, Chittur-Tattamangalam and Irinjalakuda. The total number of inhabited towns and villages in the State is 283.

IMPORTANT EVENTS OF THE YEAR

An important development in the constitutional evolution of the State took place during the year under report. The Government of Cochin Act was promulgated on 17th June, 1938, creating a Minister for Rural Development and reconstituting the Chief Court as a High Court.

It was at a Durbar held on 4th January, 1938, to celebrate His Highness the Maharaja's 76th birthday, that His Highness was graciously pleased to make the announcement relating to constitutional reforms. With a view to associate the people directly with the administration of the Government and make the Legislative Council responsible in a more effective manner for the administration of certain nation-building departments, His Highness declared that he had decided that "the administration of the departments of Public Health, Panchayats, Co-operation, Agriculture, Ayurveda and Uplift of the Depressed Classes shall hereafter be conducted by my Diwan with the assistance of a Minister nominated by me from amongst the elected members of the Legislative Council."

To inaugurate the new Constitution framed in pursuance of His Highness's announcement, a public Durbar was held at the Durbar Hall, Ernakulam, on 17th June, 1938. His Highness made an important announcement on the occasion, appealing to the people of the State to shoulder the new responsibilities conferred upon them in a worthy manner. At the close of the Durbar, His Highness was pleased to present *veerasringhalas* to some of the leading citizens of the State.

At this Durbar, His Highness was presented with the sanad and badge of the title of "Doctor of Laws" conferred on His Highness by the Benares Hindu University.

On 17th June, 1938, Mr. Ambat Sivarama Menon, B. A., B. L., leader of the Cochin Congress, who was nominated by His Highness as the first Minister for Rural Development, took charge of office. Mr. Menon continued as Minister till the end of the year.

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 Ernakulam on 6th January, 1938, and returned from Madras on 26th January, 1938.

There were twenty births in the Royal Family during the year (nine males and eleven females). The year witnessed the demise of two male Tampurans and two female Tampurans.

C. P. Skrine, Esq., O. B. E., I. C. S., continued as Resident for Madras States throughout the year, and Sir R. K. Shanmukham Chetty, K. C. I. E., as Diwan of the State.

On the invitation of the Government of India to be one of the Indian delegates to the nineteenth ordinary session of the Assembly of the League of Nations at Geneva, the Diwan undertook a journey to Europe towards the end of the year.

CHAPTER II

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS

The most outstanding event of the year under report was the inauguration of a new Constitution for the State.

At a public Durbar held at Ernakulam on 4th January, 1938, on the occasion of the 76th birthday of His Highness the Maharaja, His Highness made the following important announcement :

“On the occasion of the celebration of his sixtieth birthday, my illustrious predecessor, His Highness the late Maharaja, made the announcement expressing his desire to associate his people with the administration of the State, and in accordance with that announcement a Proclamation was issued constituting the Legislative Council. The Council consisted of 30 elected and 15 nominated members. The franchise was based upon property qualification, and in addition to general constituencies certain special constituencies also were created to represent the interests of landholders, planters and industrialists. In inaugurating the first Legislative Council, in April 1925, His Highness said that ‘the high standard of culture of my people and their traditional and deep sense of loyalty and devotion to their Ruler have actuated me in investing the Council from the very beginning with wide powers.’

“I have since the inception of the Council been watching with interest the work done by the representatives of my people. On the occasion of my installation on the musnad in January, 1932, I announced my 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. My intention was implemented by promulgating the necessary amendments to the rules. The strength of the Council was increased to 36 elected members and 18

nominated members. Subsequently my Government extended the franchise very considerably by giving the right of vote to every one who paid any tax and to those who have passed the School Final Examination or had secured similar educational qualifications. The association of the representatives of the people with the administration of the State was also made more intimate by the constitution of a number of Advisory Committees to offer advice to the various departments of Government.

“Having been impressed by the genuine interest evinced by the members of the Legislative Council, I have decided that steps should now be taken to associate my people directly with the administration of my Government and make the Legislative Council responsible in a more effective manner for the administration of certain nation-building departments. This object can best be achieved by associating a non-official representative from the Legislative Council with my Diwan in the carrying on of the administration of certain departments. I have, therefore, decided that the administration of the departments of Public Health, Panchayats, Co-operation, Agriculture, Ayurveda and Uplift of the Depressed Classes shall hereafter be conducted by my Diwan with the assistance of a Minister nominated by me from amongst the elected members of the Legislative Council. This Minister will be called ‘Minister for Rural Development,’ and he will hold office during my pleasure. Though the administration of these departments will normally be carried on in accordance with the advice of my Minister, it is necessary that my prerogative should be preserved unimpaired. My undoubted right and prerogative of ordering at any time that action should be taken otherwise than in accordance with the advice tendered by any of my advisers will be preserved in the administration of these and other departments of my Government. My Government will issue the necessary amendments to the Acts and Regulations to implement this my desire.

“I hope that my people will realise the significance of the momentous step that has been taken. Though it has always been my desire and the desire of my Government to carry on the administration of my State in accordance with the wishes of my people, the announcement that I have made today will for

the first time make the representatives of the people directly responsible for the administration of some of the great departments of the State. The administration of these departments, more than any other, vitally affects the everyday life of the rural population, and the responsibility that devolves upon my Minister and the Legislative Council will, therefore, be very great indeed. The welfare of the vast masses of the rural population has been my constant care. On their contentment depends the prosperity and stability of the State, and in their happiness I seek my reward. It is my earnest desire that the representatives of my people in the Legislative Council will realise the magnitude of the responsibility that they are called upon to shoulder, and I pray that they may be given the courage and wisdom to shoulder that responsibility in a worthy manner."

In pursuance of this announcement, steps were taken to frame the necessary legislation for implementing the decision of His Highness, and on 17th June, 1938, the new Constitution was inaugurated at a public Durbar held for the purpose. The following announcement was made by His Highness on this occasion :

"At the Birthday Durbar on the 4th January, 1938, I made the announcement that I had decided that steps should be taken to associate my people directly with the administration of my Government and to make the Legislative Council responsible in a more effective manner for the administration of certain departments. And in accordance with this desire I decided to entrust the administration of certain nation-building departments to a Minister chosen from amongst the elected members of my Legislative Council. My Government were instructed to issue the necessary amendments to the Acts and Regulations to implement this my desire. Accordingly, a comprehensive Constitution Act, called 'The Government of Cochin Act,' has been promulgated by me today. With the coming into force of this measure my Minister for Rural Development assumes the responsibility for the carrying on of some of the departments of my Government, and the representatives of my people have been given an opportunity of sharing with me the responsibilities of administration,

“ Though under the terms of the Constitution Act the appointment of the Minister is solely within my discretion, I have made known through my Diwan that it is my intention to impose constitutional limits on my discretion by making the Minister to be responsible to the Legislative Council for his actions in the administration of the departments under him. In imposing voluntarily this restriction on my power I am only carrying one step further the immemorial tradition and practice of the Ruling House of Cochin. It has been the long-established practice of my illustrious predecessors and myself that the Ruler of this State does not exercise any authority except through his accredited adviser, the Diwan of the State. I have now taken one more adviser who would hold this position by virtue of the confidence that he commands amongst the representatives of my people in the Legislative Council. It is my intention that in all matters relating to the administration of the departments entrusted to the care of my popular Minister I shall be guided by his advice. The Constitution Act, no doubt, declares in unmistakable terms that the prerogative of the Ruler of the State to do any act without reference to any authority is declared to be and to have been always possessed and retained by the Ruler. I may solemnly assure my people that the retention of the paramount authority and the prerogative of the Ruler is intended to safeguard the interests of the State and not to curb the powers of my popular Minister. It will rest with the wisdom of the elected representatives of my people in the Legislative Council to make certain that these prerogative powers will never be called into operation.

“ In framing the Constitution Act and the rules, my Diwan was instructed to place on the statute book as liberal a measure as possible, and in accordance with these instructions the powers of the Legislative Council have been broadened in certain matters. The discussion of matters relating to certain important subjects like the development of the Harbour and the State Railways which has hitherto been kept outside the purview of the Legislative Council has now been brought within the cognizance of that body. The rules relating to the powers of the Legislative Council to vote the annual expenditure of the State have been liberalised, and the scope

of what are called 'non-votable items' has been considerably restricted. Notwithstanding these liberal provisions of the Constitution Act, I would ask my people to judge the Act not so much by the words used in the enactment but by the declared intentions underlying the whole structure of the new Constitution. Under my instructions my Diwan explained these underlying intentions of mine on various occasions, and I may assure once again that it is my intention that the transfer of power to my people shall be real. It is my genuine desire to share my authority with my people that prompted me to take this step. The faith that underlies my action is that though I have sacrificed my power I shall be more than compensated by the devotion of my people. The history of the illustrious House of our beloved King-Emperor is a standing example and inspiration to all those who work in this faith. The British Crown is the most memorable example of the devotion inspired in a people by a constitutional Ruler whose prerogative is exercised by him solely for the welfare of the State. It is my earnest prayer to the Almighty that He may give my people the wisdom to shoulder their responsibilities in a worthy manner and to myself and my successors the inspiration to be the Trustees and Guardians of the Constitution of the State.

"In order to enable every section of my people to share our joy with us today in some measure, I have ordered the immediate release of thirty-four prisoners undergoing imprisonment in the jails of the State. I pray that these, too, may turn a new chapter in their lives and find opportunities of honest and useful service."

The Government of Cochin Act thus promulgated amends and amplifies the statute law, leaving the customary law alone, and brings together in one enactment the relevant constitutional provisions in a systematic manner. The law which governs the relations of the State with the Paramount Power, in so far as it affects questions of internal government, is not included in the Act, as also the rights and obligations which arise out of the treaty rights or other obligations. Similarly, no reference is made to the civil list of the Maharaja and the Ruling Family. The Act is divided into five parts

and contains fifty-seven sections. It provides for the exercise of executive authority by His Highness on the advice of the Diwan and the Minister, of legislative authority by the Legislative Council and of judicial authority by the High Court and other courts.

According to the Constitution, all power is vested in His Highness the Maharaja, and the executive authority of the State is exercised through the Diwan in relation to reserved subjects and through the Minister in relation to transferred subjects. The legislative authority of the State vests in His Highness and a single chamber known as the Cochin Legislative Council. The Legislative Council consists of 58 members: 38 of these are elected by the people in territorial constituencies; eight are nominated by the Ruler to represent minority interests; and 12 are officials and heads of departments. The Diwan is the ex-officio President of the Council, and the members are elected on a fairly wide franchise, every person who pays any tax to the State or to any local authority and every person who has passed the School Final examination or its equivalent being a voter. The constituencies are mostly territorial, except in the case of the Latin Catholics and the Thiyyas who are given communal electorates. Women have the vote on the same basis as men and are eligible to stand as candidates for any constituency; in addition, two seats are specially reserved for them.

The life of the Council normally is three years—unless sooner dissolved by the Ruler. The members have the right of electing a Deputy President who has to preside in the absence of the ex-officio President. Freedom of speech in the Council is allowed to members by statute, and it is provided that no member entitled to take part in the proceedings of the Council shall be liable to any proceedings in any court in respect of anything said or any vote given by him in the Council or any Committee. All matters relating to the administration of the State are brought within the purview of the Legislative Council except a few specified items, such as relations of the Ruler with the Crown or with foreign princes or States, matters governed by treaties made with the Crown, military forces of the State, conduct of judges of the High Court in discharging their official duties, matters relating to the management of temples under the control of His Highness, and a few minor matters. Provision is, however, made for the previous sanction of the Ruler being obtained for any measure

which affects the public revenues of the State, or the religion or religious rights of any of the subjects of the State, or which affects any Proclamation or order passed by the Ruler in exercise of his prerogative.

The Council has the right of moving resolutions or introducing bills on any subject not specifically excluded from its purview. Any bill passed by the Council becomes law when it is assented to by the Ruler. Every bill which has been passed by the Council should be submitted to His Highness for approval, although the Diwan may return any bill to the Council for reconsideration if he thinks that the measure requires amendment in any particular. The Ruler has the right to withhold his assent from a bill. The normal procedure for passing laws is to introduce a bill in the Council for the purpose, although the Ruler has the prerogative of making laws of his own accord.

The annual budget of the State is to be presented to the Council in detail, and the Council has the right to vote on the budget except a few specified items which are kept as non-votable. The non-votable items comprise practically expenditure of an obligatory character, like pensions and gratuities, interest on loans and sinking funds, etc. Besides, the salaries of such of the officers as are specified by the Ruler and also contributions for charities and other purposes made by the Ruler are removed from the cognizance of the Council.

The administration of the transferred subjects is to be carried on by the Minister appointed by His Highness from amongst the elected members of the Council. The salary and allowances of the Minister are within the control of the Council. It is provided that in case of a difference of opinion between the Diwan and the Minister the decision shall be given by the Ruler. In the administration of the transferred subjects His Highness has to be guided by the advice offered by the Minister, unless in certain cases His Highness sees cause to dissent from the Minister's opinion, in which case he may require action to be taken otherwise than in accordance with such advice.

Provision is made in the Act for the reconstitution of the Chief Court into a High Court. The High Court is to consist of three

judges, one of whom will be the Chief Justice. The qualification of judges follows the law in British India with certain local variations. In accordance with the law prevailing in Cochin for a long time, one of the judges of the High Court must be a Christian. The judges are appointed by His Highness and their salary fixed by him. It is, however, provided that the salary may not be varied to their disadvantage during their tenure and that it should be the whole profit or advantage they derive from their office. The High Court will be the highest court of appeal in the State. It is provided that neither the High Court nor any court subordinate thereto may claim or exercise any jurisdiction or powers over the property or the person of the Maharaja. Provision is made, however, for disposal of claims by or against the Maharaja. By rules promulgated the Maharaja will send such claims to the courts for enquiry. The Chief Justice has full administrative control over the officers and staff of the High Court. The writs and processes of the courts will run in the name of His Highness the Maharaja.

Mr. Ambat Sivarama Menon, B. A., B. L., who, as leader of the majority party in the Legislative Council, was appointed Minister on 17th June, 1938, was in charge of the transferred departments during the year.

COCHIN HARBOUR

All the works in connection with the fourth stage works of the Cochin Harbour, sanctioned during the previous year, were progressing satisfactorily. The Administration Block of buildings to accommodate all the offices of the port and the Power House on the Willingdon Island were completed in the year.

The construction of the rail and road bridge between Ernakulam and Venduruthi—one of the major works in connection with the fourth stage—made satisfactory progress, the screwing of the cylinder foundation having been completed and six of the spans erected. The embankment for the rail and road bridge across Venduruthi was formed, and the minor bridges over the principal pathway and across the main drainage canal were finished.

The new bucket dredging plants arrived and the vessels were put in commission after satisfactory trials. The construction of the ships' wharf was proceeding satisfactorily, and the construction of the warehouse at the wharf was commenced.

The necessary lands for the extension of the railway from Edappilli to the Harbour Bridge were put in possession of the South Indian Railway Company during the year, and the construction of the railway was in progress.

The Government advanced Rs. 23½ lakhs towards the fourth stage harbour works (including the cost of the dredging plant) in the course of the year. Of this, Rs. 15 lakhs was financed by a loan taken from the Government of India.

Harbour Advisory Committee.—Rao Bahadur T. S. Narayana Ayyar, member of the Advisory Committee, resigned his membership on his being appointed a judge of the High Court during the year. In his place, Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar, Secretary to Government, was nominated by the Government.

*Trade Statistics**.—As per the Customs House returns, the total trade of the port for the year ending 30th June, 1938, in terms of values, was Rs. 15,18,01,187 as against Rs. 13,81,85,793 for the previous year. Exports for the year were valued at Rs. 7,31,25,969 and imports at Rs. 7,86,75,218 compared with exports valued at Rs. 6,23,04,879 and imports valued at Rs. 7,58,80,914 for the year ending 30th June, 1937.

The principal increases in exports to foreign ports were coir yarn 34,848 cwts., value Rs. 3,65,904; coir matting 520,127 yards, value Rs. 5,57,279; ginger 127 cwts., value Rs. 4,699; nuxvomica 818 cwts., value Rs. 3,272; coffee 1,054 cwts., value Rs. 57,970; cashew kernels 36,032 cwts., value Rs. 17,65,568; rubber 3,774,521 lbs., value Rs. 16,51,353; tea 1,476,786 lbs., value Rs. 14,61,403; and mineral sand, 340,020 cwts.; and the principal decreases in exports to foreign ports were coir fibre 895 cwts., value Rs. 8,502; cocoanut oil 154 cwts., value Rs. 2,310; lemongrass oil 792 cwts., value Rs. 85,536; cotton (raw) 16,145 cwts., value Rs. 7,26,525; pepper 2,294 cwts., value Rs. 59,644; and turmeric 4,027 cwts., value Rs. 32,216.

The principal increases in imports from foreign ports were (in values) fruits and vegetables, Rs. 1,25,827; chemicals and chemical preparations, Rs. 48,134; glass and glassware, Rs. 29,401; grains (rice and paddy), Rs. 19,40,240; hardware and cutlery, Rs. 36,602;

*The figures are taken from the report of the Cochin Chamber of Commerce for 1937—38.

machinery and millwork, Rs. 5,47,102; manures, Rs. 57,873; other oils, Rs. 13,84,744; paper and pasteboard, Rs. 1,31,568; and tea chests, Rs. 1,17,569; and the principal decreases were cement, Rs. 13,872; cotton piecegoods, Rs. 55,763; copra, Rs. 10,56,901; kerosene oil, Rs. 27,35,714; and vehicles, Rs. 34,700.

The Port Office statistics for the year ending 31st March, 1938, in terms of landing and shipping fees and the tonnage based on those fees, were as under, and showed a total trade of 780,492 landing and shipping fees tons for the year as against 741,010 tons for the year ending 31st March, 1937.

**Tonnage of Cargo imported and exported at Cochin for the years
1936—37 and 1937—38.**

	1936—37	1937—38
Import Tonnage	603,646	628,779
Export Tonnage	137,364	151,713
Total Tonnage as per Landing and Shipping Fees Schedule	<u>741,010</u>	<u>780,492</u>

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

	1936—37	1937—38
	Rs.	Rs.
Landing Fees	6,25,899	6,57,172
Shipping Fees	1,30,561	1,41,192
Total Fees	<u>7,56,460</u>	<u>7,98,364</u>

The Sea Customs revenue collected at the port for the year ending 31st March, 1938, amounted to Rs. 1,02,04,273 as compared with Rs. 35,86,766 for the previous year, as shown below:

	1936—37	1937—38
	Rs.	Rs.
Import Duty	35,67,216	49,64,538
Import Duty (Burma)		52,20,185
Export Duty	977	828
Miscellaneous	18,573	18,722
Total	<u>35,86,766</u>	<u>1,02,04,273</u>

The increase in revenue from the import duty was mainly due to the collection of the counter vailing duty on kerosene oil and benzine imported from Burma since the separation of Burma from India in April 1937. The imports of motor cars, machinery and other general cargo which were in excess of the imports of the previous year also contributed towards swelling the receipts from

import duties. On the other hand, there was a complete cessation of import of sugar from Java and broken rice from Saigon and Siam.

A regular passenger service to and from Marseilles and London was maintained, and during the year the Bibby Line had 36 sailings and the P. & O. and B. I. Lines 14 sailings, making a total of 50 passenger sailings. The number of passengers embarked and disembarked during the year was 1,753 as against 1,720 in the previous year.

Sale of Reclaimed Land.—During the year under report, the Government received Rs. 3·37 lakhs as royalty on a portion of the Reclamation ground. This ground, comprising 337 acres and lying contiguous to the Willingdon Island, had been formed from the annual maintenance dredging operations of the port authorities, without entailing any expenditure on the Cochin Government. This was the only portion of the island the ownership of which had not been settled. The port authorities were allowed to exercise full rights of ownership over the area on payment of royalty at the rate of Rs. 1,000 per acre. This transaction brought in the Rs. 3·37 lakhs referred to above. Ownership of the port authorities over this area would be subject, however, to the sovereignty and jurisdiction of His Highness the Maharaja.

Another transaction into which the Government entered during the year was the sale to the harbour authorities of an area of 150 acres on the Willingdon Island at a cost of Rs. 28·42 lakhs. This sale also was subject to the condition that the sovereignty and jurisdiction of His Highness over the area remained intact.

HUZUR SECRETARIAT

Redistribution of Work.—A redistribution of work in the departments of the Secretariat was made during the year. The Law and Justice Department which used to consist of five sections—Police and Civil Justice, Criminal Justice, Legislation, Legislative Council, and Suits—was bifurcated into two departments and designated as the “Law Department” and the “Judicial Department,” the Law Department consisting of two sections, viz., Legislation and Legislative Council, and the Judicial Department of the Police, Civil Justice, Criminal Justice and Suits sections. To the Judicial

Department was also tacked the section dealing with Registration and Joint Stock Companies which was till then attached to the Revenue Department.

At the same time, the Estates Department, which was constituted in 1111 soon after the assumption of the management of the Paliam Estate, was abolished, and in its place a separate section to deal with the affairs of the Estates was created. This section was attached to the Revenue Department in place of the Registration section transferred to the Judicial Department. It was ordered, however, that all papers relating to the Estate suits would be dealt with in the Suits section of the Judicial Department. This redistribution of work came into force from 15th Kumbham.

Publicity Department.—The report on the Administration of Cochin for the year 1112 was prepared and published by the department during the year. “Cochin Calling”—a guide book to Cochin—which was under preparation in 1112 was also published during the year.

Besides, over 1,300 cuttings from newspapers (inclusive of those sent to the Diwan and to the Secretary to Government) were brought to the notice of the departmental heads. The department also issued from time to time corrections of mis-statements of facts concerning the administration of the State that appeared in the newspapers.

Towards the end of the year the Publicity Officer was entrusted with the work of bringing out a companion volume to the Government of Cochin Act, containing all the papers connected with the new Constitution. It was under preparation when the year closed.

STAFF SELECTION BOARD

The scheme of recruitment by the Staff Selection Board, which was brought into force from 1st Kanni, 1112, continued to work satisfactorily during the year.

The total number of appointments made by the Government in the year on the recommendation of the Board was 506 as against 709 in the previous year. Of these, 406 were officiating or temporary and 95 permanent appointments in Group I (i. e., appointments

the initial salary of which was Rs. 40), while three were officiating and two permanent appointments in Group II (i. e., above Rs. 40 and below Rs. 100).

Analysed according to communities, 103 appointments were secured by Ezhuvas, 70 by other Hindus (backward or depressed), 61 by Romo-Syrians, 31 by Latin Catholics, 32 by other Christians, 82 by Nayars, 52 by other Hindus, 29 by Muslims, 21 by Tamil Brahmins, 10 by Jews, Anglo-Indians, etc., and 15 by Pulayas. Pulayas alone could not derive the full benefit of the percentage of appointments assured to them because of the want of qualified applicants in their community.

DEBT CONCILIATION BOARD

The Debt Conciliation Board was first established for one year from 29th Edavam, 1112. The areas over which the Board was to operate comprised the three taluks of Cochin-Kanayannur, Mukundapuram and Cranganur. The term of the Board was extended by another year later.

At the beginning of the year under report, there were 201 applications for conciliation (involving Rs. 13,95,559) pending disposal. Five hundred and nineteen applications were received during the year, the total amount of debt involved being Rs. 21,20,696. There were, thus, 720 applications for disposal. From among the applications disposed of, 28 cases (involving Rs. 1,40,386) were re-admitted for hearing, so that the total number of petitions for disposal during the year was 748 (involving Rs. 36,56,641). Of these, 572 applications were disposed of, leaving 176 pending at the end of the year.

Of the disposal, 28 applications (involving Rs. 44,260) were conciliated in full, two (involving Rs. 945) were conciliated in part, 12 (involving Rs. 18,582) were compromised by the parties themselves at the instance of the Board, and in respect of two applications (involving Rs. 1,888) an agreement was come to. One hundred and fifteen of the applications (involving Rs. 3,54,743) were dismissed on merits, 60 (involving Rs. 2,10,769) were rejected for defects, 313 (involving Rs. 12,26,236) were dismissed for default, 16 (involving Rs. 1,27,379) were dismissed since conciliation was not effected within the prescribed statutory period, and 24 (involving Rs. 2,34,732) dismissed as a result of ruling by the Chief Court.

Conciliation was effected in the form of ready cash payments in certain cases and by transfer of the debtors' properties to the creditors in others.

All the petitions presented by creditors was invariably dismissed because none of the debtors cared to appear in response to the notice issued to them under the Debt Conciliation Act.

The receipts of the Board during the year, realised in the form of court fee labels, anchal charges, postage, etc., amounted to Rs. 4,424 and the expenditure to Rs. 6,169.

CHAPTER III

ACCOUNTS AND FINANCE

The Accounts Department started as a branch of the Government Secretariat and worked like that until 1083 M. E. (1907 A. D.). On 1st Kanni, 1083, it was separated from the Secretariat and placed under the charge of an independent officer styled "The Comptroller of Accounts." The department was from the very first organised on the model of the British Accountant-General's Office and rules were framed accordingly. Four years hence, on the recommendation of Mr. Hensman of the Madras Audit Department, a system of local audit was introduced. Later, in 1106, efficiency audit was also started in select offices.

In 1083, when the department was first organised, the Comptroller of Accounts was given the help of an Assistant Comptroller to aid him in the head office. Later, when the system of local audit was introduced, one more assistant was appointed. Since then there have been re-organisations from time to time, and today the personnel of the department includes, besides the Comptroller, an Assistant Comptroller, six superintendents, forty auditors, one comptometer operator, two typists, three apprentices and two attenders.

The department concerns itself mostly with the compilation of the State accounts and its audit both at the head office and the offices of the heads of departments where the initial accounts and registers are kept. With the inauguration of the Legislative Council in 1100, the Comptroller of Accounts became also the Finance Member of the State.

In 1112, the services of a retired member of the British Audit Department were requisitioned, and he conducted a thorough test audit and submitted his report in Karkadagam 1112. Several valuable suggestions were offered by him, and Government have passed orders on some of them. On 1st Medam of the year under report, the designation of the Comptroller of Accounts was altered into that of "Comptroller of Finance and Accounts," to be more in keeping with the work entrusted to his department.

The operations in connection with the two Cochin Government loans—the five per cent 1943-53 and the three and-a-half per cent 1956-61—are conducted in the office of the Comptroller as laid down in the Cochin State Securities Act and its rules.

Important Features of the Year.—During the year two temporary divisions of local audit, each consisting of one superintendent, three auditors and one peon, were created to clear the arrears and to cope with the increased work in local audit. The first division was created for six months from 1st Kumbham and the other for two and-a-half months from 16th Edavam.

The office was removed from Ramavarmapuram to Trichur with effect from 28th Edavam.

The departmental system of audit and the system of reconciliation of accounts introduced at the close of 1103 continued to work fairly well. The question of delegating a portion of the routine work of the Comptroller of Finance and Accounts to the Assistant Comptroller so as to allow him more time to devote to important matters was under consideration.

The offices subject to “efficiency audit” were audited in the year as per programme approved by the Government. It was ordered that these audits might hereafter be conducted by the respective superintendents of the office of the Comptroller as in the case of local audit, the reports of such audits being scrutinised by the Comptroller before submission to the Government. No serious irregularity was noticed in the course of efficiency audit.

The question of presenting appropriation reports to the Legislative Council and of revising the existing rules in the Account Codes and the Civil Service Regulation in other respects in the light of the Cochin Constitution Act was under consideration. Rules regulating the service and pension of the High Court Judges were introduced in the Civil Service Regulation during the year.

Local Audit.—The year opened with arrears in audit to the extent of 128 days covering 24 institutions in all the three divisions together—southern, northern and the temporary division which worked till the end of 1112. All arrears were cleared in the course of the year.

No irregularities deserving special mention were observed in any of the institutions audited. It was, however, noticed that the outstanding amounts pending collection in the Ernakulam Government Trades School was due to non-accounting of Government money, and the Government launched prosecutions against the servants responsible. Instances of short collection, overpayment and irregularities in procedure were met with, and action was taken wherever necessary. Trifling errors and omissions were, as far as possible, got rectified in the course of audit. The departmental offices were given the opportunity to discuss with the local audit staff the objections raised in the course of audit before finally embodying them in the report. This new system of obtaining the departmental office's remarks on the audit objections before drafting the report, introduced in the previous year, tended to minimise correspondence and delay in the disposal of the reports.

The audit of the Government Stoneware Factory and the Vaniampara Rubber Company was transferred during the year from the department to private registered accountants.

Acting upon the special officer's suggestion, the Government sanctioned the introduction of percentage check on certain classes of transactions, and the conversion of the half-yearly and quarterly audits into annual and half-yearly ones, respectively. The programme for 1114 was accordingly framed with annual and half-yearly audits in respect of some of the institutions.

All the treasuries were inspected by the Comptroller of Finance and Accounts during the year. Surprise visits were also made. No serious irregularities were noticed.

Provident Fund.—The total number of subscribers under the various funds—General Provident Fund, Aided School Provident Fund, Palace Provident Fund, Tramway Contributory Provident Fund, Forest Contributory Provident Fund and Central Farm Contributory Provident Fund—rose from 6,075 to 6,532 at the end of the year, with a total subscribed capital of Rs. 12,31,509 as against Rs. 11,40,580 at the end of the previous year.

By the end of the year under report, the number of subscribers who had taken life policies by utilising their provident fund to pay

the premium on the policies rose from 280 to 366, and the total value of the policies came to Rs. 3,90,500 as against Rs. 3,17,500 at the end of 1112.

State Accounts.—The total receipts under the various revenue heads in the year amounted to Rs. 1,05,36,537 as against the budget estimate of Rs. 1,00,57,800 and the revised estimate of Rs. 98,64,400. The corresponding figure for the previous year was Rs. 1,01,01,504. Increase in receipts was noticeable chiefly under the heads of Abkari, Ganja and Tobacco (due to higher rentals fetched at the auction sale of shops), Public Health (mainly on account of levy of fees for cynogassing of vessels in connection with the anti-plague campaign in Mattancheri), Public Works (mainly due to enhanced receipts from ferries and from sale of buildings and unserviceable materials), Profits from Capital Outlay other than Railway (on account of the royalty paid by the Cochin Harbour authorities on a portion of the Reclamation ground sold to them), Income-tax (due to extra assessment of certain incomes for the years 1111 and 1112) and Miscellaneous (by lapse of amounts to the Sirkar of certain items of deposits, etc.). As against increased receipts under these heads, there was a decrease in receipts under Stamps (probably due to pressure of economic depression), Customs (due to fall in customs earnings), Matches (due chiefly to closing of certain factories in the State), Forests (on account of reduction in the quantity of timber and other produce extracted and sold), Interest (on account of withdrawal of short-term investments for the purpose of financing capital expenditure schemes) and Railway (on account of fall in railway earnings).

The total expenditure under service heads amounted to Rs. 1,00,65,696 as against the budget estimate of Rs. 98,77,200 and the revised estimate of Rs. 1,01,34,800. The corresponding expenditure in 1112 was Rs. 1,02,17,427. There was an increase of expenditure under Palace (the contribution to the palace reserve fund originally held in abeyance on account of the State's financial position having been paid), Pension and Gratuity (increased amount having been found necessary to meet the demand), Public Works (on account of works at the Guest House at Ernakulam and the Training Institution Buildings at Ramavarmapuram), Income-tax (chiefly on account of larger refunds), and Miscellaneous (on account of increase in expenditure under Subscriptions and Donations, Entertainment of

State Visitors and Political Expenditure). As against this increase, the expenditure fell considerably under Panchayats (due to savings in the works executed and non-utilisation of the entire amounts set apart for works), Education (owing to non-utilisation of the funds provided under Collegiate Education for science materials, secondary education establishment, etc.), and Medical (due to delay in equipment of the General Hospital for radium treatment).

The transactions of the year on account of revenue receipts and expenditure resulted in a surplus of Rs. 4,70,841 as against the anticipated surplus of Rs. 1,80,600 as per budget estimate and the anticipated deficit of Rs. 2,70,400 as per the revised estimate for the year.

State Loans.—The five per cent 1943-53 loan of Rs. 75 lakhs and the three and-a-half per cent 1956-61 loan of Rs. 30 lakhs were outstanding at the end of the year. Against the balance of bonds to the value of Rs. 4,000 pending issue at the beginning of the year in the three and-a-half per cent loan, bonds for Rs. 2,000 were issued during the year and those for the remaining Rs. 2,000 were pending issue due to the loss of the temporary scrip issued to one of the subscribers. The usual contribution of Rs. 75,000 from the general revenues to sinking fund was made during the year. The whole of the sinking fund amounting to Rs. 4,19,100 lay invested in Government of India securities, Cochin State Loan bonds and bank deposits. Both the loans were quoted at a premium in the stock markets of India.

Cash Balance.—The year opened with a cash balance of Rs. 34,12,945 as against Rs. 28,20,963 anticipated in the budget, and closed with a cash balance of Rs. 65,97,532 as against Rs. 7,61,063 and Rs. 36,00,945 anticipated in the budget and revised estimates, respectively. The closing balance consisted of the actual cash balance of Rs. 13,00,851 in treasuries and Rs. 52,96,681 in the Central Bank of India, Ltd.

Investments.—Excluding the investments under capital outlay, the total of the other investments stood at the beginning of the year at Rs. 29,95,985. Withdrawals and fresh investments amounted to

Rs. 17,39,265 and Rs. 29,16,830, respectively, and the closing balance under this head at the end of the year came to Rs. 41,73,550 (inclusive of a sum of Rs. 16,370 representing the loans made to the Ernakulam Municipality and the Cochin Tanneries, Ltd.).

The capital outlay on the Cochin Harbour, the State Railway, the Stoneware Factory, etc., stood at Rs. 1,17,30,299 at the beginning of the year, the actual distribution being as follows: Railway, Rs. 72,57,600; Harbour, Rs. 41,42,644; Stoneware Factory, Rs. 2,20,209; Navigation Canals, Rs. 2,923; Government Electricity Works, Rs. 14,779; Water Supply Works, Rs. 63,626; and Ernakulam Town Improvement Works, Rs. 28,518. During the year a further outlay of Rs. 5,67,145 was incurred on the Railway, of which Rs. 5,58,062 represented expenditure on the Edappilli-Harbour Extension. Under Harbour there was an abatement of expenditure of Rs. 22,50,000, being the sale proceeds realised on 150 acres of reclaimed land sold to the Harbour authorities. A further outlay on Navigation Canals amounted to Rs. 34,132, on Stoneware Factory Rs. 239, on Government Electricity Works Rs. 71,407 and on Water Supply Rs. 1,02,528. The amount of Rs. 28,518 spent towards Ernakulam Town Improvement Works was transferred to "Advances." Thus the capital outlay at the close of the year stood at Rs. 1,02,27,234.

The total of investments proper and capital outlay together at the beginning of the year stood at Rs. 1,47,26,284. With an addition of Rs. 11,77,565 under investments and a net abatement of charges amounting to Rs. 15,03,065, the total of investments and capital outlay at the close of the year came to Rs. 1,44,00,784.

Financial Position.—The statement on the next page compares the financial position of the State at the beginning of the year with that at the close of the year.

		At the begin- ning of 1113 Rs.	At the end of 1113 Rs.
	LIABILITIES		
1	Loans received from the public 5 per cent Loan Rs. 75,00,000 } 3½ per cent Loan Rs. 30,00,000 }	1,05,00,000	1,05,00,000
2	Advances Repayable.—		
	(i) To Government of India	..	15,00,000
	(ii) Other Advances	2,434	2,77,101
3	Remittances	4,63,061	8,03,933
4	Sinking Fund	3,44,134	4,33,979
5	Devaswom Fund	2,46,919	2,37,532
6	Provident Fund	1,64,829	12,31,509
7	Road Development Fund	82,903	73,374
8	Road Board Fund		17,601
9	Other Contribution Works	55,605	30,506
10	Other Deposit Funds	12,23,646	13,83,643
11	Customs Suspense		22,08,745
12	Stoneware Factory	..	19,505
	Total	1,30,83,531	1,87,17,428
	ASSETS		
1	Capital Outlay.—		
	(a) Railway	72,57,600	78,24,746
	(b) Harbour		
	(i) Reclamation	37,50,000 }	18,92,644
	(ii) Harbour Works	3,92,644 }	
	(c) Navigation Canals, Irrigation Works and Communications		
	(i) Shanmukham Canal	..	25,768
	(ii) Appangat Canal	2,923	11,288

		At the begin- ning of 1113 Rs.	At the end of 1113 Rs.
	(d) Industries		
	Government Stoneware Works	2,20,209	2,20,448
	(e) Government Electricity Works		
	(i) Nemmara	14,779	35,660
	(ii) Chittur		50,526
	(f) Water Supply		
	(i) Mattancheri Submerged Pipe Line	63,626	1,66,154
	(ii) Ernakulam Town Improve- ment	28,518	
2	Investments.—		
	(a) Fixed Deposits	25,32,100	29,79,080
	(b) Cochin Government Securities	73,000	5,28,800
	(c) Foreign	1,75,600	7,54,300
	(d) Shares in Companies	3,17,600	3,14,100
3	Loans and Advances Recoverable.—		
	(a) To Municipalities		
	(i) Ernakulam	56,000	64,400
	(ii) Trichur		6,52,776
	(b) To Harbour		
	(i) IV Stage Works	25,80,000	43,80,000
	(ii) Dredger	8,00,000	12,33,333
	(c) To Private Parties and Com- panies		
	(i) To Private Parties	1,11,136	1,18,753
	(ii) To Companies	3,89,859	5,09,704
	(d) To Stock	2,44,082	2,28,213
	(e) Other Advances	5,67,520	9,45,074

		At the begin- ning of 1113 Rs.	At the end of 1113 Rs.
4	Remittances Pending Adjustment	7,09,610	2,72,771
5	Cash Balance.—		
	(a) Bank	21,91,774	52,96,681
	(b) Treasuries	12,21,171	13,00,851
	(c) Departmental Balances	2,813	3,281
6	Deposits Overdrawn	3	221
7	Road Board Fund	2,267	
		2,37,04,834	2,98,09,572
	Assets over Liabilities	1,06,21,303	1,10,92,144

The year opened thus with a net asset of Rs. 1,06,21,303 and closed with a net asset of Rs. 1,10,92,144.

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

Year	Receipts Rs.	Expenditure Rs.	Surplus or deficit Rs.	Net Surplus Rs.
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	1,07,37,225
1112	1,01,01,504	1,02,17,127	—1,15,923	1,06,21,303
1113	1,05,36,537	1,00,65,696	4,70,841	1,10,92,144

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 A. D. 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.

Important Features of the Year.—Relief was given to the agriculturists of the State during the year in the matter of payment of kists by extending the instalments from three to four. This was supplemented by the Land Revenue Department by affording facilities for payment of proportionate tax by the holder or cultivator of a

single survey number other than the pattadar, thus enabling him to have that number freed from the possibility of attachment and sale even though the amount of the kist covered the assessment of a number of items. The practice before was to accept payment only if the entire kist was paid.

The collection of statistics relating to cashewnut plantations within the State, which was in progress when the year opened, was completed during the year, and it was ascertained that the area under cultivation was in the neighbourhood of 7,540 acres.

Another important item of work which was completed during the year was the preparation of irrigation maps for the villages of the State, showing at a glance the sources of water supply and the areas which could roughly be classified as well or tank irrigated, canal irrigated or rain irrigated. Village-war statistics were also being gathered on several essential and relevant matters connected with rural reconstruction.

An agreement was reached with the Travancore Government in the year on the question of conducting the ferries at the boundary canals on a joint basis.

Changes in Organisation.—A few changes in the organisation of the department were made during the year. The establishments attached to the village offices of Vallangy and Pothundy of the Chittur taluk were amalgamated from 1st Karkadagam on the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee. The post of one State Surveyor was abolished with effect from 21st Chingam and the post of an Assistant Superintendent of Survey and Land Records created from that date. The amalgamation of the two divisions of the Cranganur Estate, effected as a temporary measure in 1112, continued during the course of the year also.

Special staffs for various purposes were constituted during the year. A staff consisting of two village menons and two chainmen was entertained for a period of over three months for attending to the survey and subdivision of the fields to be acquired for the Shanmukham Canal at Irinjalakkuda; another special staff was constituted for the preparation of the electoral rolls for the Legislative

Council, and it worked for nearly three months. To attend to the survey and sub-division of the fields to be acquired for the opening of a road from Pazhayannur to Kondazhi, a temporary staff consisting of a surveyor and a chainman was appointed during the year, and similarly for re-writing the irrigation accounts in the Chittur taluk a special staff consisting of a surveyor and a peon was entertained.

Crops and Prices.—Rainfall was comparatively less during the year, the mean fall recorded being 95·71 as against 114·84 in 1112 and 126·7 in 1111. Consequently, although there was no appreciable failure of crops in the Mukundapuram, Trichur, Talappalli and Cranganur taluks, crops in some of the villages of the Cochin-Kanayannur taluk had to suffer to some extent. So far as the Cochin-Kanayannur taluk was concerned, the failure of crops was heaviest in the villages of Mulavukad, Elangunnappuzha, Narakkal, Nayarambalam, Kadamakudi and Cheranellur. Liberal remissions of assessment were sanctioned by the Government in consequence, the total amount of such remissions allowed being Rs. 5,315. There were no marked variations in the prices of staple food grains during the year, and the wages of the several kinds of workmen remained almost stationary.

The condition of cattle was, on the whole, satisfactory, the number of deaths being only 358 as against 403 in 1112. Death among cattle was mostly due to old age, and there was no epidemic of a serious nature.

Lands under Cultivation.—The total extent of land under cultivation and occupation was 509,288 acres and 14 cents, made up of 207,382 acres and 82½ cents of nilam and 301,905 acres and 31½ cents of paramba, charged with a total assessment of Rs. 10,77,557 and a royalty of Rs. 56,601. Of the total extent of 18,362 acres and 9½ cents under kole cultivation, 1,418 acres and 44 cents were in the Mukundapuram taluk, 15,221 acres and 14½ cents in the Trichur taluk and 1,722 acres and 51 cents in the Talappalli taluk. There were 19 coffee estates as in the previous year, covering an area of 5,327 acres and 92 cents. The quit rent realised from these estates was Rs. 7,992,

Encroachments.—Special attention was paid during the year to the detection and prevention of encroachments on lands belonging to the Government. In all 1,910 cases were booked as against 1,143 cases in 1112. The amount of prohibitory assessment charged and collected was Rs. 5,050 as against Rs. 4,546 in the previous year.

Land Revenue Demand.—The total land revenue demand for the year was Rs. 12,45,611 as against Rs. 12,50,442 in 1112. Out of this, Rs. 12,24,371 was collected and Rs. 1,119 written off. The balance at the end of the year was Rs. 20,122. Of this amount Rs. 29 alone remained to be collected under State land revenue. On the lands in the villages of Cranganur taluk the total demand was Rs. 43,105, and the whole of it was collected.

Coercive Processes.—The number of cases in which coercive processes had to be resorted to was 12,043 as against 13,718 in 1112. Of these, 98 related to distraint of movables, two to sale of movables and 133 to sale of immovables as against 157, 14 and 188, respectively, in the previous year. Great care was taken to avoid coercive steps as far as possible, and sales were confirmed only after a very careful inquiry into the existence of encumbrances, the adequacy of the amount fetched, etc. This, coupled with strict insistence on proper publication and observance of the other essential requirements enjoined under the Revenue Recovery Act, limited the sales confirmed to eight cases in the year.

Revenue Cases.—There were during the year 15,214 cases relating to assignment, relinquishment, transfer of registry, etc., for disposal, of which 11,168 were disposed of, leaving 4,046 pending. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 25,391, 22,380 and 3,011, respectively.

Including 1,019 applications for joint registry pending at the end of 1112, there were 2,420 cases for disposal, of which 1,490 were disposed of, leaving 930 pending. Of the cases disposed of, 1,436 applications were sanctioned, while the remaining 54 cases were dismissed.

Including the four cases of revenue appeals pending at the beginning of the year, there were 16 appeals against the orders of the

Tahsildars for disposal. Of these, seven were disposed of, the order in one case alone being revised, leaving nine cases pending.

No new cases of escheat cropped up during the year. Of the three cases pending in 1112, escheat proceedings in one case were dropped as there was no real escheat, and proceedings in another case were withdrawn, so that only one case remained pending at the close of the year.

Agricultural Loans.—Since the inauguration of the Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank, Ltd., which advances loans for agricultural improvements, the maximum that the department is allowed to give out as loans is normally limited to Rs. 500 in each case. Including the balance of 104 applications outstanding from the previous year, there were, on the whole, 210 applications for loans for disposal, of which 33 were sanctioned, 76 rejected and 101 remained undisposed of. Altogether a sum of Rs. 5,530 was advanced as loans. The applicants in most of the cases rejected were found either unable to produce proofs of their title or furnish adequate security for the loan applied for.

The total amount of agricultural loans, including arrears, due for repayment in the year from all the taluks in the State amounted to Rs. 40,417 under principal and Rs. 5,074 under interest. Of this, a sum of Rs. 23,323 under principal and Rs. 3,490 under interest was collected, leaving a balance of Rs. 17,084 under principal and Rs. 1,584 under interest. The accrual of the balance was due to the economic stress and the resulting inability of the people to pay up in time.

Forest Exclusions.—Owing to the prevailing economic depression and stringency in the money market, only very slow progress could be made in the disposal of forest exclusion lands available for assignment. Of the exclusions in the Trichur taluk 73·16 acres and 12·85 acres in the Talappalli taluk alone were disposed of in auction. These brought in a sum of Rs. 2,370.

Provision of House-sites.—An extent of 27 acres of the teak reserve in Malayattur village was excluded for assignment, in small plots, in response to the complaints of the people of the locality about want of convenient house-sites. Out of this, house-sites were allotted

to 128 poor people at a nominal rate of land value, namely, Rs. 1-8-0 a cent. Steps were also taken to provide the Kudumi Chettis of Pallippuram village with house-sites. Licensing an extent of 4 acres and $43\frac{1}{2}$ cents of accretion lands to the Mallikarjuna Devaswom of Azhikal for providing 117 families with house-sites was another step taken by the Government during the year. The assignment of house-sites granted to 1,000 persons in different parts of the State under the Silver Jubilee Scheme in 1112 could not be completed in the course of the year, and 418 house-sites remained to be disposed of. The inability to effect assignment in the pending cases was mainly due to refusal to accept the sites allotted and the withdrawal of applications in 243 cases and delinquency on the part of the rest to take charge of the sites. Steps were in progress to assign the sites to persons who had already applied but were not selected in the first instance.

Land Acquisition.—A large volume of work relating to acquisition of land for public purposes was done by the department during the year. Including the 12 cases pending at the close of the previous year, there were 238 cases for disposal. In 222 of these cases awards were passed, in three acquisition proceedings were withdrawn after awards were passed, and in five acquisition proceedings were withdrawn before the awards were passed. Only eight remained pending at the close of the year.

Besides, at the instance of the harbour authorities, the department attended to acquisition of lands for the extension of the Shoranur-Cochin Railway to link with the Harbour Railway and for the road and rail embankment across the Venduruthi Island. An additional item of work undertaken by the department in connection with the acquisition of lands for the railway extension was the sale of improvements before the Railway Company was put in possession of the sites.

Weights and Measures.—The number of weights and measures stamped, including those produced for verification, was 6,386 as against 3,205 in 1112. Weights and measures sold during the year numbered 2,977 as against 2,256 in the previous year.

Lands Outside the State.—With regard to lands owned by the Sirkar in British Malabar and Travancore, arrears to the extent of

Rs. 20,093 had accrued. To a large extent this was due to the prevailing economic depression and "the habitual recalcitrance of the tenants holding these lands." In the course of the year the Madras Agriculturists' Relief Act, V of 1938, was placed on the statute book, and the provisions of the Act would statutorily extinguish the claim of the Sirkar for arrears prior to 1112 in respect of the lands in British Malabar if the tenants paid up the rent for the years 1113 and 1112 before 30th September, 1939. Consequently, the question of outright sale of these lands was under consideration of the Government. It was decided to depute a special officer to investigate into the possibility of sale to the present tenants and to other persons if the present tenants were averse to purchase at a reasonable price that would be fixed. It was also decided to sell by public auction the lands already reduced to possession through courts. The Cranganur Estate and Devasam lands in British Malabar were also ordered to be included in the scheme of outright sale like the Sirkar jenmam lands.

Survey and Land Records.—The work of the survey and land records establishment consisted of the preparation of revised sketches and area lists in all cases of sub-division and re-demarcation; maintenance of area registers and village maps incorporating all further changes; re-publication of village maps, town maps and other maps of a miscellaneous nature; printing of diagrams of patents; preparation of plans and sketches in connection with revenue inquiries; re-demarcation of backwater areas; revision of demarcation of fields consequent on the opening of roads, canals, etc.; survey of exclusions from reserved forests; verification of State boundaries; and maintenance of land marks.

There were 3,659 cases relating to the preparation and issue of revised records for disposal as against 3,956 in the previous year. Of these, 3,528 were disposed of as against 3,527 in 1112, the percentage of disposal being 96·4 and 89·1, respectively.

The office staff of the Land Records Office were given training in theodolite, prismatic and plane table surveys during the year, and two chainmen were entertained for a period of three months to assist the staff in measuring work. The training had not been completed when the year closed. One of the clerks was also deputed for training in all branches of survey and mapping under the Survey Party at Salem.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure of the department in the year was Rs. 2,95,952 as against Rs. 3,10,908 in 1112.

FISHERIES

The Fisheries Department was transferred from the Agricultural Department to the Revenue Department on 1st Dhanu, 1097 (December 1921). Till the year 1110 the fisheries staff consisted of a fishery revenue inspector, a petty officer, and three patrol peons. The staff at present consists of a fishery revenue inspector, a sub-inspector, a petty officer, and five patrol peons and one office peon of the revenue inspector. Besides, there are two petty officers and four peons attached to the fish-curing yards.

The Cochin Fisheries Amendment Act, XIII of 1113, was passed during the year under report, "with a view to check the indiscriminate use of wet lands for prawn fishing and to tax nominally the industry." The lands utilised for rearing prawns were classified into three tharams, according to their suitability for such fishing, and license fees at acreage rates of Rs. 3, Rs. 2 and Re. 1 were prescribed.

Fish-curing Yards.—There were three fish-curing yards in the State under the Excise Department, but the one at Chellanam was abolished for want of operations in 1106. Till 1110 the yards at Narakkal and Kathialam continued under the Excise Department, but in that year the Government ordered their transfer to the Revenue Department.

The petty officers of the yards are charged with the custody of duty-free salt. They sell it to ticket-holding curers for curing their fish. Many varieties of fish are taken to the yards during the fishing season. This concessional sale of salt gives great encouragement to the industry. Steps were under contemplation during the year for opening fresh yards, as also for ensuring better sanitation for those that exist. The market price of the fish cured in the two yards during the year could be estimated at Rs. 80,633.

Besides salt-curing, fish caught is beach-dried (without salt) and is used both as manure and for human consumption. Fish is also packed in ice for transport to Ootacamund, Bangalore and other hilly places.

The bulk of the catch from the backwaters of the State is composed of prawns of different size and variety, and by far the major

portion is boiled, shelled and exported. Statistics gathered show that about 12,000 candies of prawns costing nearly Rs. 15,00,000 are sent out from the Cochin port every year.

Concessional Grants to Fishermen.—It has been the policy of the department to encourage in all possible ways the growth of social consciousness among fishermen and to promote joint economic efforts among them. The Pallippuram Pozhil, which is perhaps one of the best natural nurseries for prawns, was leased to the Co-operative Society of Valans of Cherai for a very low amount during the year. Similar concessions were also granted to organised societies of fishermen in the matter of the lease of fisheries in different parts of the State.

To improve the economic condition of fishermen by enabling them to possess improved fishing tackles and to market their catches at advantageous prices, the Fishermen's Co-operative Marketing Society, Ltd., at Edavilangu was registered during the year. Arrangements were also made to advance Rs. 1,000 to the society for distribution as loans among the members. The bye-laws of the society enable it to get loans from the Government on easy terms of payment and at low rates of interest. As a result of the registration of this society, the Valans of Pallippuram and Anapuzha came forward before the year was out for the registration of similar societies in their midst.

Income from Fisheries.—A permanent income is received by the Government from fishing stakes and china nets. The number of fishing stakes in the Cochin-Kanayannur taluk in the year was 2,723½ as against 2,757 in 1112 and of china nets 747 as against 727 in the previous year. The total demand from fishing stakes, china nets, minor fishery and inland fishery for the year was Rs. 25,653, and the whole amount was collected, Rs. 41 being written off.

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 being 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.

Important Features of the Year.—As there was no one in the department except the sub-inspector in charge of the Trichur Distillery who had any expert training in distillery operations, Government sanctioned during the year the deputation of one of the sub-inspectors for undergoing training in the Distillery School at Madras. Accordingly a second grade sub-inspector was got trained at Madras for a period of two months from 1st June, 1938.

Oorakam was temporarily constituted into a new range under a separate sub-inspector from the beginning of the year under report, and there was, in consequence, an all-round increase in revenue in the shape of tree tax, arrack duty and rentals secured from that area. The proposal to bifurcate Narakkal and Irinjalakuda ranges was under consideration when the year closed.

The total sanctioned strength of the Excise Preventive Force, including the members in the Matches Duty Establishment and the temporary establishments for the Tata's Bonded Warehouse and the Oorakam range, was 48 officers and 210 men, of which two peons sanctioned for the Mayannur Excise post were not appointed during the year as no accommodation could be found for the post. With a view to prevent smuggling, an additional staff of eight peons was sanctioned by the Government to man for frontier posts—Muttichur, Karupadanna, Kakkathuruthi and Kothaparamba. The peons of the preventive staff were made superior servants for the purpose of pension, and the rule regarding age limit in service was made applicable to the department for the first time during the year.

The question of accommodating the orderlies at Arangottukara in a Government building was taken up, and, with the co-operation of the Public Works Department, the construction of the post was nearing completion towards the close of the year. The sub-inspector of the Ernakulam range was provided with the Government building vacated by the Inspector of Factories and Boilers for holding his range office.

Salt.—The year under report opened with a balance stock of 152,448 maunds of salt in the Malipuram Depot as against 146,143 maunds at the beginning of 1112. A fresh biennial contract for the supply of Bombay salt and Tuticorin salt was entered into, and two

certificates—one for 200,000 maunds of Bombay salt and the other for 50,000 maunds of Tuticorin salt—were issued in favour of the contractors. Although the quantities thus authorised, excepting 1,296 maunds of Bombay salt, were imported, the quantities actually delivered at Malipuram were only 195,998 maunds of Bombay salt and 49,492 maunds of Tuticorin salt. Consequently the receipts at the Malipuram Depot during the year, including the balance of the previous year and the excess found in godowns on emptying the bags, amounted to 399,774 maunds of salt. Of this, 281,404 maunds were issued, leaving a balance of 118,370 maunds at the end of the year. Of the total issued, 276,794 maunds were issued to merchants, 4,400 maunds to fish-curing yards and 210 maunds to the Agricultural Department. The incidence of consumption worked out to 18·901 lbs. per head of population as against 20·208 lbs. in 1112. The total receipts under salt, including Cranganur, amounted to Rs. 5,16,142 as against Rs. 5,57,834 in 1112. Including the one case pending at the beginning of the year, there were 26 cases in all for disposal. Out of this, conviction was secured in 24, and the remaining two were departmentally released.

Abkari.—There were no changes in the fundamental principles of abkari administration in the year under report. But a few modifications, deemed necessary to bring the methods followed in the State on a line with those in British India, were introduced. The foreign liquor rules were further revised and republished. Fees for wholesale foreign liquor licences were raised from Rs. 350 to Rs. 500 and that for retail licences from Rs. 50 to Rs. 150. Gallonage fee began to be collected on the volume of sales in foreign liquor taverns also. The tariff rate of duty, namely, Rs. 37—8—0 per proof gallon, levied on pure rectified spirits was reduced to Rs. 21—14—0, as was done in the Madras Presidency.

The Madras Government claimed a supervision allowance of Rs. 31 per annum from 1st April, 1938, on account of the work they had to do in connection with the issue of licence for and the general control over the Railway Refreshment Room at Ernakulam. This claim was accepted by the Government and paid by deduction in the gallonage fee due from the refreshment room.

The Prior-General, Carmelite Congregation, was given a free license for the manufacture of mass wine for distribution among the

religious institutions under him, just like the one granted to the Metropolitan, Trichur. But gallonage fee at the full rates was collected from both the parties concerned on the volume of wine manufactured and distributed by them.

Although arrack of 35° U. P. and 60° U. P. was allowed to be sold as usual, there was no demand for the latter sort of liquor. The supply contract entered into with Messrs. Fraser and Ross, Chartered Accountants, on behalf of the Nadar Estate, in 1112, continued during the year under report. The rates were Rs. 1—4—0 per gallon of 35° U. P. issued from the Trichur Distillery and Rs. 1—5—0 per gallon of the same strength issued from the Bonded Warehouse at Ernakulam. Four annas in excess of these rates were 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, Talappalli, and Chittur taluks and of Rs. 5 per proof gallon in the low duty areas of Cochin-Kannayannur and Cranganur taluks continued to be in force during the year. As usual, the Trichur Distillery and the Bonded Warehouse continued to supply the high and the low duty area, respectively.

The number of arrack shops sold in auction was 199 as in 1112, each shop serving on an average 10·87 square miles and 6,768·475 persons in the high duty area and 2·22 square miles and 4,972·13 persons in the low duty area. The total consumption of arrack in the several taluks of the State together was 20,133 proof gallons (11,758 proof gallons in the low duty area and 8,375 in the high duty area) as against 20,245 proof gallons in 1112. The incidence of consumption of arrack worked out to '03 and '01 proof gallons per head of population as against '031 and '009 in the low and high duty areas, respectively, in 1112.

The total collection under the head "Excise duty on liquor," excluding receipts on account of pure rectified spirits, amounted to Rs. 1,13,214 as against Rs. 1,13,313 in 1112, so that the incidence of taxation per head of population for country spirits (rental plus duty) was one anna 8·27 pies in the high duty area and three annas 11·42 pies in the low duty area as against one anna 8·6 pies and 4 annas 1·44 pies in the previous year.

One wholesale licence for selling foreign liquor and 12 retail licences as against 13 in the previous year were issued for a fee of

Rs. 500 and Rs. 150 each, respectively. Two bottling licences as against three in the previous year were issued for a fee of Rs. 100 as against Rs. 150 in 1112.

The supply contractors, Messrs. Fraser and Ross, were allowed during the year to manufacture foreign liquors like brandy, whisky and gin at the Trichur Distillery, and licences were issued to them for the purpose. To assist them in their new enterprise, only Rs. 15 per proof gallon of rectified spirits used for the manufacture of foreign liquor by them was charged by the Government as against the normal rate of Rs. 21—14—0.

Four foreign liquor taverns were sold in auction for a rental of Rs. 2,625 as against Rs. 3,175 in 1112. Five licences for the possession and sale of rectified spirits and nine licenses for import, possession and sale of medicated wines were issued for a fee of Rs. 10 each as against four and six, respectively, for the same fees in 1112. Five hotel licences as against two in 1112 were also issued during the year.

The notifications relating to the duty on spirituous, medicinal, toilet, etc., preparations were amended and issued in a consolidated form during the year. Similarly, the rules relating to denatured spirits and methyl alcohol were revised and re-issued. The licence fee in this respect was raised from eight annas to ten annas per gallon from 12th Vrischigam. According to the new rules, the licensees were required to remit the fees at the treasury at the time of application for import permits, instead of after sale of the imported quantity.

During the year under report, 49,974 cocoanut trees, 5,571 palmyras and 1,353 sago trees were licensed throughout the State as against 48,272 cocoanut trees, 5,112 palmyras and 1,370 sago trees in 1112. The total number of trees tapped was 56,898 as against 54,754 in the previous year, the increase being due to improvement in sales in the shops. The rate of tree tax continued to be the same as in the previous year, namely, Rs. 4 and Rs. 8 per cocoanut tree and sago tree, respectively, per half year and Rs. 3 per palmyra for the whole year. The total demand under tree tax for the whole State was Rs. 2,27,442 as against Rs. 2,19,393 in 1112.

Besides, 29,008 trees, comprising of 5,444 cocoanut trees, 11,819 palmyras and 11,745 sagos, were licensed for jaggery tapping, as against 6,690 cocoanut trees, 12,016 palmyras and 12,020 sagos in the previous year. The decrease in the number of licences issued was mainly due to suppression of malpractices among jaggery tappers. Toddy shops sold in auction during the year numbered 367—the same as in the previous year. Each shop served on an average 4·03 square miles and 3,283·4 persons. Calculating the rentals and the tree tax, the incidence worked out to 9 annas 2·1 pies per head of population as against 9 annas 7·3 pies in 1112.

The total demand under arrack and toddy during the year was Rs. 5,33,056 as against Rs. 5,78,920 in 1112. Of this, Rs. 5,31,761 was collected, leaving a balance of Rs. 1,295 at the close of the year. The percentage of collection worked out thus to 99·76. Of the old arrears of Rs. 57,437 pending collection at the beginning of the year, Rs. 1,024 was collected and Rs. 6,670 written off as irrecoverable. After making deductions on account of waive of forfeiture of abkari shops, etc., the balance for collection was Rs. 48,740, so that, with the arrears of the year under review, the total abkari outstandings amounted to Rs. 50,035 as against Rs. 57,437 in 1112.

Taking into account the rentals, tree tax and excise duty on arrack, the incidence of taxation per head of population worked out to 11 annas 7·2 pies as against 12 annas 1·2 pies in 1112.

Six hundred and thirty-seven abkari cases were detected in the year under report. Including the 207 cases pending at the beginning of the year, there was a total of 844 cases, of which 317 ended in conviction, 394 were compounded, three acquitted, 13 released and 12 otherwise disposed of. Of the balance of 105 cases, 40 were pending in courts and 65 with the inspectors.

Ganja.—The independent shop system to vend ganja was continued during the year. Supplies to the Central Stores in the head office were obtained from the Vetapalem Storehouse as usual on remittance of the centage charges of Rs. 1—1—0 per seer. The Central Stores supplied ganja to the several treasuries which formed the sub-depots, and they, in turn, supplied the shops. The issue price continued to be Rs. 32 per seer. The independent shops were sold during the year for a rental of Rs. 29,535 as against Rs. 31,120 in 1112. The whole rental was realised and remitted

into the treasuries. Out of a total stock of 1,368 seers and 43-7/8 tolas of ganja, 1,289 seers were issued to the treasuries, leaving a book balance of 79 seers and 43-7 8 tolas at the close of the year, although the actual quantity found on stock verification on the last day of the year was 92 seers. During the year 1,319 seers of ganja were issued through the treasuries from their stock as against 1,695 seers in 1112 and 1,312 seers in 1111, the incidence of consumption working out at '088 tola as against '112 tola in the previous year and '087 tola in 1111. Eleven licences for hemp preparations were issued during the year as against 13 in the previous year. Receipts from ganja for the year amounted to Rs. 69,969 as against Rs. 83,331 in 1112.

Opium.—Like ganja, opium, too, was issued to independent shops from the several treasuries of the State, the treasuries receiving the supply from the Central Stores. The whole quantity of opium required for consumption in the State was got down from the Madras taluk office as usual. The issue price continued to be Rs. 86 per seer throughout the year. The opium shops fetched a rental of Rs. 40,740 as against Rs. 46,955 in 1112. The whole rental was collected and remitted into the treasuries. A total quantity of 1,300 seers and 87/124 tolas was issued to the treasuries during the year. From the stock in the treasuries, 1,302 seers and 40-87 124 tolas were issued to shop-keepers, the incidence of consumption working out at '086 tola as in the previous year. New rules under the Dangerous Drugs Act were issued during the year regulating the manufacture, possession, sale, import, export and transport of narcotic drugs manufactured from opium, cocaine, morphine, etc. The licence fee in the case of these drugs was reduced from Rs. 10 to Rs. 5, and 35 licences were issued as against 25 in the previous year. One case under opium was detected in the year under report, and it was pending in court when the year closed.

Tobacco.—During the year under report a fresh biennial lease in respect of tobacco came into operation. There were 18 A class shops entitled to import tobacco from outside without restriction and 858 B class shops authorised to sell tobacco in retail. Five B class shops in the Chittur taluk were, however, allowed the right to import in addition to the right to sell in retail. The total rental of these shops was Rs. 3,48,160 as against Rs. 3,60,732 in the previous

year. Consequent on re-sales and restoration of shops the demand for each month varied during the year. The total demand worked up to Rs. 3,50,331, of which Rs. 3,43,932 was collected and Rs. 6,399 was pending realisation when the year closed. Of the old arrears of Rs. 26,001, Rs. 686 was collected and Rs. 11,957 written off as irrecoverable. Allowing for adjustment of remissions, etc., the balance, with the arrears of the year under report, came to Rs. 19,679. During the year, a licence for the manufacture of cigarettes at Trichur was issued to a party with the special sanction of the Government for a fee of Rs. 50. Including the one case pending disposal at the beginning of the year, there was a total of 104 cases in the year. Conviction was secured in 98 of these cases, one was released and one otherwise disposed of. Four cases remained, therefore, to be disposed of at the end of the year, of which three were in courts and one with the inspector of the northern circle.

Matches.—There were no changes in the main principle of the Matches (Excise Duty) Administration during the year under report, namely, 1st April, 1937, to 31st March, 1938. With the issue of all necessary acts, orders and rules for the steady and permanent administration of the Matches Excise Duty Act, it became necessary to organise a permanent establishment. The temporary staff appointed for the purpose in 1110 was, therefore, made permanent with effect from the beginning of the year. As against 11 licenses issued in 1112 for the manufacture of matches, three for the manufacture of splints and veneers and six for their importation, ten, five and six licenses, respectively, were issued during the year under report. The Government of India Security Printing Press, Nasik, continued, as usual, to supply the banderols; these were stocked in the Trichur treasury and issued from there to the various factories. The chief source of revenue is the sale proceeds of banderols, and in the year under report the revenue derived, including the duty collected on 226 gross of Bengal Lights, amounted to Rs. 1,02,818. A sum of Rs. 13,388 was expended for the administration of the Matches Excise Duty Act, and the State's share from the common pool for the year 1937-38 was Rs. 77, 197. Including the one case of last year and the 11 cases detected in the year, there were 12 cases in all. Out of these, conviction was secured in one, and the remaining 11 cases were compounded.

Receipts and Expenditure.—The total receipts of the department, excluding the amount under Customs, was Rs. 21,98,209 as against Rs. 23,10,767 in the previous year, and the total expenditure was Rs. 3,45,304 as against Rs. 4,05,760 in 1112.

3. CUSTOMS

The State's share of the Customs revenue from the Cochin Port for 1936—37, as per the Interportal Trade Convention and the Four Party Agreement, was Rs. 13,47,209. This amount was realised during the year. From this a sum of Rs. 73,660, being the second of the seven instalments on account of the balance of duty on Jaffna and other tobacco collected in Travancore during the official years 1931—35, was refunded to Travancore, and a sum of Rs. 3,895, being the amount received by this Government in excess in the previous year, was refunded to the British Government. As part payment in advance of the State's share in the allocation of the customs revenue during the year 1937—38, a sum of Rs. 22,08,746 was also received from the Government of India in the year. To avoid budget fluctuations, however, this amount was credited under the Customs Revenue Suspense (advances) accounts to be credited to Customs revenue proper in 1114.

4. 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 Rs. 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.

Important Features of the Year.—The term of the temporary survey staff created early in Kanni for a period of one year with a view to cope with the problem of evasion of payment of tax was extended by the Government till the end of 1114.

For the use of the Commissioner's Office, situated in the western block of the Staff Quarters Buildings, Ernakulam, the eastern block also was made available during the year.

Several of the income-tax forms and registers were revised and the office work was thoroughly reorganised. An income-tax manual in two parts was prepared and submitted to the Government for approval.

The question of granting relief against double tax in Cochin and Travancore on the lines of the arrangements in force between Cochin and British India was under consideration.

Although the Government of India agreed to give the necessary facility to collect income-tax from the tramp ships visiting the Cochin Harbour, the claim against these vessels was not enforced in the year under review as the details regarding the procedure were not fully settled.

The question of assessing the South Indian Railway Company on the profits they were making as managing agents of the State Railway was also under consideration during the year.

Changes in Law.—Two Income-tax Amendment Acts were passed in the course of the year. By Act XII of 1113, the High Court was empowered to treat the reference fee deposited by assesseees as part of the costs of the proceedings; and by Act XXXII of 1113 a super-tax was imposed with effect from 1st Chingam, 1114, on companies at a flat rate of one anna in the rupee on incomes above Rs. 50,000 and on all other assesseees on a graduated scale on incomes

above Rs. 75,000. By the introduction of super-tax the Government were hopeful of securing a net annual revenue of about a lakh of rupees.

In the course of the year two notifications were issued by the Government granting certain exemptions from income-tax. By one of these notifications contributions made by British Indian officers to provident funds governed by the Indian Provident Funds Act of 1897, and by the other contributions made to the Cochin Education Department Benefit Fund, were exempted from income-tax.

Assessees.—At the beginning of the year there were 1,471 assesseees in the register. One hundred and eighty-nine assesseees were brought into and 86 assesseees were struck off from the list in the course of the year, so that there were 1,574 assesseees at the close of the year. Classified according to taluks, Cochin-Kanayannur had 695, Mukundapuram 114, Trichur 587, Talappalli 85, Chittur 67, and Cranganur 26 assesseees. Of the assesseees, 345 were Indian Christians, 218 Tamil Brahmins, 136 Nayars, 119 Muslims, 93 Baniyas, and 271 from among all other castes together, besides 392 companies, firms, etc., not belonging to any particular community.

One thousand four hundred and thirteen assesseees other than companies were called upon to file returns of income, and returns were filed by 1,351 assesseees. There were 319 companies in the list of assesseees, and returns of income were filed by 274. Although accounts were called for in 1,281 cases and produced in 1,208 cases, it was possible to assess on the basis of accounts only in 581 cases.

Appeals and Reviews.—Including the arrears of the previous year, the Deputy Commissioner had for disposal 96 appeals, and he disposed of 79, leaving a balance of 17 at the end of the year. In 53 cases, the assessment was annulled or reduced, and in three cases the assessment was enhanced.

The Income-tax Commissioner had for disposal 228 appeals, revision cases and reference applications including arrears of the previous year, and he disposed of 197 cases, leaving 29 cases pending at the end of the year. In 93 cases the assessment was annulled or reduced, and in 17 cases the assessment was enhanced.

The High Court had for disposal 11 references including arrears of the previous years. Seven of these were disposed of, the decision

in five being completely in favour of the department and in two partly in favour of the department and partly in favour of the assessee.

Demand and Collection.—Out of the total number of 1,574 assessees, only 1,167 were actually found liable to pay tax, and the total demand against them, including deductions at source and sundry other collections and setting off all refunds made to them, was Rs. 6,39,848. The total collection was Rs. 6,83,834, and the total refund was Rs. 71,180. The collections included Rs. 4,394 arrears of previous year, and the refunds consisted of Rs. 66,657 refunds made to assessees on account of reductions in assessment or by way of relief against double tax and Rs. 4,523 refunds granted to non-assessees under section 51 of the Act. After setting off all refunds, the net revenue collected was Rs. 6,12,654, and the total demand in arrears at the end of the year was Rs. 31,153. Compared with the actuals of the previous year, there was an increase in the total collection by Rs. 3,09,671 and in the net revenue by Rs. 2,83,720.

Compared with the demand in 1112, the demand from Cochin-Kanayannur taluk excluding Mattancheri, Mukundapuram taluk excluding Irinjalakuda, and Cranganur taluk showed an increase. Of the total increase in these places of Rs. 3,80,333, Ernakulam town was responsible for Rs. 3,76,591. In all the other taluks there was a fall in demand to the extent of Rs. 1,04,577. In Mattancheri alone there was a decrease by Rs. 86,906 and in Talappalli taluk by Rs. 5,775.

The demand from companies was Rs. 4,70,071 as against Rs. 99,215 in 1112. There was thus an increase by Rs. 3,70,856. In the case of other assessees the decrease amounted to Rs. 95,099. In the case of all communities except the Saraswat Brahmins and Ezhuvas, there was a fall, noticeable specially in the case of Muslims and Banias. If the European companies were excluded, the largest amount of tax was paid by the Indian Christian community.

The increase in demand in Ernakulam town was mainly due to an increase in demand from petrol companies, and the abnormal decrease in demand from Mattancheri was largely because of the poor yield from rice and paddy and cocoanut oil and coir businesses. One assessee in Mattancheri was prosecuted in the year for the offence of fabricating accounts, and he was convicted.

Coercive Steps.—Coercive steps had to be taken for collecting the tax in 118 cases. In most of these cases the tax was paid on the imposition of a nominal penalty, but in two cases the tax was collected by attaching salary, and in twelve cases it was recovered either wholly or in part under the Revenue Recovery Act. In 38 cases proceedings under the Revenue Recovery Act were pending, and a sum of Rs. 1,253 was written off as irrecoverable.

Incidence of Tax.—The incidence of tax per head of population was 8 annas and 1·6 pies as against 4 annas and 4·3 pies in the previous year.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure of the department, excluding statutory refunds, was Rs. 22,063 or 3·6 per cent of the net revenue as against Rs. 20,763 or 6·311 per cent in 1112.

5. STAMPS

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

Orders were placed during the year with a well-known firm in India for the supply of stamps and stamp papers required for the State from 1114 to 1117. By this arrangement Government effected considerable savings as the rates offered were very cheap when compared with the rates of the previous stamp suppliers.

The number of ex-officio vendors was the same as in the previous year, *viz.*, seven, and the number of licensed vendors was 76 as against 80 in the previous year.

The stamp revenue during the year was Rs. 5,50,045 as against Rs. 5,96,383 in the previous year, and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 41,359 as against Rs. 42,724 in 1112.

6. RAILWAY

The State Railway continued to be under the management of the South Indian Railway Company.

The gross earnings of the year amounted to Rs. 16,70,940 as against Rs. 16,60,272 in the previous year and Rs. 18,00,000 anticipated in the budget estimate. Working expenses proper, excluding adjustments on account of metre gauge imprest stores but including the company's profits during the year, were Rs. 11,97,550 as against Rs. 11,70,794 in the previous year. The net receipt amounted,

therefore, to Rs. 4,73,390 as against Rs. 4,89,478 in 1112, the percentage of net receipts to gross earnings and capital outlay being 28·3 and 4·49, respectively, as against 29·5 and 4·57 in 1112.

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

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Capital Expenditure. Rs.</i>	<i>Net Earnings. Rs.</i>	<i>Percentage on Booked Capital.</i>
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
1937	1,05,45,523	4,73,390	4·49

The capital and revenue expenditure on conversion of the railway from broad to metre gauge till the end of the year were Rs. 29,77,151 and Rs. 42,89,533, respectively.

The terms of construction of the Edappilli-Harbour Link were agreed to during the year and the estimate for the work was sanctioned by the Government. The work was in progress, the total capital expenditure on the construction till the end of the year being Rs. 5,58,062.

7. 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 of 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 the 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 head loads of dry fuel, fencing materials and other produce for domestic and agricultural purposes.

Important Events of the Year.—One of the outstanding events of the year was the amalgamation of the Tramway with the Forest Department. In consequence of this change there was a substantial reduction in the maintenance charges of the tramway.

Another notable event was the shifting of the Forest Head Office from Ramavarmapuram to the Training Institution buildings, Trichur, early in June 1938.

Reserved Forests.—At the commencement of the year the area of reserved forests under the charge of the department was 584 square miles, 148 acres and 27·25 cents. There was no addition of any newly constituted reserve during the year, but an extent of 163 acres and 51 cents was excluded from the reserved forests to meet the demands of the agricultural population for lands suitable for cultivation or production of food-crops or for domicile. The total area of reserved forests at the end of the year was, therefore, 583 square miles, 624 acres and 76·25 cents. For catering to the requirements of agriculturists in the matter of grazing and fodder, leaf manure, firewood and small timber for bonafide agricultural requirements, there was also an extent of 2,525 acres and 73 cents set apart as village reserves bordering reserved forests.

For the purpose of raising plantations of hill produce, such as cardamom, rubber, tea, and coffee, reserved forests to the extent of 13,634·23 acres were leased out to private agencies in blocks of varying sizes in different localities of the State, the Forest Department realising a quit rent of Rs. 26,910. Of this acreage, 39·50

acres were leased out during the year under report. Besides, old abandoned estates let on lease to the extent of 5,327·92 acres fetched an amount of Rs. 7,992 by way of quit rent, and this was collected by and credited to the Revenue Department. Again, 212·80 acres of reserved forests had been leased out to the members of the depressed classes for occupation on nominal rentals at the commencement of the year. To this were added 13·97 acres in Kodasseri village in the Kodasseri range and 50 acres in Kondazhi village in the Machad range during the year. Thus at the end of the year the leased area to the depressed classes stood at 276·77 acres.

Demarcation and Survey.—The boundary line demarcating the State forests and the Travancore forests over a length of 30 miles from Karadipara (near Athirappilli falls) to Mukkotumudi was cleared during the year in collaboration with the Travancore Forest Department. Further, an area of 1,252 acres was certified and demarcated during the year for the opening of plantation blocks and regeneration coupes at a cost of Rs. 210, the average cost per acre being 2·68 annas.

Agency of Exploitation.—The agencies employed for extraction of timber and other produce from the State forests were the same as those of the previous year. The fixed rate system of contract for departmental collection works was limited to the collection of timber and other produce from the areas tapped by the forest tramway, while the system of percentage rate contract (in which the collection charges are based on a percentage of sale proceeds) was adopted whenever the produce was collected at the sale depots by the contractor himself. The seigniorage system of extraction (by which the purchaser is allowed to make his own arrangements for felling and collection) was resorted to only in extremely rare cases where the departmental system was not found to be profitable.

Collection of Timber.—The total collection of timber by departmental agency during the year amounted to 17,617 candies, consisting of 6,184 candies of teak, 851 candies of rosewood, and 10,582 candies of junglewood, while collection by consumers and purchasers amounted to 7,199 candies, consisting of 222 candies of teak, 30 candies of rosewood, and 6,947 candies of junglewood, besides 6,236 tons of fuel and 37,750 bamboos. In other words, the total collection by departmental agency and by consumers and purchasers amounted to 24,816 candies of timber, 16,841 tons of fuel and 37,750

bamboos, as against 20,217 candies of timber, 11,005 tons of fuel and 88,300 bamboos in 1112.

Out of the collections by departmental agency, 1,887 candies of different species of timber (in the round), to the total value of Rs. 45,882, were supplied for Government purposes, as against 1,073 candies of timber, to the value of Rs. 21,775, in 1112. A new item of supply during the year was teak poles for electric transmission, 688 of which were supplied to the Public Works Department and the Trichur Municipality at Rs. 3,592. The value of the balance stock of timber and other forest produce for disposal at the end of the year was estimated at Rs. 97,309.

The contract with Tata Oil Mills, Ltd., for the collection of *pyne* seeds (*Vateria indica*) terminated at the end of the year 1937, and no fresh contract was entered into on account of the difficulty of collecting the seeds from the interior of the forests during the rainy season when the fruits ripened and of transporting them at reasonable cost.

The agricultural and industrial population enjoyed the concession usually allowed to them to remove headloads of fuel, thorns and bamboos from the forests and to graze their cattle free of charge. The value of the different items of material so removed amounted to Rs. 2,408 as against Rs. 1,573 in 1112.

Offences under Forest Act.—At the beginning of the year 27 cases of forest offences were pending disposal. One hundred and sixty-eight cases were reported during the year. There were thus 195 cases for disposal as against 179 in 1112. Of these, 168 cases were disposed of as against 152 in 1112, the percentage of disposal working out at 86 as against 85 in the previous year. Fines inflicted by magistrates amounted to Rs. 1,198 as against Rs. 648 in 1112, and the amount of compounding fees realised was Rs. 189 as against Rs. 144 in the previous year. By the sale of confiscated materials, a sum of Rs. 1,046 was realised as against Rs. 854 in 1112, the increase being due to the larger number of cases detected during the year.

Artificial Regeneration.—The extent of teak plantations at the commencement of the year was 4,765·69 acres, and the area taken up for planting during the year was 524·80 acres, so that 5,294·49 acres

were planted up by the end of the year. The teak plantations created during the year were the Rama Varma Plantation (302.99 acres) in Kodasseri range, the Kuttenchira Plantation (131.75 acres) in Trichur range, and the Uriyadikunnu (30.80 acres), Parathipara (30.25 acres) and Elanad (30 acres) plantations in the Machad range. These plantations were all raised under the *taungya* system along with agricultural crops except on a portion of the Kuttenchira area. All the plantations were got fire-protected during the year.

Forest School.—The training of the ten candidates for service as forest guards referred to in the previous year's report was completed by the end of Kanni (October 1937). All the candidates came out successful in the final examination, six in the higher class and four in the lower. All private candidates who underwent training were able to secure appointments in the department.

Shooting Licences.—The issue of shooting licences was restricted during the year as a measure of game preservation. Only five licences were issued as against 13 in the previous year. Of these, three were free and two paid licences, as against five free and eight paid licences in 1112. There was one case of illicit shooting pending at the end of 1112, and it ended in acquittal. Two fresh cases reported in the year under report ended in conviction.

Elephants and Ivory.—At the beginning of the year there were nine elephants under the charge of the department, including three Devaswam elephants temporarily placed under its charge. Six of these were tuskers and three cows. Of the total number of animals, three belonging to the department (two tuskers and one cow) died during the year. There were six new captures (three tuskers and three cows), however, and of this a baby tusker was sold for Rs. 400. Thus the number of elephants under the charge of the department at the end of the year was 11—six tuskers and five cows.

Elephant capturing operations were undertaken at Parambikulam. There were twelve falls, and of these two tuskers died in the pit, two escaped immediately after the fall and two were liberated being unfit for kraaling. The remaining six animals were safely kraaled and trained.

The total amount spent during the year on elephant-capturing operations, including training, was Rs. 2,468, the average cost of

capturing and kraaling being Rs. 268 per animal as against Rs. 328 in the previous year. The value of the new captures was estimated at Rs. 7,100.

The stock of ivory (tusks and tushes) at the beginning of the year was 735-38/85 lbs., and fresh receipt during the year was 122-31/34 lbs. Of this, 295-59/85 lbs. was disposed of and 9-43/170 lbs. was written off as weight lost due to dryage. The average price fetched per pound of ivory was Rs. 4—1—0, and the best price Rs. 5—1—0 per pound for good pairs. The value realised for the quantity disposed of was Rs. 1,151. There was a balance stock of ivory at the end of the year of 553-7/17 lbs.

Receipts and Expenditure.—The receipts of the department amounted to Rs. 3,61,913 as against Rs. 4,12,280 in 1112. The fall in receipts was chiefly due to the fact that the full value of timber supplied for the Public Works Department could not be realised. Further, there was practically no demand for shipment size rosewood, which item alone yielded in the previous year a sum of Rs. 90,032. The total expenditure came to Rs. 2,53,427 as against Rs. 2,52,023 in the previous year. A net surplus of Rs. 1,08,486 was, therefore, realised as against Rs. 1,60,257 in 1112.

8. 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 upgrade 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 drawing 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 21st mile) 345 trains for timber transport and 164 trains for fuel transport were run as against 354 trains for timber transport, 227 trains for fuel transport and two special trains in the previous year. In the second section (from mile 21 to $27\frac{3}{4}$) 754 trains for transport of timber and 12 trains for transport of fuel were run as against 699 timber trains, 14 fuel trains and two special trains in 1112, and in the third section (from mile $27\frac{3}{4}$ to 50) 881 timber trains and 23 fuel trains were run as against 772 timber trains and two special trains in the previous year. (Of the 1,980 timber trains run, 722 were only from Komalapara to Kuriarkutty.) The total number of trains run in all the sections together was, therefore, 2,179 as against 2,022 in the previous year, covering a total mileage of 36,904. Although there were five derailments (as against 17 reported in the previous year), there was no accident of a serious nature.

Transportation of Timber.—The tramway carried during the year 14,263 candies of round timber in trucks, 53 bogies of scantlings, 6,175 tons of fuel and 7,793 maunds of provisions as against 15,245 candies of timber in trucks, 34 bogies of scantlings, 4,690 tons of fuel and 6,405 maunds of provisions, etc., in the previous year. The freight earned by the tramway for the transport of Government timber was Rs. 50,522 and for the public Rs. 53,904 as against Rs. 47,459 and Rs. 55,123, respectively, in 1112.

Engines and Trucks.—There were eight engines in use during the year in the three sections together, and all of them were properly maintained. One of the engines was completely overhauled. There were 49 pairs of trucks, 13 bogies, three luggage waggons, three brake vans, one inspection carriage, three trailer vans and one saloon. Seventeen pairs of trucks were in the sick list, and of these five pairs were thoroughly overhauled and put into service.

Laying of New Rails.—An additional length of 10·5 miles of the track in section III was relaid with the second-hand rails purchased

from the South Indian Railway, the cost of relaying amounting to Rs. 1,690. Although it was expected to complete the relaying of the entire length of the permanent way with the heavier section rails during the year, the work could not be completed owing to the practical difficulties experienced in the haulage and delivery of the rails without prejudice to normal traffic, and consequently a length of 1·863 miles in section III remained to be relaid at the end of the year. Twenty-one sets of points and crossings were relaid with the heavier section sets purchased from the South Indian Railway. The approaches on either side of a bridge at Kuriarkutty were raised by two feet above the original level, and the reconstruction of several bridges which had been taken up and left unfinished during the previous year was completed. All the brake sheds were repaired and wire ropes of the third incline renewed during the year.

Workshop.—All the machines in the workshop were kept in good working order. The saw-mill section continued to be leased to the Anamallais Timber Trust, Ltd., for a lease rent of Rs. 900 per year. The amount realised for works done in the workshop for other Government departments and private parties amounted to Rs. 2,756 as against Rs. 717 in the previous year. Of this, Rs. 2,461 represented the cost of works undertaken for other departments and Rs. 295 for private parties. The corresponding figures for 1112 were Rs. 378 and Rs. 339, respectively. The enhanced receipts for works for other Government departments were due to the order received for the supply of ballot boxes for the Legislative Council Election.

Receipts and Expenditure.—The receipts from tramway amounted to Rs. 89,241 as against Rs. 1,06,359 in 1112. The fall in receipts was partly due to the fact that out of the freight charges payable for the transport of Government timber a sum of Rs. 6,983 had to be withheld owing to shortage of funds under the sanctioned allotment and partly because the Anamallais Timber Trust, Ltd., defaulted to the extent of about Rs. 16,000. The capital expenditure incurred during the year was Rs. 14,892, but the value of released rails amounting to Rs. 20,965 receipted to stock before delivery to purchasers was shown as abatement of charges, and so the net expenditure charged to capital was minus Rs. 6,102, the corresponding figure for the previous year being minus Rs. 6,491. The actual maintenance

charges amounted to Rs. 79,876 as against Rs. 80,664 in the previous year.

9. 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 (1864) the question of improving the anchal service was first taken up by the 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 in coin.

The management of the anchal service rested with the Diwan till 1065, when the post of a superintendent was created and the department transferred to his control. Anchal stamps and embossed envelopes were introduced in 1067, and 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, 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 1112.

Important Features of the Year.—Some changes in the permanent establishment of the Anchal Department were effected during the year. The office establishment of the superintendent was strengthened by the appointment of two clerks, and the sub-anchal offices at Andikadavu, Kallettumkara, Erumapetti and Mullurkara, being found not self-supporting, were reduced to branch anchal offices.

The boat mail system on the coastal area which was found to be working unsatisfactorily was abolished and the old runners system was restored; consequently, two runners and one boy runner were appointed for the exchange of mails between Ernakulam, Narakkal, Ayyampilli and Malipuram anchal offices. The bus system for the conveyance of mails on the Trichur-Pazhanji, Ernakulam-Trippunitura, and Arur-Ernakulam lines was introduced, and consequently the posts of one mail peon and four runners were abolished and the post of one boy runner was created for exchanging mails with the Kunnamkulam City anchal office.

A non-delivery branch anchal office at Thoppumpadi and two delivery branch anchal offices—one at Arimpur and another at Karuvannur—were opened during the year. The term of the branch anchal offices at Thevara, Perumanur, Kunnamkulam City and Koonammoochi was extended till the end of 1114, and the temporary additional anchal inspector was allowed to continue since the period of the temporary amalgamation of Anchal and Registration departments was extended until further orders.

Anchal Offices.—Including those in Cranganur there were 79 anchal offices at the end of the year as against 76 in 1112. Of these, six were taluk, 25 sub and 48 branch (40 permanent and eight experimental) anchal offices. There were 150 letter boxes at the beginning of the year; nine were newly planted and one removed, so that the number at the close of the year was 158.

The total length of the mail lines at the beginning of the year was $399\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Two new mail lines were opened—one from Irinjalkuda to Karuvannur and another from Kunnamkulam to Mundur—covering a distance of 10 miles. The mail lines from Ayyampilli to Cranganur and from Kunnamkulam to Erumapetti extending over a length of 14 miles were closed. Thus the total length of the mail lines at the end of the year was $395\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

Registered and Unregistered Articles.—The total number of ordinary articles carried by anchal during the year was 5,035,169 as against 4,636,529 in 1112. Of these, 1,077,223 were Sirkar articles. Registered articles accepted for transmission numbered 150,189 as against 143,037 in the previous year. Of these, 40,658 were Sirkar articles and the rest private.

Hundis.—Hundis issued during the year from the anchal offices in the State (inclusive of Cranganur) numbered 69,811 (of the aggregate value of Rs. 6,26,871) as against 67,124 (of the value of Rs. 6,21,617) in the previous year. The anchal offices paid 73,688 hundis (of the value of Rs. 6,92,842) as against 75,393 (of the value of Rs. 6,94,056) in 1112.

The total number of Travancore hundis paid by the State anchal offices during the year (inclusive of Cranganur) was 19,128 (of the value of Rs. 1,88,078) as against 22,248 (of the value of Rs. 1,94,627) in the previous year. The total number of Cochin hundis paid in Travancore during the year was 14,322 (of the value of Rs. 1,23,278) as against 13,445 (of the value of Rs. 1,22,828) in 1112. The excess amount paid by the State and Cranganur anchal offices on account of Travancore hundis over those issued by them on Travancore was, therefore, Rs. 64,800.

V. P. Articles.—The reciprocal value payable system introduced between Travancore and Cochin in 1096 continued during the year under report. Three thousand two hundred and thirty registered V. P. articles were posted in the State anchal offices including Cranganur.

Complaints.—Sixty-two anchal complaints were received as against 89 in the previous year. Including six complaints undisposed of, the total number for disposal came to 68. Of these, all except 11 which were received towards the close of the year were disposed of.

Newspapers and Magazines.—Newspapers and magazines which were registered or whose registration was renewed during the year for transmission at the reduced rate of postage numbered 38 as against 44 in the previous year.

Punishment of Staff.—Instances of temporary misappropriation of cash balance were detected during the year in the anchal offices at Wadakkancheri and Mulanthuruthi. The irregularities were brought to the notice of the Government, and the delinquents were dealt with departmentally. Instances of defaced stamps being used by the Kattur anchal master on articles tendered for registration were brought to light, and he was dismissed from service. The Tattamangalam anchal master was found to have stolen a cheque enclosed in an article posted in the anchal office. He was charge-sheeted by

the police, and the Sessions Judge of Trichur convicted him and sentenced him to undergo varying terms of rigorous imprisonment. He was also dismissed from the service.

Receipts and Expenditure.—The total collections of the department (including those of Cranganur) amounted to Rs. 1,31,584 as against Rs. 1,27,872 in the previous year, while the total expenditure (including Cranganur) was Rs. 87,210 as against Rs. 98,534 in 1112. The working of the department resulted thus in a net surplus of Rs. 44,374 as against Rs. 29,338 in 1112.

CHAPTER V

JUSTICE AND CRIME

1. CIVIL JUSTICE

The judicial administration of the State on the model of British India began with the inauguration of the Huzur Court of Col. Munro in 987 M. E. (1812 A. D.). The Huzur Court was afterwards named as the Appeal Court of Cochin during the time of Diwan Nanjappayya, and it remained as such till its conversion as the Chief Court of Cochin in 1076.

A great change was brought about during the year under report when, with the inauguration of a new Constitution for the State under the Government of Cochin Act (XX of 1113), a High Court, presided over by a Chief Justice and two other judges, was ushered into existence in the place of the Chief Court. The institution of the High Court marks an important epoch in the annals of the judicial administration of the State.

A striking feature of the civil judicial administration is the steady fall in the file of cases in all courts in general and in the munsiff's courts in particular that has been noticeable during the last three years. This is believed to have been due to the hard financial condition of the people consequent upon the decrease in price of all the staple products of the State. In spite of the fall in the number of cases instituted, the income of the department, however, has remained almost unaffected.

Courts at Work.—Two district courts, seven munsiff's courts and 35 panchayat courts exercised original civil jurisdiction during the year. Besides, one additional district judge remained permanently attached to the Anjikaimal District Court. The Additional District Munsiff's Court, which was attached to the Trichur Munsiff's Court, was shifted to the Ernakulam Munsiff's Court towards the last quarter of the year.

Litigation.—Including the previous balance of 4,886 suits, all the courts together had for disposal 22,221 suits, of which 17,852 were disposed of, leaving 4,369 pending disposal at the end of the year, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 23,501, 18,715 and 4,836, respectively. Appeals for disposal in the year numbered 1,311, of which 648 were disposed of, leaving 663 pending disposal, as against 1,163, 516 and 647, respectively, in 1112. While the aggregate value of suits filed in the year amounted only to Rs. 39,42,653 as against Rs. 56,62,490 in the previous year, the value of appeals filed in the year was Rs. 5,49,056 as against Rs. 4,45,046 in 1112. Of the 17,335 suits filed in the year, 1,629 related to landed property, 15,077 to money transactions and 629 to other rights, as against 1,712, 16,549 and 444, respectively, in the previous year. The value of suits instituted in the panchayat courts amounted to Rs. 1,12,840 as against Rs. 97,821 in the previous year.

Panchayat Courts.—The panchayat courts had for disposal 8,447 cases as against 7,060 in the previous year. Of these, 7,185 cases were disposed of, leaving 1,262 pending disposal, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 5,189 and 1,871, respectively. They had also for disposal 9,199 execution petitions, of which 7,790 were disposed of, leaving 1,409 pending disposal, as against 7,806, 5,944 and 1,862, respectively, in the previous year. Of miscellaneous petitions, these courts had for disposal 17,713, of which they disposed of 17,303, leaving 410 pending disposal at the end of the year. The corresponding figures during the previous year were 12,102, 11,452 and 650, respectively.

Munsiffs' Courts.—The munsiffs' courts received in the year under report 5,225 original suits and 5,226 small cause suits, inclusive of the cases filed under the Tenancy Act. These, with the previous balance of 1,823 original suits and 725 small causes, brought the total for disposal to 7,048 original suits and 5,951 small cause suits. Compared with the previous year, the file of cases showed a fall of 1,019 original suits and 1,235 small causes. This fall was spread over all the courts except the Chittur Munsiff's Court where the file of small causes showed a nominal increase of two cases.

Of the total cases for disposal, 5,108 original suits and 5,195 small causes were disposed of, as against 6,424 and 6,775, respectively,

in 1112. Of the disposal, 1,907 original suits and 901 small causes were contested, as against 2,362 and 1,136, respectively, in the previous year. Of the arrears left at the close of the year, 108 original suits were over one year old, 436 were between six and twelve months old, 398 between three and six months old and the remaining 998 were below three months. There were no cases of over one-year's duration in small causes.

The district munsiffs passed appealable decisions in 4,692 cases as against 6,110 in the previous year. Of these, 1,907 cases were disposed of after regular contest as against 2,362 in 1112. Appeals preferred in the year were 447, and the decisions confirmed were 206, as against 388 and 172, respectively, in 1112, the percentage of confirmation being 53—the same as in the previous year.

Including the previous balance of 7,724 applications for execution of decrees, the district munsiffs had for disposal 35,710 applications, of which 28,018 were disposed of, leaving 7,692 pending disposal, as against 38,853, 31,129 and 7,724, respectively, in the previous year. Cases in which satisfaction was obtained in full were 2,189, and those in which satisfaction was obtained in part were 1,744, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 2,344 and 1,378, respectively.

They had also for disposal 60,344 miscellaneous petitions, of which they disposed of 59,256, leaving 1,088 pending disposal, as against 57,798, 56,294 and 1,504, respectively, in the previous year.

District Courts.—The district judges had for disposal 758 original suits and 17 cases under the Tenancy Act, of which they disposed of 348 original suits and 16 cases under the Tenancy Act, leaving 410 original suits and one Tenancy Act case, as against 307 and 20, respectively, in the previous year. Contested cases disposed of numbered 153 on the whole. The average duration of contested cases disposed of by the District Judge of Anjikaimal was 740 days as against 428 days in the previous year, and that in the Trichur District Court was 737 days as against 647 days in 1112.

Of the original suits pending disposal, one was between seven and eight years old, two between five and six years old, five between four and five years old, 16 between three and four years old, 49 between two and three years old, 123 between one and two years old and 214 below one year.

Appeals filed in the High Court against the decrees of the district judges were 112 as against 75 in the previous year. Inclusive of the previous balance, the High Court had for disposal 199 appeals, of which 97 were disposed of, leaving 102 pending disposal, as against 152, 65 and 87, respectively, in 1112. Decisions of the district judges confirmed in appeal were 48 as against 34 in the previous year, the percentage of confirmation working out to 49 as against 52 in 1112.

The district judges had for disposal 1,540 applications for execution of decrees, of which 979 were disposed of, leaving 561 pending disposal, as against 1,565, 911 and 654, respectively, in the previous year. Satisfaction was obtained in full in 123 cases, and in part in 101 cases, as against 132 and 87, respectively, in 1112.

Inclusive of the previous balance of 408 appeals, the district judges had for disposal 855 appeals, of which they disposed of 389, leaving 466 pending disposal, as against 732, 324 and 408, respectively, in the previous year. Of the appeals undisposed of, one was between three and four years old, five between two and three years old, 101 between one and two years old and 359 below one year. The average duration of contested appeals disposed of by the District Judge of Anjikaimal fell from 358 days in the previous year to 314 days in the year under report, while in the Trichur District Court it rose from 385 days to 426 days.

Including the previous balance of 13 appeals from orders, the district judges had for disposal 75 appeals, of which 59 were disposed of, leaving 16 pending disposal. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 76, 57 and 19, respectively.

Of miscellaneous petitions, the district judges had for disposal 10,725, of which 9,781 were disposed of, leaving 944 pending disposal, as against 10,269, 9,360 and 909, respectively, in 1112.

The district judges had also for disposal 225 insolvency petitions during the year, of which they disposed of 147, leaving 78 pending disposal, as against 242, 149 and 93, respectively, in the previous year. Insolvents discharged under section 41 of the Insolvency Act were 46, and cases of final closure of proceedings in respect of the estate of insolvents in the hands of official receivers were 33.

Of land acquisition cases, the district judges had for disposal 170, of which 114 were disposed of, leaving 56 pending disposal, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 186, 94 and 92, respectively. Of those pending disposal, three were between three and four years old, 11 between two and three years old, 16 between one and two years old, and the remaining 26 below one year.

High Court.—There was no work on the original side in the High Court in the year under report.

Inclusive of the 239 appeals (87 regular appeals and 126 second appeals) pending from the previous year, the High Court had for disposal 456 appeals (199 regular appeals and 257 second appeals) as against 431 in 1112. Of these, 259 (A. S. 97 and S. A. 162) were disposed of, leaving 197 (A. S. 102 and S. A. 95) pending disposal, as against 192 and 239, respectively, in the previous year. Of those disposed of, 53 regular appeals were full bench cases and the remaining 44 division bench cases. All the second appeals disposed of were heard by a division bench of two judges. Cases decided after contest were 155 as against 176 in the previous year. The decisions of the lower courts were confirmed in 48 regular appeals and 96 second appeals as against 34 and 85, respectively, in 1112. The percentage of confirmation in regular and second appeals was 49 and 59 as against 52 and 67, respectively, in 1112.

Of the 102 regular appeals and 95 second appeals left as arrears, five regular appeals and two second appeals were over one year old as against 19 regular appeals and 31 second appeals in the previous year.

The average duration of contested regular appeals rose from 310 days in the previous year to 371 days in the year under report, while that of second appeals fell from 427 to 367·3 days. The rise in the average duration in regard to regular appeals was due to disposal of old cases.

The High Court had for disposal 62 miscellaneous appeals during the year, of which 41 were disposed of, leaving 21 pending disposal, as against 79, 53 and 26, respectively, in 1112. Of these, 22 were decided by a full bench as against 27 in the previous year. Orders appealed against were confirmed in 24 cases, the percentage of confirmation being 58·8 as against 71·6 in 1112. There were only two cases which were over one year old among the pending cases.

Of civil revision petitions, the High Court had for disposal 187 during the year, of which 145 were disposed of, leaving 42 pending disposal, as against 181, 137 and 44, respectively, in the previous year. Of the petitions disposed of, 13 were decided by a full bench, 64 by a division bench and the remaining 68 by a single judge. Orders of the district munsiffs sought to be revised were 81 and those of the district judges 64. The decisions of the lower courts were confirmed in 105 cases (51 being orders of the district judges and 54 of the district munsiffs), the percentage of confirmation being 72 as against 78 in the previous year.

Civil miscellaneous petitions for disposal during the year numbered 454, of which 390 were disposed of, leaving 64 pending disposal, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 451, 390 and 61, respectively. Fifteen of these petitions were decided by a full bench, 31 by a division bench of two judges and the remaining 344 by a single judge.

There were 11 income-tax references for disposal, of which seven were disposed of, leaving four pending disposal, as against 13, 4 and 9, respectively, in the previous year. All of them were disposed of by a full bench.

Receipts and Expenditure.—The receipts and expenditure of the Civil Justice Department in the year were Rs. 3,42,714 and Rs. 2,12,281, respectively, as against Rs. 3,82,251 and Rs. 2,08,519 in 1112.

2. CRIMINAL JUSTICE

A prominent feature of the administration of criminal justice in the year under report was a reduction in crime under the Penal Code and an increase of cases under the Special Laws. A fall in the number of grave crimes was also noticed as indicated by the comparatively smaller number of cases filed and disposed of.

There were two Sessions courts, one District Magistrate's court and seven second class Magistrates' courts exercising original jurisdiction during the year. All the magistrates, with the exception of two, exercised special first class powers as well.

Statistics of Crime.—Cases filed in the magistrates' courts in the year numbered 3,497. In eight of these the accused were not available for trial as they either died or escaped. Of the remaining 3,489 cases, those filed under the Special Laws were 1,923 and those

under the Penal Code were 1,566, as against 1,564 and 1,771, respectively, in the previous year. Including the balance outstanding from the previous year, there were 1,874 cases under the Penal Code for disposal, of which 1,593 cases were disposed of, leaving 281 pending disposal, as against 2,007, 1,707 and 300, respectively, in 1112. Cases disposed of included, among others, 650 of hurt, 376 of theft, 44 of grievous hurt, and 59 of house breaking and theft. Cases for disposal under the Special Laws were 1,944 (including the arrears of the previous year), of which 1,906 were disposed of, leaving 38 pending disposal, as against 1,602, 1,581 and 21, respectively, in the previous year. The largest number of cases for disposal—889 as against 672 in the previous year—was under the Municipal Act, and cases under the Abkari Act, the Motor Vehicles Act and the Forest Act followed with 340, 263 and 153, as against 315, 241 and 181, respectively, in the previous year. Prosecutions under the other Acts numbered 299 as against 193 in 1112.

Bench Courts.—Bench courts had for disposal 3,370 cases during the year, of which they disposed of 2,871, leaving 499 pending disposal. In the previous year, the figures were 3,345, 2,538, and 807, respectively.

Magistrates' Courts.—Including the 321 cases pending at the beginning of the year, the magistrates had for disposal 3,818 cases during the year. Of these, 259 were first class cases and 3,559 second class cases, as against 295 first class and 3,314 second class cases in 1112. Disposal in the year amounted to 3,499 cases (203 first class and 3,296 second class), leaving a balance of 319 pending disposal, as against 3,288 (202 first class and 3,086 second class) and 321, respectively, in the previous year.

Inclusive of the 874 persons involved in cases pending from the previous year, the magistrates had for trial 6,542 persons, of whom eight died or escaped. Thus the actual number for trial was 6,534 as against 6,306 in the previous year. Of these, 5,819 were tried and disposed of, leaving 715 pending disposal, as against 5,432 and 874, respectively, in 1112. Of those disposed of, 3,553 were either discharged or acquitted, 2,058 were convicted, 70 were committed to sessions and 138 were otherwise disposed of. The percentage of conviction was 35·3 as against 35·4 in the previous year. Of the total number of convictions, 55 were sentenced to whipping, of which 27 were juvenile offenders as against 25 in the previous

year. Whipping in the case of 11 persons was in addition to other punishment.

The total amount of fine imposed in the year by the several magistrates except the sub-magistrate of Cranganur was Rs. 13,020 as against Rs. 9,881 in the previous year. Including the amount remaining uncollected at the end of the previous year, the amount for collection during the year came to Rs. 13,938. Of this, only a sum of Rs. 63 was left pending collection at the end of the year.

The average duration of cases disposed of by the first class magistrates was 99 days as against 81 in the previous year, and that of those disposed of by the second class magistrates was 24 days as against 25 in 1112.

District Magistrate's Court.—Including the 14 appeals pending from the previous year, the District Magistrate had for disposal 126 appeals (involving 234 persons), of which he disposed of 107 appeals (involving 194 persons), leaving 19 appeals (involving 40 persons) pending disposal. Appealable sentences were passed by the subordinate magistrates on 1,914 persons, of whom 205 persons preferred appeals. The sentences of the lower courts were confirmed in the case of 116 persons, reversed in the case of 74 persons and modified in the case of two persons. In the case of the remaining two persons, the sentences of the lower court were reversed and the cases remanded for disposal on merits. The percentage of confirmation was 60 during the year as against 67 in 1112, and the average duration of appeals disposed of fell from 87 days in the previous year to 53 days in the year under report.

The District Magistrate had also for disposal 16 revision petitions involving 29 persons, and he disposed of all of them. Orders sought to be revised were confirmed in the case of 24 persons, and a new trial or further enquiry was ordered in the case of five persons.

Three thousand two hundred and sixty-one calendars were received and perused by the District Magistrate. In 91 of them he had to pass remarks, and in five of these cases records had to be called for and perused.

Sessions Courts.—Including the four cases pending from the previous year, the Sessions Judges had for disposal 43 sessions cases as against 64 in 1112. Of these, 39 were disposed of, leaving four

cases pending disposal, as against 60 and 4, respectively, in the previous year. Sixty-five persons were concerned in the cases disposed of. Of these, one was discharged without trial, 23 were acquitted and 41 were convicted. The sentences of imprisonment for life and death passed on eight and two, respectively, were referred to the High Court for confirmation. The sentences passed by the Sessions Judges stood confirmed in appeal to the extent of 70 per cent, the percentage of confirmation being the same as in the previous year.

The average duration of cases between commitment and disposal was 20 days in the Anjikaimal Sessions Court and 55·6 days in the Trichur Sessions Court as against 27 and 40, respectively, in the previous year.

Fines imposed by the Sessions Judges in the year amounted to Rs. 168 as against Rs. 577 in the previous year. Adding this amount to the uncollected balance of the previous year, the total came to Rs. 1,034, of which Rs. 118 was collected and Rs. 625 written off as irrecoverable. The amount outstanding collection at the end of the year was Rs. 291.

The Sessions Judges had for disposal 64 appeals, of which they disposed of 58, leaving six pending disposal at the end of the year. Appealable sentences were passed by the first class magistrates on 112 persons, of whom 89 preferred appeals. The appeals preferred by 83 persons were disposed of in the year. The sentences appealed against were confirmed in the case of 61 persons, modified in the case of four and reversed in the case of twelve. In regard to the remaining six persons, their appeals were rejected. The percentage of confirmation was 73·5 as against 58 in the previous year. The average duration of appeals disposed of was 21 days as against 37 in the previous year in the Anjikaimal Sessions Court and 21·6 days as against 52·4 in the Trichur Sessions Court.

Inclusive of the two revision petitions (involving four persons) pending from the previous year, the Sessions Judges had for disposal six petitions (involving 17 persons), of which they disposed of five petitions (involving 16 persons), leaving one petition (involving one person) pending disposal. Sentences sought to be revised were upheld in the case of 11 persons and a new trial or further enquiry was ordered in the case of the remaining five persons.

Of the 70 miscellaneous petitions, the Sessions Judges disposed of 69, leaving one petition pending disposal at the end of the year.

High Court.—The High Court had for disposal nine referred trials (involving ten persons), of which seven (involving eight persons) were disposed of, leaving two cases (involving two persons) pending disposal at the close of the year. Of those disposed of, one was acquitted, and the remaining seven were convicted, confirming the sentences of imprisonment for life awarded by the lower courts.

There were for disposal by the High Court 26 appeals (involving 34 persons), of which 22 appeals (involving 30 persons) were disposed of, leaving four appeals (involving four persons) pending disposal at the end of the year. The sentences of the lower courts were confirmed in the case of 21 persons, modified in the case of six, and reversed in the case of three. The percentage of confirmation was 70 as against 48 in the previous year. The average duration of appeals disposed of was 32 days as against 28·5 in the previous year.

Thirty-seven revision petitions (involving 61 persons) came up for disposal by the High Court during the year, and of these 26 petitions (involving 45 persons) were disposed of, leaving 11 petitions (involving 16 persons) pending disposal at the end of the year. The orders sought to be revised were upheld in the case of 26 persons, modified in the case of four, and reversed in the case of five. Petitions presented by eight of the remaining persons were rejected, and in the case of the other two a new trial was ordered.

Of miscellaneous petitions, the High Court had 31 for disposal, of which 22 were disposed of during the year.

The High Court received and perused 461 calendars as against 383 in the previous year, and in some of them delay in trial and in pronouncing judgment was noticed. The records in three cases were called for, and after perusal one of them was directed to be filed as a criminal revision case.

Miscellaneous Proceedings.—Including the previous balance of 32 cases (involving 39 persons), the magistrates had for disposal in the year 225 cases (involving 347 persons), as against 196 cases (involving 309 persons) in the previous year. Of these, they disposed of 204 cases (involving 310 persons), leaving 21 cases (involving 37 persons) pending at the close of the year. Of those disposed of, one was proceedings against a witness for compulsory appearance, two were proceedings to prevent breach of the peace, 16 related to demand of security for good behaviour, 17 were for disputed possession of

property, eight were against frivolous and vexatious accusations, 62 for maintenance, and the remaining 119 were cases of forfeiture of bail, etc.

Extradition.—Nineteen persons were surrendered to the State on extradition warrants in the course of the year. Of these, 10 were from British India and nine were from Travancore, the corresponding figures in the previous year being 32 and 9, respectively. The trial of all except one, received from British India, was completed. Cases against two persons extradited from British India in 1112 were also disposed of in the year under report.

Expenditure.—The expenditure of the department amounted to Rs. 73,023 as against Rs. 75,781 in the previous year.

3. SPECIAL ACTS

The District Magistrate, as in previous years, was in charge of the administration of the Special Acts in force in the State.

Arms Act.—Licenses for the possession of arms issued during the year numbered 2,985 as against 2,996 in 1112. For the import of arms and ammunition 32 licenses were issued as against 29 in the previous year. Besides, 125 licenses for dealing in arms and ammunition and for the manufacture and sale of fireworks were issued as against 121 in 1112.

Including the two cases pending against three persons at the end of 1112, there were 11 prosecutions against 12 persons under the Act. Of these, nine cases against ten persons were disposed of during the year. Of the ten persons tried, eight were convicted and two discharged. Two cases against two persons were pending disposal at the close of the year.

All the weapons which had not been verified during the previous years were verified in the year under report. The weapons in deposit in the magistrates' courts and police stations were also verified. The whereabouts of all the missing weapons were traced out. The number of new weapons mustered was 18.

During the year the fees payable in respect of renewal of licenses for breech-loading weapons were reduced to half the original fees in cases where the application for renewal of the license of such weapon was made one month before the date on which the license expired. The licensing authority was, however, given the discretion

to levy fees at the original rate in case the application for renewal of the license was not made within that period. Necessary amendments to this effect were made in the Arms Rules.

Poisons Act.—Towards the close of the year, the rules for the working of the Cochin Poisons Act, XXX of 1111, were finally published by the Government, and steps were taken to have the necessary licenses issued. There were four applications during the year, and licenses were issued to all of them.

Petroleum Act.—Under the Petroleum Act, 75 licenses for storage, general transport and import of petroleum were issued as against 80 in the previous year, the total amount of license fee collected being Rs. 2,605 as against Rs. 2,655 in 1112. There was no prosecution under the Act during the year.

Press and Registration of Books Act.—Owners of the following printing presses filed declarations during the year :

1. Sahodara Press, Ernakulam.
2. Forward Press, Mattancheri.
3. Saraswathi (Electric) Printing and Publishing House, Trichur.
4. Memorial Printing Works, Ernakulam.
5. Raja Printing House, Nadama, Trippunithura.
6. The National Press, Pudukad.
7. West Light Press, Cherai.
8. Malabar Jews Association Press, Mattancheri.
9. Union Press, Nadama.
10. B. V. Book Depot and Publishing Works, Trichur.
11. Prakasam Printing Works, Ernakulam.
12. Guruvilasam Press, Trichur.
13. Raja Printing House, Nadama.
14. Sree Seetharam Electric Printing Press, Chittur.
15. Town Printing House, Trichur.
16. Sree Sitharama Electric Printing Press, Chittur.

Of these, seven were declarations in respect of new presses started in the year, and the rest due to change in the ownership or location, etc. There were 81 presses working at the end of 1112. Twelve presses ceased working in the course of the year, so that 76 presses were working when the year closed.

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

1. Harijan.
2. Sanathani.
3. Pourasthia Sabha.
4. The International Commercial Advertiser.
5. St. Teresia's College and High School Annual.
6. Subhashini.
7. Theepori.
8. Jayabharathi.
9. Vasumathi.
10. Swathanthrya Kahalam.
11. Malayala Manorama.
12. The Cochin Argus.
13. Naradan.
14. Bharatha Mithram.
15. Desabhimani.
16. Jenassakthi.
17. Navayugam.

Of these, only five were actually started during the year.

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

1. Sthree.
2. Sahodaran.
3. Prakasam.
4. Jayakesari.
5. Yuvacatholican.
6. Jayarasmi.
7. Lokaprakasam.
8. C. M. S. High School Magazine.
9. Insurance Agent's Companion.
10. Saracen.

There were no prosecutions under the Act during the year.

Newspapers Act.—The following newspapers and magazines were granted licenses under the Newspapers Act during the year :

1. Jayarasmi.
2. The Kerala Review,

3. Harijan.
4. Sanathani.
5. St. Teresia's College and High School Annual.
6. Jayabharathi.
7. Vasumathi.
8. Swathanthrya Kahalam.
9. The Cochin Argus.
10. Malayala Manorama.
11. Subhashini.

Licenses in respect of *Thozhilabhimani*, *Yuvakesari*, *Mahathi*, the *Cochin Chronicle*, *Sadguru* and the *Teachers' Magazine* were revoked by the Government, and license fees were refunded in all the cases during the year.

Although licences of the following newspapers and magazines remained in force, they had either ceased publication or were not at all published during the year :

1. Vasumathi.
2. Malayala Manorama.
3. Harijan.
4. Lokaprakasam.
5. Swathanthrya Kahalam.
6. Yuvacatholican.
7. Sthree.
8. The Kerala Review.
9. Subhashini.
10. Catholica Yuvalokam.
11. C. M. S. High School Magazine.

There were in all 40 newspapers and periodicals in circulation as against 47 at the end of the previous year. [A list of these newspapers and magazines is published as Appendix IV.]

There were no prosecutions under the Act, and the tone of the newspapers and magazines continued to be satisfactory.

Lunacy Act.—At the beginning of the year there were 153 lunatics (104 males and 49 females of whom eight males and three females were criminal lunatics) in the Mental Hospital, Trichur. There were 100 admissions (75 males and 25 females) as against 91

in the previous year. Of the new admissions, one male was a criminal lunatic and two females were criminals. The total number of lunatics dealt with was 253 as against 218 in 1112.

Of the 72 persons (53 males and 19 females) discharged having been cured, three males and four females were criminal lunatics. Twenty-six persons (19 males and seven females) died during the year, and 32 persons (29 males and three females) were released on bonds executed by their near relations. There were thus at the end of the year 123 persons (77 males including six criminal lunatics and 46 females) as against 153 at the end of the previous year.

There were 99 cells for the accommodation of lunatics in the Mental Hospital, including 28 new cells provided in the course of the year. The daily average attendance was 136 males and 42 females. Though there was only an increase of nine persons in the admissions over those of the previous year, the number of persons discharged after cure increased by 25 over the number for 1112.

Boilers' Act.—The Cochin Boilers' Act of 1113 was brought into force from 1st Kumbham. An Engineers' Examination was conducted at Ernakulam in Edavam under the Engineers' Examination Rules. There were eight applications as against 12 in the previous year. Of these, one was for an exchange certificate of competency of the first class. Of the remaining seven candidates, one was for the certificate of competency of the first class, three for second class and three for third class. All the seven candidates were admitted to the examination. The exchange certificate was granted as applied for. Of the seven candidates who appeared for the examination, three failed, one from each group, and all the other candidates were successful.

Factories Act.—The Cochin Factories Act, II of 1113, was brought into force throughout the State on 1st Dhanu, and rules framed thereunder were published towards the end of the year. Thirty-six accidents were reported as against 53 in the previous year. None of the accidents were fatal, and detailed enquiries were made in the case of all. There was only one prosecution under the Act, and it was disposed of in the year itself.

Cinematograph Act.—During the year the Government ordered that no temporary or touring theatres should be located within a radius of one mile from permanent theatres in the State. In

respect of ten permanent theatres licences were issued, and, of these, one stopped the shows about the middle of the year. As many as 39 licences were issued in respect of temporary and touring theatres as against 19 in 1112. There was one prosecution under the Act against two persons, of whom one was convicted and the case against the other withdrawn at the instance of the Government.

Places of Public Resort Act.—The rules framed by the Government under the Places of Public Resort Act in 1098 were thoroughly revised on the basis of the existing Madras rules, and the revised rules were issued in the middle of the year. The provisions of the Act were for the first time extended also to the non-municipal areas in the State with effect from the beginning of the year. The licensing authority in respect of these non-municipal areas issued licences in respect of two permanent buildings, 46 temporary buildings and 11 enclosures. There were two prosecutions against 12 persons during the year. One case against one person was disposed of, the accused having been discharged, and the other case against 11 persons was pending at the close of the year.

Workmen's Compensation Act.—The Workmen's Compensation Act, V of 1111, was amended, more or less on the lines of the Indian Workmen's Compensation Act amended up-to-date, during the year by Act III of 1113 and was brought into force from 1st Makaram. Including the two applications for compensation pending at the end of 1112, there were four applications for disposal. All the applications were disposed of during the year itself.

Seven fatal accidents were reported by the employers. Two cases of fatal accidents were also reported by the respective dependants. Of these, five were accidents concerning employees of the Cochin Harbour Works. In all the cases notices were issued to the respective employers requiring them to deposit compensation in case they admitted liability. Compensation was deposited in six cases, while in the remaining three cases the employers disclaimed liability on the ground that the deceased workmen were only casual labourers. In cases where the employers had so disclaimed liability, the respective dependants were summoned before court and given instructions to file regular applications if they felt aggrieved.

A sum of Rs. 77 was deposited in the case of a person who suffered partial disablement in the Cochin Harbour Works.

Including a sum of Rs. 454—4—0 pending disbursement at the end of 1112, there was in all a sum of Rs. 3,739 in deposit as against Rs. 1,683—8—0 in 1112. During the year a sum of Rs. 2,639 was disbursed to the respective claimants as against Rs. 939 in the previous year, leaving a balance of Rs. 1,100 pending disbursement. From the returns submitted by employers, it was found that the amounts of compensation paid were fairly satisfactory, and that there was no case of occupational disease during the year.

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 to be made in future 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's Body Guard; (10) coinage or legal tender; (11) State charities; (12) Devaswoms 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 the 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 the 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 the 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.

During the year under report an even more momentous change in the character and complexion of the Legislative Council was brought about. The old Legislative Council Act was replaced by the Government of Cochin Act, enabling an elected representative of the people for the first time to take his place as Leader of the House and occupy the first seat on the Treasury Bench as Minister for Rural Development.

Franchise Committee.—The Franchise Committee that was constituted in 1112 submitted its report early in the year. According to that report and the Government Orders thereon, a territorial redistribution of constituencies was effected, and the strength of the Council was raised from 54 to 58. Two elected seats were given to representatives of women in the State. The franchise qualifications of voters were widely extended, so that it became possible for every person who paid any tax to the State or to any local authority or who had passed the School Final Examination or its equivalent to exercise his or her vote in an election to the Legislative Council.

General Election.—In Meenam the Legislative Council was dissolved and a general election was held. Two political parties emerged out of the new election held in Edavam—the Cochin Congress and the Cochin State Congress; and the first Minister under the new Constitution brought into force in the meanwhile was chosen from the Cochin Congress party which had a majority in the Council.

COUNCIL AT WORK

There were four meetings of the Legislative Council in the year, lasting for 28 days on the whole. The Legislative session consisted of three meetings, of which the first meeting lasted for six days and the remaining two for five days each, and the Budget session covered 12 days. Out of the 16 days of the Legislative session, 10 days were utilised for Government business and six days for non-official business. The last day of the Budget session was also devoted for non-official business.

On the first day of the second meeting of the Legislative session, the Council adopted a resolution thanking His Highness the Maharaja for His Highness's gracious announcement regarding the grant of constitutional reforms. On the same day, another resolution was adopted congratulating His Highness on the degree of Doctor of Laws conferred on His Highness by the Benares Hindu University.

A condolence resolution was passed by the Council in Meenam on the demise of Pandit K. P. Karuppan, an old member of the Legislative Council.

The new Council began to function with the Budget session of 1113. On the opening day of the session the Diwan-President addressed the Council giving an account of the salient features of the

administration of the State in the year. (The text of the address of the Diwan is published as Appendix.V.) Mr. T. P. Poulouse, B.A., B. L., Member for Kanayannur, was unanimously elected Deputy President of the Council.

Bills.—Thirty-two bills in all, 13 Government and 19 non-official, came up before the Council in the course of the year. One of these bills—the Cochin Tenancy Bill—was one which had been passed by a previous Council but was returned by the Diwan for reconsideration. Of the official bills, the Tenancy Bill, the Municipal Bill, the Fisheries Act Amendment Bill, the Income-tax Act Amendment Bill, the Village Panchayat Act Amendment Bill, the Debt Conciliation Act Amendment Bill, the Penal Code Amendment Bill, the Rubber Control Act Amendment Bill, the Land Conservancy Act Amendment Bill, the Debt Conciliation Act Amendment Bill, the Payment of Salaries and Allowances Bill and the Income-tax Act Amendment Bill were passed by the Legislative Council, and all of them received the assent of His Highness the Maharaja during the year. The remaining bill—the Cochin Suits Valuation Act Amendment Bill—having been referred to a select committee, was dropped by the Government on the recommendation of the committee that it would be advantageous to consolidate the Suits Valuation Act and the Court Fees Act.

Of the 19 non-official bills, the Nayar Bill, the Marumakkathayam Bill, the Ezhuthassan Bill, the Maternity Benefit Bill, the Nambudiri Kudumba Bill, the Newspaper Act Repeal Bill and the Village Panchayat Act Amendment Bill were passed by the Council. Of these, the Nayar Bill, the Marumakkathayam Bill, the Maternity Benefit Bill and the Village Panchayat Act Amendment Bill were assented to by His Highness, while the Ezhuthassan Bill and the Nambudiri Kudumba Bill were vetoed. Two non-official bills—the Civil Procedure Code Amendment Bill (Mr. K. M. Ibrahim) and the Debt Conciliation Act Amendment Bill (Mr. A. V. Moothedan)—were rejected by the Council at the stage of introduction, while the Tenancy and Kudiyiruppu Bill (Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan) was rejected on the motion for referring it to a select committee. The Midwives' Registration Bill, sponsored by Mrs. D'Souza Williams, was not proceeded with after receipt of the report of the select committee on it. All the remaining bills lapsed on the dissolution of the Council in Meenam.

The Factories Bill, the Boilers Bill, the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill and the Co-operative Societies Bill, passed by the Council in preceding years, received the assent of His Highness the Maharaja during the year.

(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.)

Supplementary Grants.—Supplementary grants including transfer of allotments proposed, to the extent of Rs. 1,80,962, relating to various items of public expenditure were considered and voted upon by the Council.

Cuts on Budget Demands.—While the budget for 1114 was under consideration, the Council passed five cut motions on demands for grants. Of these, one each was under Land Revenue, General Administration, and Law and Justice, and two under Education.

While the cut motion under Land Revenue requested the Government to give a remission of $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the land tax for 1114, that under General Administration urged the necessity for the abolition of untouchability by a Royal Proclamation and that under Law and Justice recommended the promulgation by a Royal Proclamation of a measure on the lines of the 'Madras Agriculturists' Debt Relief Act.

One of the cuts passed under Education pointed out the impropriety of the reduction made in stipends granted to Muslim pupils and the necessity of restoring the same, and the other stressed the necessity of teaching English freely in all primary schools without making any distinction between English and Malayalam schools.

Since all these cuts were in the nature of token motions, they were not restored by the Government.

Interpellations.—The total number of questions received in the year for all the meetings together was 688 as against 1,000 in the previous year. Of these, 50 questions were disallowed as against 101 in 1112, and of the remaining 638 questions 507 were answered during the year.

Resolutions.—Resolutions tabled for discussion in all the meetings together numbered 101. Of these, one was accepted by the Government in Council, seven were adopted by the House and one rejected after discussion. Of the remaining, 15 were withdrawn by

the movers thereof after discussion. The rest were not moved either because the members concerned did not want to move them or because they could not be reached within the allotted time.

The resolution that was accepted by the Government was a recommendation that in the absence of the member in whose name a resolution stood such resolution might, with the permission of the President, be moved by any other member.

Those adopted by the House requested the Government to abolish capital sentence as a punishment for the offence of murder and to substitute imprisonment for life instead; to redeem a promise of the Government in November 1933 that "a bill will be introduced in the next session of the Legislative Council to limit the rate of interest particularly on secured loans, etc."; to issue a Proclamation giving retrospective effect to the amendment of section 27 of the Village Panchayat Act with regard to the limitation of suits and applications; to establish an irrigation board for framing a five-year plan after necessary investigations; to abolish untouchability and unapproachability by a Royal Proclamation; to introduce the colour box system in all the elections of the State; and to take necessary steps for the disbursement of the salary of grant-in-aid primary school teachers direct by the Government.

The resolution that was rejected by the House recommended to the Government to amend the rule regulating the tapping of trees in such a way that the tapping of sweet toddy might be allowed free of licence.

Various issues were raised by the resolutions eventually withdrawn, such as the conversion of the present land tax system into a graduated scale of income-tax; the promulgation of a Proclamation prohibiting the reduction of wages of workers in registered companies, commercial firms, etc., without Government sanction; the constitution of a committee to go into the question of the working of co-operative institutions and for indicating new lines of activity; the advancing of loans by the Land Mortgage Bank up to 80 per cent of the market value of properties mortgaged; the giving of grants for encouraging schools for the blind, deaf and dumb in the State; the abrogation of the law empowering the arrest and detention in jail of debtors; the supply of necessary furniture to all village offices of the State; the preparation of budgets in consultation with the Advisory Committees of the departments concerned; the giving of enhanced

pay to branch anchalmasters and making their services pensionable; the discontinuance of granting travelling allowance to officers attending Athachamayam, etc.; the taking of early steps for harnessing the water power available at Peringalkuttu or other suitable place; the restoring of the power of appointments in municipalities to the municipalities concerned; and the extension of the High Court buildings and the library attached thereto.

Adjournment Motions.—In all nine adjournment motions were tabled for discussion in the course of the year. The subject matter of two of these motions was that the time granted to the S. S. L. C. voters to enrol themselves on the electoral rolls was inadequate. On the Secretary to Government explaining that steps were being taken to issue another notification in the matter, the motions were withdrawn. All the other motions were ruled out of order. They related to various subjects, such as the discussion of the Franchise Committee Report, the giving of grant to teachers working in unaided classes of Malayalam schools, the constitutional reforms proposed to be inaugurated by the Government, the hardship caused to Devaswom tenants on account of the settlement of Devaswom lands, the plight of beedi makers in the State, and the stopping of educational concessions granted to college students of the backward communities.

CHAPTER VII PROTECTION

1. POLICE

The police force in Cochin had its origin over a century ago in the organisation of a force of Tannadars with a Tanna Naick for each taluk, whose duty, according to the preamble to the Huknama of May 1812, was "to keep the peace of the land." They were to move about the country, prevent contraband trade and the commission of theft, arrest depredators and make searches with a view to secure contraband articles.

This scheme was found defective, however, when conditions changed for the better and the people became more law-abiding and progressive-minded. This force was, therefore, disbanded in 1835, and a new scheme was introduced under Regulation IV of 1010 by which the tahsildars were made police officers. A kotwal with a posse of peons under him was appointed to assist the tahsildars.

In course of time, this force was also found insufficient for the purpose of affording adequate protection to life and property and for the detection and prevention of crime. Naturally remedial measures had to be taken. A special officer entrusted with the task of reorganising the force was, therefore, appointed in 1882. Acting on his recommendation, Regulation I of 1058 was passed, and the entire force was reorganised after the British model.

This Regulation continues to be in force still, although several changes have been effected since, from time to time, in the organisation and working of the department with a view to improve the morale and increase the efficiency of the force. In fact, in regard to this department, Government have always acted on the principle 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.—A few important changes in the organisation of the department were made during the year. With effect from 11th Kumbham, the posts of the Anjikaimal District Superintendent

of Police and of the Assistant Superintendent of Police attached to the Criminal Intelligence Bureau were abolished, and a new post of a Deputy Commissioner and another of an Inspector were created instead. With the appointment of the Deputy Commissioner, the two districts of Anjikaimal and Trichur and the two subdivisions, one under each, were reallocated into three divisions—Ernakulam, Irinjalakuda and Trichur. While the Ernakulam and Irinjalakuda divisions were placed under the charge of the two Assistant Superintendents of Police and the Deputy Commissioner, with headquarters at Ernakulam, was entrusted with the work of their supervision and control, the Trichur division was placed under the District Superintendent of Police, Trichur, the Commissioner being in direct charge of it.

As a measure of retrenchment, the inspectorate attached to the traffic division at Ernakulam was permanently abolished from 11th Kumbham, a senior head constable being placed in charge of it. Further, the inspectorates of the Urakam and the Nemmara stations were temporarily suspended from the same date, these stations also being placed in charge of head constables.

Strength of the Force.—The sanctioned strength of 117 officers and 588 men, consisting of the field force, the armed reserve, the police force maintained in the principality of Cranganur and the traffic staff, was maintained during the year. But the staff actually employed for executive work was only 116 officers and 566 men, so that the ratio of effective police to population (according to the Census of 1931) and area worked out at 1 to 1,765·74 persons and 1 to 2·08 square miles. Thirty-one recruits (including nine 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.

The full strength of the armed reserve, namely, two serjeants, eight head constables, one hundred constables, one gymnastic instructor, two buglers and two armourers, under a European Superintendent, continued to be maintained during the year under proper discipline. The senior reserve serjeant was deputed to the Calicut reserve for special training for three weeks. No new arms and ammunition were got down during the year, and the officers and men

were, as in the previous year, given training in the use of the new 410 muskets.

Rewards and Punishments.—Good service entries were awarded to one inspector and one constable, and money rewards to the aggregate value of Rs. 192 were given to some members of the force for creditable work. For meritorious work two constables were given grade promotion. Six head constables and four constables of the State force were recipients of money rewards from the British police, while one inspector, 10 head constables and 39 constables received rewards from private gentlemen with the sanction of the department.

The number of punishments meted out to members of the force was 87 as against 124 in the previous year. There was no departmental prosecution against any member of the force. Eight complaints were filed by the public against 12 members of the force, and of these all but one were disposed of, the accused officers being discharged in all of them.

The usual police sports were not held during the year, but the amount sanctioned by the Government for the purpose was utilised for adequately furnishing the Police Club House newly constructed in the head office premises.

Offences and Crimes.—Including 29 cases pending from the beginning of the year, there were 851 cases for investigation, of which 709 were under the Penal Code and 142 under Special Laws. Besides these, there were also 332 cases put up before the Bench Courts under the Nuisance Act for summary trial. Of the 851 cases that the police had for investigation, 828 (charged 662, referred 50, reported undetectable 75, and finally reported 41) were disposed of, and the remaining 23 cases were pending investigation when the year closed. The percentage of disposal was 97·3 as against 95·7 in the previous year. The average duration of charged cases as a whole was 12·5 as against 16·2 in 1112 and that of charged and referred cases under the Penal Code was 13·8 and 30·3 as against 17·3 and 32·9 in 1112.

The courts had for disposal 812 cases, including 150 cases of the previous year. Of these, 691 cases were disposed of, leaving a balance of 121 cases pending trial. The percentage of conviction was 95·8 as against 94·9 and 96·2, respectively, in 1112 and 1111.

Grave crimes reported and charged during the year numbered 360 and 278, respectively, as against 378 and 300 in 1112. Of these, eight were murder cases as against 17 in the previous year. Including one case of the previous year there were thus nine murder cases for investigation. All of them were detected and charged. Including eight cases of the previous year there were, on the whole, 17 cases for disposal by courts; 11 of these were disposed of, all of them ending in conviction. The accused in three of the remaining six cases were under observation in the Mental Hospital, Trichur.

Of the eight cases of murder, two were of infanticide, the illegitimate child being killed by the mother to conceal birth. Another case of murder arose from a quarrel between the agents of two rival candidates for election to the Legislative Council resulting in the death of one.

One case of uttering counterfeit two-anna nickel coins was registered during the year and was pending trial. Two cases of uttering forged notes which were pending in courts ended in conviction.

Of the 293 cases of grave crime disposed of by courts, 286 ended in conviction, the percentage of conviction being 97·6 as against 96·3 and 97·3 in 1112 and 1111, respectively.

The total value of property lost in cases reported to the police was Rs. 6,840 as against Rs. 7,746 in 1112 and Rs. 7,700 in 1111. The amount recovered was Rs. 3,193 as against Rs. 4,616 in 1112 and Rs. 4,530 in 1111, the percentage of recovery being 47 as against 60 in 1112 and 59 in 1111.

Security Proceedings.—Proceedings under the security sections of the Criminal Procedure Code were instituted against 15 persons (nine cases). Four cases against seven persons were pending in courts at the beginning of the year. On the whole 11 cases against 17 persons were disposed of, two cases against five persons pending disposal when the year closed.

There were eight cases of escape from police custody during the year. The accused concerned in all of them were immediately re-arrested and charged. Four cases ended in conviction, and one was pending trial towards the close of the year. Three hundred and six accidental deaths and 86 suicides were reported as against 288 and 71, respectively, in 1112.

Vigilance Committees.—Most of the Village Vigilance Committees were reconstituted during the year, special care being taken to select suitable persons as members. There were 267 vigilance committees at work at the end of the year, with a total membership of 808. The working of these committees was satisfactory, and the police were getting substantial help from them. Equally satisfactory were the relations of the State police with the frontier police of Travancore and the Madras Presidency in the matter of prevention and detection of crimes and arrest of absconders.

Finger Print and Criminal Intelligence Bureaus.—Five hundred and forty-three finger print slips were received for search at the Finger Print Bureau during the year, of which 88 were traced, as against 962 and 74, respectively, during the previous year. Three hundred and eighty slips were received for record as against 488 in the previous year. The total number of finger print slips on record at the end of the year rose to 10,647.

Twenty criminals were newly registered in the Criminal Intelligence Bureau during the year under report, thus bringing the total of registrations to 152. 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 received in exchange. “Strangers’ Day” was observed once in every month in the towns, and good results were obtained.

Labour Agitation.—Labour agitation was going on in several parts of the State during the year. The beedi workers and the tappers of Mukundapuram and other taluks had organised unions in several places, and so also had the boatmen and coir factory workers of Mattancheri. Under the auspices of the Cochin Textiles Labour Union, some of the labourers of the Cochin Textiles, Ltd., at Amballur, resorted to a strike towards the end of the year, but it was amicably settled later. A rival organisation was then started among the labourers who were averse to the idea of going on strike on trivial grounds, and this Labour Association and the Labour Union continued to work side by side independent of each other. There were a few labour associations at Mattancheri and other places also, and their activities were closely watched.

Motor Vehicles.—One hundred and ninety-nine motor vehicles were registered during the year, bringing the total number of registrations at the end of the year to 1,836. Of these, 122 were cases of

re-registration. Two hundred and ninety-six motor vehicles were licensed to run for hire, and 969 licences were issued to drivers, including 72 fresh licences. One hundred and ninety-six conductors' licences were also issued in the course of the year, out of which 69 were renewals. There was a slight fall in the revenue by way of brake certificates, mainly due to the fact that several of the old buses were refused brake certificates as being unfit for further service.

Three hundred and forty-one cases of violation of Motor Vehicles Rules were dealt with departmentally as against 598 in 1112. One hundred and ninety-two prosecutions were launched by the traffic staff, of which 181 ended in conviction, five were withdrawn, five were pending trial at the end of the year and one was entered in the block register.

Sixty-four cases of motor accidents were reported during the year, involving two deaths in two cases and injuries to persons in 51 cases. Thirty-three of these accidents were caused by cars, 26 by buses and five by lorries. The number of accidents in the previous year was 71, involving loss of life to eight and injury to 51 persons. Of the 64 accidents in the year, 36 were finally reported, 19 cases ended in conviction, one in acquittal, one compounded, six were pending trial, and in one case the charge was withdrawn. Both the cases in which deaths were caused were charged, one ending in acquittal and the other pending trial at the close of the year.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure of the department, including Cranganur, amounted to Rs. 2,26,365 as against Rs. 2,31,052 in 1112. The average cost of a policeman and the net cost per head of population on this account worked out at Rs. 345 and 3 annas as against Rs. 328 and 3·07 annas, respectively, in 1112.

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 Cavalry and (2) the State Band.

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 and public buildings and also for escort purposes.

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. Of the 16 remounts at the beginning of the year, two were transferred to the coaching department in the middle of Kanni, and three were disposed of as being unfit for escort work; so that the actual number of remounts fit for escort at the end of the year was 11.

There was no change in the organisation of the State Band. The sanctioned strength was maintained. The Band, besides playing on the foreshore at Ernakulam on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, attended all the State ceremonial and private functions ordered by the Government. The Band office and barracks were vacated towards the end of the year. In the absence of barracks, the entire staff were given house rent allowance.

The total expenditure of the department was Rs. 1,09,923 as against Rs. 1,16,344 in the previous year.

3. JAILS

Jails in the State consist of the Central Jail at Viyyur (Trichur), and the subsidiary jails at Ernakulam, Mattancheri, Cranganur, Irinjalakuda, Trichur, Wadakkancheri and Chittur. While the Central Jail is under the direct management of a superintendent, the sub-jails are in the charge of the respective local magistrates who are ex-officio sub-jail 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.

The most outstanding event of the year under report in the administration of the department was the unconditional release, before the expiry of the period of their sentence, of 34 prisoners (including two who were then in the Leper Hospital at Adoor) under an amnesty graciously granted by His Highness the Maharaja in commemoration of the inauguration of the new Constitution.

CENTRAL JAIL

The sanctioned staff of the Central Jail consists of a superintendent, a jailor, an assistant jailor, an industrial instructor, two clerks, seven headwarders (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 hospital in the jail. This sub-assistant surgeon is under the direct control of the Chief Medical Officer in all matters relating to the treatment and examination of prisoners, and he is subordinate to the Jail Superintendent in matters relating to the administration of the jail hospital.

Prison Population.—There were 228 prisoners in the jail at the beginning of the year, and 582 were newly admitted, so that, on the whole, 810 prisoners (689 convicts, 18 under-trials and 93 civil debtors) were dealt with, as against 931 (762 convicts, 42 under-trials and 127 civil debtors) in 1112. The daily average of the prison population was 222·6 as against 231·01 in the previous year. Of the total prison population, 582 (481 convicts, 16 under-trials and 85 civil debtors) were discharged during the year, leaving a balance of 228 (218 convicts, two under-trials and eight civil debtors) at the end of the year.

Of the 699 convicts (including 31 females) in the jail, 57 (including two females) were undergoing rigorous imprisonment for life; four, rigorous imprisonment exceeding ten years; eight, rigorous imprisonment exceeding seven years; 93 (including six females), rigorous imprisonment exceeding one year; 103 (including five females), rigorous imprisonment exceeding six months; 353 (including 14 females), rigorous imprisonment for six months and less; and 81 (including four females), simple imprisonment.

Juveniles.—The number of juveniles dealt with was 14 as against 21 in the previous year. Of these, 9 were first offenders, four were convicted for the second time and one for the third time. The percentage of juveniles to the total prisoners was 2·00 as against 2·75 in 1112. The juveniles were segregated from adults as far as accommodation in the jail permitted, and they were given instruction in reading, writing and simple arithmetic and in drill.

Classification of Prisoners.—Classified according to religious persuasion, 435 of the total number of convicts (62·23 per cent) were Hindus, 196 (28·04 per cent) Christians, and 68 (9·73 per cent) Mohammedans; and, according to vocation in life, 116 of the

convicts were agriculturists, 60 tradesmen, six Government servants, 11 domestic servants, 175 professional men and 331 coolies, etc.

Twenty-three of the convicts were imprisoned for offences against State, public tranquillity, safety and justice; 146, for grave offence against person; 38, for minor offence against person; 189, for serious offence against person and property or property alone; 181, for minor offence against property; and 122, for offences against special and local laws.

Punishment of Prisoners.—Compared with the previous year, there was a decrease in the number of punishments inflicted on prisoners during the year under report, the respective figures being 66 and 53. Nevertheless, there was an increase in the number of corporal punishments from three to seven. Of the seven punishments awarded, two were for defiant attitude and continued defiance of orders, two for clandestine removal of articles from the kitchen and weaving shed, and the remaining three for assault.

The scale of rations and dietary articles were on the lines of those in the Madras Presidency, but the special class prisoners were allowed the privilege of having separate cooking arrangements. All the prisoners were supplied, as usual, with clothing and blankets manufactured in the jail.

Jail Hospital.—The number of prisoners treated in the jail hospital was 3,389 as against 2,687 in the previous year. Of these, 3,352 were out-patients and the remaining 37 in-patients, as against 2,658 and 29, respectively, in 1112. The increase in the number of patients was mainly due to an outbreak of dysentery during the latter half of the year. The daily average of in-patients and out-patients was 7·42 and 9·22, respectively, as compared with 6·31 and 7·24 in the previous year. There were two cases of death among prisoners in the year.

The average weight of prisoners on admission and discharge was 142·57 lbs. and 151·40 lbs., respectively, as against 103·68 lbs. and 109·41 lbs. in 1112. Of the prisoners discharged during the year, 89 per cent gained weight, three per cent lost weight and the rest had neither lost nor gained.

Jail Industries.—The average number of prisoners detailed for work during the year was 202·24 as against 206·33 in the previous year. The chief industries carried on in the jail were weaving,

making coir yarn, coir rugs, blankets, net bags, etc., besides agricultural operations. Experiments were made in the cultivation of bananas, and the yields were found fairly satisfactory. For the purchase of raw materials, seeds, etc., a sum of Rs. 4,997 was spent in the year, and there was a stock of raw materials valued at Rs. 2,562 at the end of the year. The receipts on account of manufacture and agricultural operations amounted to Rs. 7,910 as against Rs. 7,892 in 1112. Adding to this a miscellaneous income (inclusive of the rent of jail lands leased out) of Rs. 662, the total receipts for the year were Rs. 8,572 as against Rs. 8,610 in the previous year. The average gross earning of each prisoner detailed for work worked out to Rs. 42 as against Rs. 41 in 1112. The actual net profit from agricultural and manufacturing operations amounted to Rs. 6,160 as against Rs. 3,905 in 1112. This increase in the net profit was due to better out-turn in the year under report.

Remission of Sentences.—Ninety-two prisoners were released during the year under the remission rules, and the total gratuity paid was Rs. 79 as against Rs. 59 in 1112. The maximum amount of gratuity claimed by a convict was Rs. 16—3—0 as against Rs. 19—6—0 in the previous year, and the minimum amount was six pies as against one anna in 1112. The average period of remission earned by a convict was three months and five days, whereas the corresponding period in 1112 was three months and twelve days.

Jail Library.—In the jail library there were 594 books in 269 volumes at the commencement of the year. The stock was increased by 148 periodicals received from the District Magistrate's court, 43 books contributed by the Text-Book Committee, three books presented by non-official gentlemen and 60 books purchased in the course of the year. There were, therefore, 851 books in 356 volumes at the end of the year. The books were regularly issued to the prisoners and were made good use of.

Discipline among the Staff.—Offences committed by the members of the staff of the Central Jail numbered 21 during the year as against 19 in the previous year, and all the offenders were severely dealt with. There was a case of unwarranted cauterising of a prisoner while he was lying in a fit of unconsciousness in the jail. In connection with this, the superintendent, the medical subordinate, and the jailor were reduced to the initial pay of their grade, and the jailor was also transferred from the jail.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure on account of the Central Jail was Rs. 30,370 as against Rs. 33,441 in the previous year, and the average expenditure per prisoner was Rs. 159 as against Rs. 151 in 1112. Since the average gross earning of each prisoner detailed for work was Rs. 42, the net expenditure per head was Rs. 117 during the year as against Rs. 110 in the previous year.

SUB-JAILS

Excluding the sub-jail at Cranganur, there were in all six sub-jails in the State. In all of them together there were 37 prisoners at the beginning of the year and 818 were newly admitted. The total number of prisoners dealt with thus came to 855 as against 967 in the previous year. Of these, 826 were disposed of, leaving a balance of 29 persons at the end of the year. The daily average of inmates in all the sub-jails together was 7·7 as against 7·10 in the previous year. The average duration of each prisoner was 13·5 days in the year under report as against 15·3 in 1112.

The total expenditure for all the sub-jails together was Rs. 3,227 as against Rs. 4,338 in 1112, there being thus a substantial reduction on the expenditure side.

Cranganur Sub-jail.—In the Cranganur sub-jail there were 52 new admissions in the year under report. All of them, including the one prisoner remaining at the end of the previous year, were disposed of in the course of the year itself, as against 67 in 1112. The daily average of prisoners was 1·6 as against 1·8 in the previous year, and the average duration of detention was 10 days as against 11·5 in the previous year.

The total expenditure for this sub-jail was Rs. 245 as against Rs. 307 in 1112.

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. Towards the latter half of 1112, the department was amalgamated with the Anchal Department with a common superintendent in charge.

During the year under report the registry offices at Mulanthuruthi, Sreemoolanagaram, Chelakkara, Pazhayannur, Nemmara, and the temporary registry office at Narakkal were ordered by the Government, as a measure of retrenchment, to be put in charge of the head clerks. This new scheme was brought into force in respect of some of the offices in the year itself.

Working of Registry Offices.—Including the temporary office at Narakkal, there were 26 registry offices—the same as in the previous year—the average area served by each office being 54·5 square miles.

Documents registered in the year numbered 53,729 as against 54,356 in 1112. Of the total registrations, 28,553 came under compulsory registration and 25,176 under optional registration, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 29,161 and 25,195, respectively.

Wills registered during the year numbered 345 as against 338 in 1112. Of these, 28 were executed by Brahmins, 117 by Sudras, 65 by other Hindus, 130 by Christians, four by Muslims and one by a Jew.

As in the previous year, the Trichur registry office registered the largest number of documents (4,690) and the Nemmara registry office the smallest number (738).

Of the total number of documents registered (53,729), 51,611 or 96·06 per cent were registered on the day of presentation as against 98·43 per cent in 1112.

Consistently with the slight fall in the number of documents registered, the value of such documents also fell from Rs. 2,08,40,073 in 1112 to Rs. 2,03,66,661 in the year under report, showing a decrease of Rs. 4,73,412. The maximum and minimum value of documents registered were Rs. 2,81,850 and Re. 0—0—6, respectively, as against Rs. 5,50,016 and Re. 0—1—0 in 1112. The value per document was Rs. 379—1—0 as against Rs. 383—6—5, and the average fee per document Rs. 1—8—0 as against Rs. 1—7—9.

Including 18 partial refusals, 46 documents were refused registration as against 50 in 1112. Twenty-five appeals were filed

during the year, and three appeals were pending disposal. Of these, 22 appeals were disposed of, and six were pending when the year closed. In 21 of the appeals disposed of, the registration of the documents concerned was ordered, and in the other the document concerned was refused registration.

On behalf of co-operative societies, 546 documents were registered as against 499 in 1112. Seven hundred and thirty-three applications for searches and two for copies were also attended to as against 760 and eight respectively, in the previous year. The increase in registration was mainly due to the large amount of work done for the Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank.

Negotiable Instruments.—In the year under report there were four instruments to be dealt with under the Negotiable Instruments Act as against the same number in the previous year. The aggregate value of transactions covered by the four instruments came to Rs. 1,201 as against Rs. 1,642 in 1112. All the instruments dealt with were bills of exchange and were for “protest for non-payment.”

Kuries.—In the beginning of the year the number of kuries on the roll requiring returns to be filed with the Registrar was 1,052. Seventy-six new kuries were registered in the year as against 59 in the previous year. Including 19 kuries started after the coming into force of the Kuries Act, 201 kuries terminated in the course of the year as against 210 (202 old and eight new kuries) in the previous year.

Twelve cases of offences under the Kuries Act were compounded in the year as against 20 in 1112. Two cases were reported to the Magistrate, of which in one case the accused was convicted and sentenced to a fine and the other was pending disposal.

Receipts and Expenditure.—The receipts and expenditure of the department were Rs. 1,09,956 and Rs. 94,429, respectively, as against Rs. 1,08,507 and Rs. 99,576 in 1112. In other words, there was a net saving from the working of the department during the year of Rs. 15,527 as against a saving of Rs. 8,931 in 1112.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES

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

During the year under report a proviso was added to the Act by Act VIII of 1113 by which the Government took power to exempt

a foreign company from the obligation to file a copy of the annual balance sheet. The proviso was primarily intended for the benefit of foreign insurance companies doing business in the State. Rules framed under the Amendment Act were issued early in Thulam, and since then the working of the Act was being supervised more strictly and with greater control.

By a Government notification the fee for filing documents under the Companies Act was reduced from Rs. 5 to Rs. 3 with effect from 1st Chingam.

At the close of 1112, there were 208 companies limited by shares and 11 by guarantee. Thirteen companies limited by shares were newly registered as against 15 in the previous year. Of the new companies, one was formed for the object of carrying on the business of banking, four of trading, one of oil industry, one of plantation, four of film industry, one of managing agency and one of electroplating. The highest nominal capital among the new companies was Rs. 50,00,000 as against Rs. 2,00,000 in the case of companies registered in the previous year. Twenty companies ceased to work during the year as against 16 in 1112. There were thus at work 201 companies limited by shares and 11 by guarantee at the end of the year. The companies limited by shares consisted of 144 banking institutions, 25 trading concerns, eight mills, four plantations, four insurance concerns and 16 others, and the nominal and paid-up capitals of these companies at the close of the year were Rs. 2,25,66,000 and Rs. 55,12,126, respectively.

There were 136 associations not for profit working at the close of 1112. Four societies were newly registered, so that the total number at the close of the year was 140.

There were on the register 42 companies incorporated outside Cochin with established places of business in the State at the close of the previous year. Eleven new companies were enrolled and two ceased to have a place of business during the year. There were, thus, 51 companies on the roll at the close of the year.

Ten persons were newly enrolled on the Register of Accountants as against 19 in 1112. Of the 29 thus enrolled, one did not remit the annual fee for 1114, and consequently the number of accountants entitled to practise stood at 28 at the close of the year.

Twenty-four cases of prosecution for infringing the provisions of the Companies Act were reported to the District Magistrate

during the year. Including the three cases pending at the close of 1112, the total for disposal came to 27. Of these, 22 cases were disposed of, leaving five pending at the close of the year. Only one of the prosecutions ended in conviction, while the remaining 21 were withdrawn under orders of the Government.

Receipts and Expenditure.—The total receipts and expenditure during the year on account of joint stock companies came to Rs. 13,791 and Rs. 86, respectively, as against Rs. 10,081 and Rs. 121 in 1112.

CHAPTER VIII

PRODUCTION AND INDUSTRIES

1. AGRICULTURE

Agricultural conditions were not altogether satisfactory during the year under report. Rains during the north-east monsoon were almost normal with uniform distribution, but the south-west monsoon rains, although normal at the beginning, were disappointing towards the close. The *viruppu*, therefore, had to suffer to some extent from the drought, especially the long duration types of paddy and the puddle-sown paddy of the *myals*. The nursery bed for the second crop paddy also suffered from severe drought.

There was no improvement in prices of the main agricultural products, like paddy, cocoanut, arecanut, bananas, etc. Cashew-nut trade had grown more popular, but the price of nuts had not improved as compared with the previous year. The price of rubber, too, went down.

There were no epidemics of a virulent nature among livestock during the year, 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. The health of the livestock was, on the whole, good.

The Central Farm.—Cement concrete pipe culverts were provided in some of the main roads inside the Central Farm (400 acres in extent) during the year, with a view to keep the rush of water under control during the monsoon months. Improvements were also effected in the fields by way of levelling and filling up holes, etc.

Good progress was made in the work turned out in the several sections of the farm. 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 farm. Paddy, various kinds of fruits and vegetables, cotton, sugarcane, pulses, varieties of cereals, root crops, sugarcane and fodder crops were raised as usual, and manurial experiments in connection with paddy cultivation were conducted.

Vyttila Coconut Farm.—In the coconut farm at Vyttila (covering an area of 25 acres and 43 cents), several varieties were under trial during the year. The total yield of nuts was 84,796 as against 66,009 in the previous year. The seedlings evolved in the station were in great demand, and, inclusive of the 1,530 seedlings sold to 153 persons during the year, 7,295 seedlings had been sold out from the station, sufficient to plant 121 acres at 60 per acre.

Agricultural Demonstrations.—Demonstrations on ryots' lands on paddy, sugarcane, and coconuts were conducted. The six years' period of the first series of demonstrations started in 1107 having been over in the case of some in 1112 and in the year under report in the case of others, new centres were selected in all the taluks. Since the Government had decided to increase the number of demonstration centres in all the taluks, one agricultural trained teacher in each taluk was entrusted with the supervision of a few centres, with occasional instructions and check from the agricultural inspector, on a bonus of Rs. 50 per annum. Accordingly more centres were selected, and two centres, each in paddy, sugarcane and coconuts, were placed under the supervision of an agricultural trained teacher in each taluk except the Cranganur taluk, where only one centre in sugarcane and three centres in coconuts were under the charge of the teacher. Besides supervising the centres, the teachers advised the ryots in a general way on methods of improving agriculture with special reference to preparing composts, preservation of farmyard manure, the usefulness of manuring, planting of fruit trees and improvement of livestock.

Casual demonstrations were also conducted by the agricultural inspectors wherever possible, the main items of such demonstrations being ploughing with iron plough, growing of tephrosia, san-hemp and daincha as green manure crops, manuring paddy lands and coconut trees, etc. Besides attending to demonstrations, the lands and gardens of a good number of ryots were inspected, and they were given the advice sought for in various matters allied to improvement of agriculture. In addition, a good number of plants were supplied on requisition, and the importance and the necessity of planting fruit trees were impressed on the ryots. Green manure and vegetable seeds were also supplied in the proper season.

Agricultural Education.—The department took part in the Agricultural Exhibition and Cattle Show conducted at Perumpilavu, Kunnamkulam, Nalleppilli and Palluruthi, and also in the All-India

Swadeshi Exhibition at Trichur. Several kinds of agricultural exhibits, including charts illustrating the control of pests and diseases, were shown, and leaflets on agricultural subjects published by the department were distributed among the visitors. Lectures, group talks and informal conversations were other forms of educative work undertaken by the department.

While the agricultural school attached to the Central Farm was not run in the year as the Education Department could not depute the required number of teachers for undergoing training and as the private students who sought admission claimed some sort of help from the Government by way of stipends, the horticultural schools continued to make satisfactory progress. A good percentage of the boys after leaving school, it was reported, had taken to agriculture and work in their own paddy fields and cocoanut gardens. Competition in school gardening and the system of giving prizes to the best gardens continued during the year, and twenty schools entered for the competition.

Electro-culture.—To test the efficacy of applying electro-cultural methods for the improvement of agriculture, a few trials were made during the year. A number of fruit trees consisting of graft mangoes, jacks, sapotas, citrus trees, etc., were jacketed with galvanized wire netting and sparked with a magnet at intervals of a month. The treatment was started in the month of Medam (April-May). Except for some increased vegetative growth in the citrus trees as compared with the controls, there was no appreciable change in the other trees. In the case, however, of *vendai* plants which were also jacketed and sparked, there was an increase in the number of fruits produced, although there was no effect on the yellowing of the plants. Inter-culture with onions was also tried on this crop, but there was no increase in yield. In tomatoes treated (jacketed) the plants were more resistant to the wilt disease, but there was no increase in the yield. In roses, however, the results were more pronounced. The plants were jacketed and sparked at intervals of a fortnight. A few treated plants that were otherwise dying revived. There was also a prolific flowering in the treated bushes as compared with the controls. The experiments were being continued when the year closed.

Public Gardens.—All gardens continued under the management of the department except those attached to the Springfield and Elkhill 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. All the gardens were maintained in an attractive condition throughout the year.

Besides the work in the regular gardens, such works as planting in the Thekkinkad Maidan, Trichur, and the laying out of a flower garden in the Kokarni attached to the Vadakkunnathan temple, Trichur, were also attended to. In the maidan a line of ornamental trees for the footpath of the Round and another line of trees between the two concentric circular roads were planted. In the Kokarni the jungle growth was removed and a garden for growing flowers for temple use was laid out.

Avenues.—The department was in charge of all avenues in the State. The cocoanut trees on the Enamakkal-Tripayar and the Vennakal ferry roads were handed over to the department for maintenance by the Public Works Department during the year. Applications from parties for removal of trees and branches on grounds of dangerous proximity to buildings and of shade to crops were promptly attended to, and so also requisitions from the Public Works Department for removal of trees for road widening work. The sales of trees and branches and also the usufruct were by public auction after giving due publicity.

Receipts and Expenditure.—The receipts under Agriculture proper amounted to Rs. 25,254 as against Rs. 22,820 in 1112, and the expenditure to Rs. 1,25,558 as against Rs. 1,23,255 in the previous year.

VETERINARY

During the year, one of the veterinary inspectors was specially deputed to conduct a survey and collect statistics about the incidence of Johne's disease among cattle in the State for transmission to the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research. Two other veterinary inspectors were deputed to the Mysore Serum Institute, Hebbal, Bangalore, for six weeks to undergo postgraduate training there.

Including the Camp Hospital, Mattancheri, there were nine veterinary hospitals at the end of the year. In all the institutions together, 27,972 cases were treated as against 40,371 in the previous year. Of these, 262 were in-patients and the rest out-patients. Besides the cases treated in the hospitals, the touring veterinary inspectors attended to 2,163 cases as against 2,520 in 1112. The

number of operations performed in the hospitals, including 1,274 castrations, was 2,986 as against 2,779 of the previous year. Including 682 castrations, the touring veterinary inspectors performed 691 operations as against 831 in the previous year.

Prompt and timely action was taken by the veterinary inspectors and touring veterinary inspectors to treat affected animals and to check the spread of diseases.

The large reduction in the number of cases treated in the veterinary hospitals and by the touring veterinary inspectors, as compared with the previous year, was due to the fact that the year under report was a healthy one from the point of view of the cattle.

The Veterinary Inspector, Trichur, examined during the year 68 specimens sent up by the other veterinary inspectors and touring veterinary inspectors.

The total cost of maintaining the department came to Rs. 31,846 as against Rs. 31,145 in 1112.

2. CO-OPERATION

The Co-operative Department came into existence in the State 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 made remarkable progress during the last few years, so much so that 261 out of the 275 villages in the State are served by the movement today.

An important event in the history of the movement in the year under report was the coming into force of a revised Co-operative Societies Act passed by the Legislative Council in 1112. The rules under this Act (XXVI of 1113) were under consideration of the Government at the close of the year. Another important event was the holding of a State Co-operative Conference at Nemmara under the auspices of the Central Co-operative Institute. It was opened by the Diwan and was presided over by Rao Bahadur M. Giriappa, Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Madras. Several outstanding questions connected with the movement were discussed at the conference.

Number and Membership of Societies.—There were 267 societies at the beginning of the year, and 26 societies were newly registered, so that there were, on the whole, 293 societies at the end of

the year. These comprised one Central Co-operative Institute, one Central Co-operative Bank, one Land Mortgage Bank, one Central Poultry Association, eight Supervising Unions, 128 Agricultural Credit Societies, two Non-credit Agricultural Societies, one Agricultural Marketing Society, 55 Non-agricultural Credit Societies, 46 Societies for the Depressed Classes, 15 Consumers' Societies for Purchase and Sale, five Weavers' Societies and Carpenters' Societies for Production and Sale, 13 Industrial Societies, five Students' Stationery Societies, two Primary Poultry Societies, six Rural Reconstruction Societies, one Insurance (Benefit Fund) Society and one Restaurant Society. Of these societies, six remained unstarted, and four, though formally started, could not transact any business during the year.

Excluding 1,896 members of the central institutions, the total number of members in the different societies stood at 25,068 (including 1,876 women), giving an average of 94·95 members per society, as against 23,957 (including 1,879 women) and 97·39 members, respectively, in the previous year.

Working Capital.—The total working capital of all the societies together rose from Rs. 32,95,092 in 1112 to Rs. 37,22,564 in the year under report, and the share capital and the reserve fund amounted to Rs. 9,52,314, so that the percentage of the total owned capital to the working capital was 25·58 as against 27·29 in the previous year. The average working capital was Rs. 138·1 per member and Rs. 13,487·5 per society as against Rs. 129·1 and Rs. 12,771·67, respectively, in the previous year.

Compared with the previous year, there was a fall in the total transactions of all the societies together, the respective figures being Rs. 1,15,46,454 in 1112 and Rs. 1,09,85,556 in the year under report; the turnover working out at 2·95 times the working capital as against 3·50 in 1112. The net profit earned out of the total transactions was Rs. 43,262 as against Rs. 48,957 in the previous year. The fall in profits was mainly due to a general reduction in the lending rates of societies.

Loans.—Loans amounting to Rs. 9,27,344 were disbursed by the agricultural and non-agricultural societies together as against Rs. 9,04,426 in 1112. Of these, loans for productive purposes amounted to Rs. 2,93,759, the agricultural societies alone lending out a sum of Rs. 78,043. The corresponding figures for the previous year were Rs. 3,24,820 and Rs. 78,263. The amount of loans outstanding against the members of the agricultural and non-agricultural

societies together at the beginning of the year was Rs. 12,02,934. With the loan of Rs. 9,27,344 issued during the year, the total demand stood at Rs. 21,30,277, of which Rs. 9,01,004 was repaid, leaving a balance of Rs. 12,29,273 at the end of the year. Of the balance, Rs. 3,87,109 were loans that had become overdue. In the case of agricultural and non-agricultural societies, the percentage of overdue loans was 43·6 and 23·9, respectively, as against 42·7 and 24·2 in 1112.

Reserve Fund.—The total reserve fund of all the societies together rose from Rs. 4,65,366 in 1112 to Rs. 4,98,418 during the year. Of this, agricultural societies had to their credit Rs. 2,48,656, non-agricultural societies Rs. 1,65,443, and the central institutions Rs. 84,319. The reserve fund and deposits formed 13·4 and 28·5 per cent, respectively, of the working capital as against 14·1 and 45·3 in the previous year.

Disputes and Litigation.—Inclusive of 115 suits pending disposal, there were 806 suits for disposal, of which 663 were disposed of, leaving a balance of 143 at the end of the year. At the beginning of the year 458 decrees were pending execution by the Revenue Department and 238 were forwarded for execution in the course of the year. In addition, 578 decrees were forwarded for execution from the civil courts and 54 through departmental heads.

Liquidation.—There were 46 societies under liquidation at the beginning of the year, and there were no cancellations during the year. In the case of five of these societies, liquidation proceedings were completed, leaving a balance of 41 societies pending liquidation. In order to expedite the disposal of liquidation proceedings, it was decided by the Government to entrust the work in regard to societies indebted to the Central Bank to the Central Bank itself and appoint a new inspector to be in charge of the remaining societies. Proceedings in regard to these societies were under progress when the year closed.

Expenditure.—The total cost of the working of the department in the year was Rs. 21,717 as against Rs. 21,996 in 1112. The average cost per society worked out at Rs. 74·1 as against Rs. 79·7 in the previous year.

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 1111. The formal inauguration of the bank was performed by His Highness the Maharaja on 1st Makaram, 1111. Besides subscribing for 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.

Members and Share Capital.—At the beginning of the year there were 1,187 members, holding 6,920 shares of the value of Rs. 10 each. During the year 352 shares were allotted to 352 members, and one member was added by transfer of shares. At the end of the year, therefore, there were 1,540 members, holding 7,272 shares fully paid up, making a total share capital of Rs. 72,720.

The term of two years of the first set of Directors of the bank nominated by the Government having expired by 26th Vrischigam, a general body meeting of the shareholders was held on that day and new Directors were elected. Four meetings of the Board of Directors and 23 meetings of the Executive Committee were held during the year.

Debentures.—Out of the Rs. 5 lakhs first series debentures floated in July 1937, the collection of the second half—that is, 50 per cent—was made during the year, and the amount was utilised to repay the overdraft accommodation from the Government. The bank paid interest on the debentures on the due dates, and no fresh debentures were floated during the year. From 1st July, 1938, the limit of the overdraft accommodation from the Government was raised from Rs. 3 lakhs to Rs. 5 lakhs with a view to obviate the necessity for floating debentures for less than Rs. 5 lakhs at a time. At the same time, the interest payable to the Government on the overdraft accommodation was raised from 3 per cent to $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Loan Applications.—At the beginning of the year loan applications for Rs. 5,54,596 were pending investigation. During the year applications for Rs. 6,60,551 were received, making the total for disposal Rs. 12,15,147. Out of the above, applications for Rs. 6,69,909 were disposed of during the year, granting loans amounting to Rs. 5,12,007 out of Rs. 5,75,154 applied for in those cases and disallowing applications amounting to Rs. 94,755. Thus applications for Rs. 5,45,238 were pending investigation at the end of the year. Together with the amounts sanctioned in previous years, viz., Rs. 4,10,725, the total loan allowed by the bank till the end of the year under report came to Rs. 9,22,732. Mortgage deeds to the

extent of Rs. 4,31,482 were executed during the year. Inclusive of the value of the mortgage deeds executed in previous years, the total came to Rs. 7,68,077 by the end of the year. The whole of this amount was disbursed, excepting a sum of Rs. 51,007 pending drawal by creditors.

Collection.—Of the loans advanced by the bank, instalment dues (interest and principal equated) to the extent of Rs. 29,279 had to be collected. Of this amount, Rs. 27,671 was collected, the arrears at the end of the year being Rs. 1,608. Of the instalment dues on the Special Economic Depression Loans, the amount for collection, inclusive of the arrears of the previous year, was Rs. 23,597. Of this Rs. 18,888 were collected, leaving a balance of Rs. 4,709.

Profit and Loss.—The working of the bank during the year resulted in a profit of Rs. 6,815. Out of this amount, a sum of Rs. 1,800 was transferred to the reserve fund and the balance appropriated to the Dividend Equalisation Fund.

3. INDUSTRIES

It was in 1112 that a separate department of Industries and Commerce was constituted in the State with a Director of Industries and Commerce in charge. This was done in accordance with a recommendation of the Advisory Committee of the Legislative Council on Industries and Commerce.

Important Events of the Year.—One of the important events of the year under report was the establishment of a Rural Reconstruction Centre at Cherpu in which demonstration in cottage industries forms an important activity. During the latter half of the year the Government Industrial School at Cherpu was transferred to the Centre.

Government sanctioned during the year the proposal to transfer the workshop attached to the State Museum at Trichur to the Industries Department. Simultaneously with the transfer, the indiscriminate manufacture of articles in the workshop for exhibition and sale was stopped. The system of obtaining an advance for the manufacture of articles for private persons was also introduced.

The supply of clothes to the depressed class pupils, which was being done by the Uplift Department, was entrusted with the Industries Department during the year. This arrangement enabled the department to dispose of the accumulated stock in the Central Jail,

Viyyur, and the industrial schools, as well as of some of the industrial co-operative societies.

The Villagers' Calendar, which was under preparation, was published late in the year. As an experimental measure, 2,000 copies were printed. All the public offices and Government schools were each supplied with a free copy of the book, and most of the remaining copies were sold out.

Industrial and Technical Education.—Inclusive of the Government Trades' School, Trichur, the Government Industrial School for Girls, Trichur, the Coir School, Narakkal, and the Arts School at Ernakulam, there were 47 industrial and technical schools at work in the State. Of these, 25 were Government and 22 aided institutions. The total strength of all the schools together was 3,059 (1,509 boys and 1,550 girls) as against 3,282 (1,697 boys and 1,585 girls) in 1112. The industries taught in these schools generally were handloom weaving, rattan work, mat-weaving, carpentry, smithy and metal work. Girls' industrial schools, however, specialised in needlework, crochet lace, embroidery, pillow-lace and knitting.

With a view to encourage industrial education, liberal grants of stipends and scholarships were allowed, the total expenditure incurred in this behalf being Rs. 12,018 as against Rs. 14,582 in 1112. The expenditure on this account in the Cranganur taluk was Rs. 441 as against Rs. 509 in the previous year. Special encouragement, as usual, was given to the students belonging to the depressed classes in the shape of stipends and feeding charges. Although the rate of stipends to depressed class pupils in Government industrial schools was reduced from Rs. 3 to Rs. 2, the number of stipendiaries was increased from 99 to 140.

The Government Trades' School, Trichur, worked, as usual, in three separate sections—the industrial, the commercial and the art. The total strength in all the sections together was 293 (269 boys and 24 girls) as against 308 (291 boys and 17 girls) in the previous year. While the industrial section provided teaching in carpentry, smithy, weaving and book-binding, metal work, engraving, electroplating, mat-weaving and rattan, the commercial section coached up students for the Madras Government Technical Examinations in shorthand, typewriting, book-keeping, commercial practice, banking and commercial geography, and the arts section trained up students for the lower and higher grades of the Madras Government Technical

Examinations in freehand, model and geometrical drawing, design and painting.

The Government Trades School, Ernakulam, which coached up pupils for the State public industrial examinations in weaving, carpentry, smithy, rattan and bellmetal, had a total strength of 140 (130 boys and 10 girls) as against 162 (142 boys and 20 girls) in 1112.

The Government Industrial School for Girls, Trichur, worked in two separate sections—needlework and industrial. While in the needlework section, needlework, embroidery, pillow lace, crochet lace and knitting were the subjects taught, in the industrial section instruction was given in weaving, mat-making and rattan. Drawing was a compulsory subject for all the pupils, while laundrying was taught to the third and fourth year pupils of the needlework section. The number of students on the rolls was 214 as against 222 in 1112. There were 26 depressed class girls in the school at the beginning of the year. Of these, seven were given special stipends of Rs. 7 each per month, seven at the rate of Rs. 5 each per month, and seven special feeding charges at the rate of Rs. 3 each per month till the closing of the school in Meenam. The remaining five girls were not given any concession as they failed to pass the annual examination.

In the Coir School, Narakkal, intensive training was given in processing finer varieties of coir yarn. In order to spread the knowledge about improved processes in other coir centres, it was decided in the course of the year to admit annually six suitable candidates from other important centres by granting them a special stipend at the rate of Rs. 5 per mensem. Only five candidates, however, took advantage of the facility during the year. There were, on the whole, 14 ordinary students in the school, and they were, as usual, paid 1 anna 6 pies per working day. The experiment in the manufacture of covers for oxygen cylinders conducted in the school proved successful, and the samples sent were approved by the Chief Inspector of Stores and Clothing, Cawnpore.

Aided Institutions.—There were 22 industrial institutions under private management as against 21 in the previous year. The total number of pupils attending these schools was 1,190 as against 1,215 in 1112. Including the temporary grants of Rs. 20 and Rs. 40 per mensem given to the Arts School, Ernakulam, and the St. Sebastian's Industrial School, Palluruthi, the total amount of grant disbursed to these private institutions came to Rs. 9,032 as against Rs. 9,632 in the previous year.

Factories in the State.—Statistics collected by the department showed that there were 20 factories in the State equipped for oil pressing, although some of them were idle during the year. The estimated quantity of oil seeds of all kinds crushed in the year was 40,000 tons, of which over 80 per cent was copra. The average number of workmen employed in the factories was 2,000. Another industry depending upon the cocoanut palm was the coir industry. It was conducted mostly on a cottage basis, only very few factories being engaged in the manufacture of mats, mattings, etc. There were two large cotton textile mills at work, employing on an average 2,300 persons daily. The total production from the two mills was 3,426,442 pounds of yarn and 2,439,974 pounds of cloth. There were 36 factories engaged in the manufacture of tiles and bricks, mostly situated at Ollur and Pudukad, and they were giving work on an average to 2,000 persons daily. The estimated production of these factories was 16,000,000 bricks and tiles. Of match factories there were 10 at work, although in the course of the year the licences issued to three were cancelled. The total production was 79,068 gross boxes of 40 sticks, 2,850 of 60 sticks and 226 gross boxes of what are called Bengal lights. In addition, some of the factories were also exporting raw sticks and veneers. Rice mills, rubber factories engaged in the manufacture of raw rubber, engineering workshops, timber mills and a tin factory were the other factories engaged in manufacturing activity in the State.

State Aid to Industries.—In pursuance of the policy of the Government to render financial assistance to industrial concerns, the question of helping a factory for the manufacture of edge tools and implements was carefully gone into during the year as the prospects appeared to be good, but negotiations had to be dropped for the time being. The prospects of a factory for the manufacture of electrical goods attracted financiers, and the Cochin Electrical Industries, Ltd., was registered towards the close of the year. An application for subscribing for shares of this company to the extent of Rs. 25,000 was under consideration of the taluk committee constituted under the State Aid to Industries Act when the year closed. On a request from the Cochin Cigarettes, Ltd., for financial help, the Government passed orders directing the company to renew the request after it had actually started and worked for some time.

Eighteen applications for loans under the State Aid to Industries Act were received and discussed at the meetings of the taluk

committees. Two applications were rejected on the ground of insufficient security, and of the loans sanctioned none was availed of before the end of the year as the parties concerned could not either produce the necessary title deeds or remove previous encumbrances. Exemption from stamp duty was allowed in the case of documents to be executed by the parties applying for loans, and the question of exempting them from payment of fees for examining the title deeds by Government pleaders was under consideration.

Exhibitions.—The department participated in the All-India Khadi and Swadeshi Exhibition, Madras, and also in the Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition, Nalleppilli, the All-India Swadeshi Exhibition, Trichur, and the Rural Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition, Palluruthi. Specimens of cutlery; plain and ornamental bellmetal articles; rosewood, ebony, sandalwood, ivory and buffalo horn carvings; coir mattings, rugs, and coir yarn samples; articles of rattan and wooden furniture; grass mats; pottery articles, etc., were generally the articles exhibited at these exhibitions. The exhibits were greatly appreciated.

Government Stoneware Works.—All the four kilns and the two clamp kilns in the factory were fired continuously during the year and the muffle kiln for experimental purposes. There were 204 firings as against 211 in 1112. The kilns yielded good results, the percentage of first class goods turned out being more than 89 of the total output as against 85 of the previous year. The main items of manufacture were pickle jars, bung jars, screw jars, stew pots, ink jars and sundry articles such as jugs, flower vases, ash trays, coffee pots, tea pots, etc. Orders were also executed for the supply of special fire bricks, fire clay, cupola lining bricks, etc.

The total output of the main items of manufacture in the factory, expressed in nominal pounds, was 900,414 first class and 108,931 second class as against 898,691 first class and 106,375 second class in 1112. Sales during the year were not as satisfactory as expected, partly because of severe competition from other manufacturers and partly due to the failure of certain banks in the latter half of the year. The sales organisation remained almost the same as in the previous year, although there were changes of agents in Cochin and Coimbatore, resulting in a better sale in those localities. The term of the Trichur depot was extended for another year, and sales continued to be satisfactory in that area. Proposals for improving the sales organisation were under consideration.

The factory participated in the All-India Khadi and Swadeshi Exhibition, Madras, the Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition, Nalleppilli, the All-India Swadeshi Exhibition, Trichur, and the Exhibition at Palluruthi. In addition, the factory products were advertised to great advantage in several English and Malayalam papers.

Attempts were made to introduce economy in manufacture. As a result, it was possible for the factory to show a net profit during the year.

Patents and Designs.—Six applications for patents were pending at the commencement of the year. Of these, patents were sealed in four cases. One of the remaining applications was accepted with certain amendments, but the sealing was delayed as the applicant intimated his desire to make certain further amendments. Patent for the other application was not granted as the sealing fee was not paid. Fourteen new applications were received during the year, of which patents were sealed in seven cases, four were accepted and one was under scrutiny when the year closed. In the case of the remaining two, the applications were returned to the applicants with objections. Seven applications for granting renewal certificates were received in the course of the year, and the certificates were granted in all of them. There were no applications for the registration of designs.

Labour Legislation.—The Trade Unions Act and the rules issued thereunder came into force during the year, and three trade unions were registered. The Trade Disputes Act and the rules thereunder also came into effect during the year, but there was no case for settlement of trade dispute under the Act. A proposal to amend the Act on the lines of the Government of India Act, XVIII of 1938, was under consideration of the Government. The Payment of Wages Act was enacted in the course of the year with a view to regulate the payment of wages on certain accepted principles to some class of labourers employed in industry.

Receipts and Expenditure.—The total expenditure incurred by the department was Rs. 96,924 as against Rs. 1,10,172 in 1112, and the total receipts amounted to Rs. 5,375 as against Rs. 5,475 in the previous year,

RURAL DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

Organised rural development work was commenced in the State during the year under report. A Rural Development Centre was started at Cherpu, nearly six miles to the south of Trichur, on the Trichur-Tripurayar road, and an officer who had had special training in rural development work at Marthandam was put in charge. Nearly 50 villages within a radius of six miles of the Centre are given to the charge of the Rural Development Officer for carrying on developmental activities.

An important function of the Rural Development Centre is to give training in general rural reconstruction and also in special subjects like poultry farming, bee-keeping, cattle and goat rearing, gardening, weaving, co-operative marketing, etc., to villagers who are already engaged in some kind of rural service or at least intend to do so. In the year under report two candidates were admitted at the Centre as honorary workers. Besides, 12 candidates joined the three months' apprenticeship course and 15 candidates the one month's course on bee-keeping and poultry.

The Centre took part in the All-India Swadeshi Exhibition, Trichur, held in connection with the Pooram festival, and the exhibits included bee-hives, bee equipment and honey, white Leghorn fowls and eggs and poultry equipment, charts and books and a collection of rural products.

An apiary was started at the Centre with 10 bee-hives during the year. Four different breeds of poultry—the White Leghorn, the Black Minorca, the Rhode Island Reds, and Light Sussexes—were got down, the eggs being given to the villagers for hatching. Plantains and pineapple suckers of different varieties, fodder grasses, guavas and papayas, which were supplied from the Trichur Central Farm, were planted in right time, and some seedlings were also distributed to the villagers. Interesting charts and pictures and some rural products were collected and kept as permanent exhibits in the museum section of the Centre. On 7th Karkadagam, the Government Industrial School at Cherpu was transferred to the Centre with 17 girls and 11 boys in the weaving section and 10 boys in the carpentry section. The students took part in the varied activities of the Centre.

The Rural Development Officer co-operated with the heads of the nation-building departments in preparing schemes for advantageously using the twenty thousand rupees the Government specially set apart during the year for rural reconstruction work.

CHAPTER IX

PUBLIC WORKS

It was in 1870 that a Public Works Department was organised in the State. Till then all works used to be executed by the officers of the Revenue Department, who had no professional knowledge in the line. Even after the organisation of a 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 more than 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 post of the special overseer attached to the Trippunittura temple works was abolished on 13th Kanni, and the works were placed under the supervision of the palace overseer. Till 20th Vrischigam, the hospital works sanctioned under the special grant continued to be under the supervision of a special overseer, but the post was abolished with effect from that date. Two special overseers, one for the new Guest House at Ernakulam and another for the palace construction works, were appointed temporarily from

21st Vrischigam and 1st Mithunam, respectively. A special overseer for supervising the Shanmukham Canal works and a work superintendent for supervising the Chittur electrification works were also temporarily appointed during the year. Consequent on the lay-out of a submerged pipeline to Mattancheri for the supply of pipe water from Ernakulam, 15 employees attached to the barges and tugs were disbanded from 20th Dhanu, each of them being paid a bonus of one month's pay. The pay of the Inspector of Factories and Boilers was reduced from Rs. 150-200 to Rs. 100-150 during the year.

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. 11,29,462 as against Rs. 12,49,214 in the previous year. An expenditure of Rs. 1,63,668 was also incurred on contribution works as against Rs. 1,23,564 in 1112. The total expenditure the department had to control during the year thus came to Rs. 12,93,130. Of this, the establishment charges, including T. A. and contingent charges, amounted to Rs. 1,24,667 representing 7·8 per cent of the total expenditure. The corresponding percentage for the previous year was 10.

Communications.—Original works costing Rs. 1,65,590 were executed as against Rs. 1,35,234 in the previous year. The works included the opening of new roads, widening of and special renewals to existing ones and outright repairs and construction of bridges and culverts. Repairs including annual maintenance of roads were also attended to, the expenditure incurred being Rs. 1,95,711 as against Rs. 1,61,586 in 1112. As usual, ordinary maintenance and renewals costing Rs. 1,82,758 were carried out as against Rs. 1,48,828 in the previous year.

The total length of roads maintained during the year, including roads maintained by the Caterpillar, was 530 miles, 5 furlongs and 156 yards as against 530 miles, 2 furlongs and 12 yards in 1112. In addition, about 20 miles of road in Cranganur taluk were maintained. During the year the Anakal road in Trichur taluk, measuring 1 mile, 2 furlongs and 110 yards, was taken over from the Panchayat Department for maintenance, and roads to a length of 9 miles, 4 furlongs and 134 yards were transferred to the Irinjalakuda Municipality. All the roads under the department were satisfactorily maintained, and all bridges and culverts were kept in proper repair. The work of constructing a road-dam across the Chittur river at Mattukadavu

was completed during the year, and the dam was formally opened by the Diwan and named as the "Shanmukham Causeway."

Works scheduled to be finished according to the Road Board programme in the year were completed, and all the remaining works were in good progress. Road Board works done under estimates sanctioned previous to the constitution of the Road Board were mostly completed during the year under report. Among these may be mentioned the opening of a foot-path in Gothuruthi, a road to Chemmappilli ferry, and a road from Parayampadom to Palanji, and the construction of an embankment and bridge at Perimpilisseri and of a road-dam across the Chittur river at Mattukadavu. Among the works done outside the Road Board scheme under the Road Development Account from funds financed direct from the Government of India from the petrol duty, the widening of certain sections of the Shoranur-Anjal road, cement-concreting half a mile length on the Chalakudi road and shell-creting the Shoranur-Anjal road at Wadakkancheri were completed during the year.

Buildings.—The expenditure under "Buildings Original" was Rs. 3,62,855 as against Rs. 4,80,573 in the previous year. Among the important works completed during the year were an office building at Kattur, an additional building for Central Records at Ernakulam, three wards in the Mental Hospital at Trichur and a building at Ramavarmapuram for the Training Institution. Besides, improvements were effected in the Women and Children's Hospital at Mattancheri, in the Kalancham Kutcherri buildings and in the Hill Palace and other palaces at Trippunittura. The work in connection with the construction of a Town Hall at Trichur and a Guest House at Ernakulam was in progress.

Palace Accommodation Scheme.—A scheme for the provision of better accommodation for the female Tampurans within the Trippunittura Fort was brought into force during the year, and an expenditure of Rs. 1,75,000 was sanctioned. This expenditure was ordered to be met from the Valiamma Tampuran Kovilagam Estate, the estate being paid an annual rent on the buildings put up, calculated at the rate of 4 per cent interest on the amount spent. From the general revenues Government would give an annual contribution of Rs. 30,000 per annum which would be entirely credited to a separate fund created in this behalf. After paying the interest to the V. T. K. Estate and providing Rs. 8,000 for annual renovation, the balance remaining in the fund would be allowed to accumulate and used from

time to time either for constructing and renovating palaces or for the purchase of the interest of the V. T. K. Estate in the palaces by way of redemption of the money spent by the Estate. Works, according to the scheme, were started on 1st Kumbham.

Irrigation.—The total expenditure under this head came to Rs. 46,569 as against Rs. 50,187 in 1112. Some damages were done by floods during the year to the Inchamudi Canal and Karuvannur Bund, and prompt steps were taken to repair the damages. Several irrigation schemes were investigated, and among the important works executed were: putting up a groyne at Andikkadavu, raising the Manapat chira, constructing a chira and bridge in Tholur village, regrading and widening the Kalyanapettah branch (Mulathura system), and reconstructing a flying bridge over the southern sand sluice, Mulathura. Improvements to the Vellarapilli lift irrigation scheme were in progress during the year.

Miscellaneous.—The amount spent on miscellaneous public improvements was Rs. 42,238 as against Rs. 80,513 in 1112. Improvements to the Ernakulam foreshore (waiting shed); construction of a reinforced concrete jetty for ferry service at Ernakulam; furnishing the Tullocks Gardens, Madras; fixing steel shelves in the Central Records, Ernakulam; putting up racks in the Government Press; supply of furniture to the Cochin House, New Delhi; improvements to the Padiyath basin and canal; constructing a bathing ghat at Thundikkadavu; putting up ornamental street lights in the Irwin and new parks at Ernakulam—these were the important works executed under this head.

MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL

The total expenditure incurred under “Mechanical and Electrical” was Rs. 1,50,608 as against Rs. 1,79,229 in the previous year, and that incurred under State Conveyances (motor cars, motor boats, etc.) was Rs. 47,125 as against Rs. 64,927 in 1112.

Water Works.—The machinery at the Chowwara and Ernakulam water works worked satisfactorily and pumped 242,521,000 gallons of water as against 231,687,000 gallons in 1112, the number of pumping hours being 7,867·5 as against 7,408 in the previous year. A new centrifugal pump was purchased to replace one of the existing five-stage pumps which was found insufficient due to wear and tear. The main pipeline—16 miles long and 22 years old—burst on one occasion during the year, the first of its kind ever since the water

works was started, resulting in a failure of water supply for ten hours. The burst was due to a fracture which the pipe had before and which had developed on account of age and higher pressure. It was promptly attended to. The water supply at Ernakulam, except on the occasion of the above accident, was very satisfactory. One hundred and sixteen new service connections were given, and 109 extensions or alterations were effected in the case of the existing connections. The total number of house connections in Ernakulam at the end of the year was 1,526.

One of the outstanding events of the year was the laying of a direct line of pipes between Ernakulam and Mattancheri for supply of water to Mattancheri. A unique feature of this work consisted in laying pipes across the two arms of the backwater, each of which is nearly half a mile wide. Pipes were actually laid on the beds of the two streams, and the whole length of nearly 4,600 feet of submerged pipeline was laid within a short space of six weeks. Two electrically driven pumps were also installed in Ernakulam inside the elevated tank premises. These pumps draw water from the elevated tank and pump it up to Mattancheri through the newly laid pipeline which is in all over five miles in length. With the completion of this work the barge mode of transporting water to Mattancheri was stopped. The submerged pipeline service was formally opened by the Diwan on 25th Medam, and since then Mattancheri was getting a continuous supply of water. There were in all 188 public taps in the town at the end of the year. Before the barges were dispensed with, they conveyed 29,254,800 gallons of water, or an average of 110,814 gallons a day. After the new works were opened the average daily supply rose to nearly 190,000 gallons a day.

The water supply at Nemmara was quite satisfactory, the supply being regular and continuous throughout the year. The total quantity of water pumped was 14,210,000 gallons, and the yield from the bore hole was abundant. Nineteen private house service connections were given, and extensions and alterations to existing connections in two Government institutions were effected during the year.

The Ayloze water works installation worked equally satisfactorily, pumping in all 7,344,080 gallons in 4,981.5 hours. The yield of the bore hole had considerably diminished, and consequently it was possible only to give an intermittent system of supply, although the pumping was done for nearly 18 to 19 hours a day.

The tanks at Trichur yielded sufficient quantity of water, and water was supplied continuously for all the 24 hours of the day. The plant worked for nearly 6,000 hours and discharged approximately 36,000,000 gallons of water as against 34,800,000 in the previous year. Two public taps were put up and a service connection was given to the Public Works Department Head Office, besides one extension of service in the Mental Hospital.

At the Ramavarmapuram installation 14,905,000 gallons in 2,981 hours were pumped as against 13,750,000 gallons in 2,757 hours in the previous year, and nearly one-third of the quantity was consumed in the Central Jail. In order to prevent failures another engine from the College Power House was erected at Villadam (Ramavarmapuram).

Equally satisfactory was the working of the Thiruvilwamala water works installation. A new engine house and a reinforced concrete intake well for collection of water from the infiltration pipes were constructed during the year. The machines were all erected in the new engine house, and the supply side of the works was thus completed in all respects. One house service connection was given during the year.

Electrification Schemes.—The electric installation attached to the Hill Palace worked satisfactorily during the year. The total quantity of electricity consumed at the Hill Palace was 22,955 units and at Karingachira 9,582 units.

The Bolghatty electric installation generated 1,647 units of current and worked satisfactorily.

The scheme of rural electrification was pushed through vigorously. The Nemmara electric scheme was completed and put into regular commission from 1st Thulam. The plant worked satisfactorily and supplied current for light and power. The Government water works machinery, two rice mills, and a cinema theatre were run on electric power supplied by the plant. Fifty-six street lights were put up and 44 house service connections were given during the year. The total quantity of energy generated was 56,145 units in 2,715.75 hours. The scheme is worked on a commercial basis, and interest at the rate of 1.8 per cent was earned on the investment.

The Chittur electrification scheme was taken up and was nearing completion towards the close of the year. The construction

of the power house, the planting of posts for municipal lights and the drawing of main lines were finished before the year closed.

State Conveyances.—There were 24 motor cars in service during the year under report, seven cars being newly purchased. The total mileage made by all the cars together was 148,039 as against 194,881 in 1112. All the four motor boats were in good condition and did satisfactory work. The total mileage made by all the boats together was 16,945 as against 17,192½ in the previous year. The maintenance cost of motor cars and boats during the year amounted to Rs. 27,161 as against Rs. 25,925 in 1112.

Canal and Backwater Navigation.—The canal section, composed of the Ernakulam, Mattancheri and Cranganur sub-sections, worked satisfactorily. Five thousand six hundred and forty-eight licences were issued as against 5,954 in 1112. The total canal receipts in the year amounted to Rs. 30,488 as against Rs. 34,132 in 1112.

FACTORIES AND BOILERS

There were 108 registered factories at the commencement of the year, excluding the Government Stoneware Works at Chalakudi which was exempted from inspection. Three more factories were registered, thus making a total of 111 factories at the end of the year. Of these, 17 factories were not doing any work on account of the trade depression. Of the remaining 94 factories, 21 were rice mills, 9 oil mills, seven both oil and rice mills, 31 tile factories, two workshops, one spinning and weaving mill, seven rubber factories, two match factories, two saw mills, five coir factories, three kerosene oil factories, one manure works, one tin factory, one tea factory and one cotton and spinning mill.

There were in all 190 boilers on the register at the commencement of the year and two more were registered, thus making a total of 192 boilers at the end of the year. Of these, 90 boilers were written off the register as having been condemned, transported, dismantled, or rendered otherwise unfit for use, leaving a balance of 102 in workable condition. Of these, only 72 boilers were worked during the year, the rest being idle.

In the year under review 42 accidents were reported as against 53 in the previous year, of which none proved fatal. All the accidents were enquired into, and instructions were issued to the managers to take precautionary steps to avoid such accidents as far as possible. For non-compliance of instructions there was one

prosecution pending from the previous year, and this was decided during the year, the manager being convicted.

The new Factories and Boilers Acts on the lines of those existing in British India were promulgated during the year.

The receipts under the department amounted to Rs. 2,020 as against Rs. 2,150 in the previous year, and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 3,836 as against Rs. 4,689 in 1112.

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 Mattancheri 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 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—the same as in 1112. Of these, 14 were hospitals, 17 dispensaries, one leper hospital, 18 grant-in-aid dispensaries and seven itinerating dispensaries. As compared with the previous year, there was an increase by one in hospitals and a decrease by one in dispensaries, due to the fact that the male dispensary at Palluruthi was raised to a hospital during the year and designated “The Maharaja’s Hospital.” A labour ward and an operation theatre were constructed during the year in the Pazhayannur dispensary with funds provided by two charitable gentlemen of the locality. The total number of beds available in all the institutions together was 813 (433 for men and 380 for women and children) as against 744 (303 for men and 436 for women and children) in the previous year.

Patients under Treatment.—The total number of patients treated in the Government hospitals, dispensaries and aided institutions was 1,052,348 as against 989,093 in 1112. Of the total number of patients, the in-patients numbered 24,607 and the out-patients 1,027,741 as against 22,198 and 966,895, respectively, in the previous year. Of the out-patients, 939,035 were treated in Government institutions and 88,705 in private institutions receiving aid from the Government, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 860,491 and 106,404. Of the patients treated, 45 were Europeans, 757 Eurasians, 545,025 Hindus, 63,104 Muslims, and 440,284 belonged to other classes. Grouped according to sex, there were 367,192 men, 360,968 women and 321,055 children.

Of the total number of in-patients treated, 22,282 were discharged cured, six absented, 1,143 died and 1,176 remained under treatment at the close of the year. The percentage of deaths to total admissions worked out to 4·64 as against 4·76 in the previous year.

The average daily attendance of both in-patients and out-patients was 7,729·38 as against 7,311·34 in 1112.

The principal diseases for which treatment was given, in the order of greatest prevalence, were pyrexia of uncertain origin, diseases of the digestive system, all diseases of the respiratory system except pneumonia and T. B. of the lungs, round worms, eye diseases, other diseases of the skin, influenza, diseases of the intestines, anaemia, rheumatism, dysentery, and inflammation ulcerative.

Surgical Operations.—During the year surgical operations were performed on 39,715 patients as against 31,437 in 1112, the death rate being 0·17 per cent as against 0·37 per cent in 1112. Of the in-patients and the out-patients, 21·4 per cent and 3·14 per cent, respectively, needed operation. One hundred and forty post-mortem examinations were held during the year, of which 137 were for medico-legal and three for pathological purposes.

The number of midwives working during the year was 55, and the number of cases attended to by them was 3,927, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 53 and 4,252. One thousand four hundred and fifty-one midwifery operations were performed as against 1,770 in the previous year, the average number of cases per midwife being 71·4.

Honorary Medical Officers.—There were in all 41 honorary medical officers—18 assistant surgeons and 23 sub-assistant surgeons—

working in the several institutions during the year. Besides, there were one honorary surgeon and one honorary physician attached to the Maharaja's Hospital, Palluruthi. Since the experiment of management by honorary medical officers at Cranganur, Nemmara and Narakkal proved satisfactory, the dispensary at Anthikad was placed exclusively under the charge of an honorary sub-assistant surgeon during the year under report. "The system, on the whole, is functioning satisfactorily and efficiently."

Pay-wards.—Including the nine patients remaining at the beginning of the year, the total number of patients admitted was 251 as against 285 in 1112. Two hundred and forty-five of these patients were discharged and six patients remained at the end of the year. The rates of charges in the case of pay-wards remained the same as those in the previous year.

Ophthalmic Hospital.—In the Ophthalmic Hospital, Ernakulam, 644 in-patients (including 30 remaining from the previous year) were treated as against 631 in the previous year. Of these, 598 were discharged cured, one died and 45 were under treatment when the year closed. The number of out-patients treated was 10,881 as against 10,093 in 1112, and the average daily attendance was 161·7 as against 161·5 in the previous year. Operations performed numbered 8,368, the corresponding figure for 1112 being 8,050.

X-ray Department.—The X-ray department attached to the General Hospital rendered medical aid to 4,452 patients as against 2,362 in 1112. Of these, 2,081 were men, 1,972 women and 399 children. The average daily attendance was 12·2 as against 6·47 in the previous year. The cases were grouped as follows for treatment: radiography, 670; flourescopy, 8; X-ray treatment, 123; ultra violet, 2,314; electrical treatment, 191; infra red, 1,031; kromeyer, 21; diathermy, 85; and CO₂ snow, 9.

Specimens examined in the General Hospital Laboratory numbered 7,447 as against 7,128 in 1112.

Mental Hospital.—Two hundred and fifty-three lunatics were treated during the year, of which 72 were discharged cured, 21 released, 11 discharged on kychit, 26 died and 123 remained under treatment at the end of the year, the daily average of patients treated being 136 as against 138·24 in 1112. Attached to the hospital there is an out-patient department, and the total number of out-patients treated was 10,795, the daily average attendance being 75·63. The

main disease among the in-patients was "acute mania," and among the out-patients "pyrexia of uncertain origin."

Jail Hospital.—There were 37 in-patients and 3,352 out-patients in the Jail Hospital at Trichur as against 29 in-patients and 2,658 out-patients in 1112. Of the 37 in-patients, 31 were discharged cured, two died and four were under treatment at the close of the year.

Leper Hospital, Adoor.—At the beginning of the year there were 354 patients and admissions during the year came to 100, thus making a total of 454 on the whole. Of these, 109 were discharged, 22 died and 323 were in the hospital at the end of the year. There were 16 children in the Sankariah Home.

At the beginning of the year there were 32 burnt-outs, and the daily average attendance was 26·2. The accommodation available in the hospital is for 315, and the daily average number of treatables was 300·5.

A Hindu temple and a mosque were constructed in the hospital during the year under report with donations from charitable gentlemen.

Leprosy Relief Work.—Leprosy relief work was, as usual, carried out by a trained assistant surgeon, and treatment was given in nine clinics. Three hundred and forty-four lepers were admitted during the year in the several clinics for treatment, the total number of lepers registered in the clinics thus rising to 1,759, of which 747 were under treatment.

Anti-rabic Treatment.—A course of anti-rabic treatment of injections for 14 days was given at the General Hospital, Ernakulam, and the Civil Hospital, Trichur, as usual. Besides the 27 patients remaining from 1112, there were 957 new admissions, of which 951 cases were discharged and 33 were under treatment when the year closed. Of the total number of patients, 73 were charged for treatment.

Medical Inspection of School Children.—Medical inspection of school children was, as usual, conducted by two medical inspectors and one inspectress. All the high schools and lower secondary schools were inspected by them. The total number of students examined by the inspectors was 7,282 boys, and the number of girls examined by the inspectress was 3,721, making a total of 11,003

pupils, as against 10,732 pupils, consisting of 7,860 boys and 2,872 girls, in 1112. Of the total number examined, 3,317 or 45·5 per cent of the boys and 1,752 or 47 per cent of the girls were found defective. The chief defects noted were enlarged tonsils, malnutrition, eye diseases, defective teeth, defective vision and anaemia. Defective pupils of the previous year were re-examined to ascertain whether they had taken any action to remedy the defects pointed out during the inspection, and it was found that 53·6 per cent of the boys and 55·6 per cent of the girls had followed the instructions.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure of the department for the year amounted to Rs. 4,83,807 as against Rs. 4,83,078 in 1112.

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 created 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 Panchayats and in the towns of Ernakulam, Mattancheri, Trichur, Chittur-Tattamangalam and Irinjalakuda by the respective municipal councils.

Vital Statistics.—The village officers attended, as usual, to the registration of births and deaths in non-municipal areas, the statements prepared by them being checked and corrected by the panchayats concerned before they were published. The total number of births registered during the year was 14,150 as against 14,190 in 1112, and the number of deaths registered was 8,726 as against 8,973 in the previous year. Of the deaths, 50 were cases of suicide, 147 due to accidents, and 27 were cases of snake-bite. The death rate for the whole State was 7·34 per thousand as against 7·5 in the previous year. The death rate among infants was 71·7 per thousand as against 75·5 in 1112. There were 60 still-births as against 65 in the previous year.

Infectious Diseases and Epidemics.—In the beginning of the year under report there was a widespread epidemic of chicken-pox all over the State. Desamangalam, Choondal and Marada were so severely affected that the schools in those localities had to be closed for some time. Though the epidemic in all the places started with the children, later on both young and old were equally affected. There were a few deaths too. House to house propaganda on the

prevention of the disease was carried out, and the general sanitation of the infected localities was particularly attended to, so that the disease was brought under control in a short while.

There were a few cases of small-pox at Wadakkancheri, Choondal, Kunnamkulam, Desamangalam, Kunammuchi, Patiyam, Kurumpilavu, etc., but the infection was soon quelled in these places. At about the middle of the year the disease prevailed in an epidemic form in Urakam, Cherpu and the surrounding villages, but preventive measures were promptly taken and the disease was brought under control without causing havoc.

Like chicken-pox, bacillary dysentery broke out in an epidemic form in several parts of the State in the fag end of the year, Chevvr and Sreemoolanagaram being very severely affected.

Anti-malarial operations were conducted during the year in the Chittur taluk as usual. The places selected were West-Pattancheri and Velayodi in Perumatti village. By a preliminary survey the breeding grounds of anopheline mosquitoes were first ascertained before starting regular operations. Breeding grounds were divided into six blocks, three in Velayodi and three in Pattancheri, each block being treated with paris-green once every week regularly. Besides, before regular anti-malarial operations commenced, the medical officer in charge visited all hyper-endemic areas, conducted house to house inspections and liberally distributed quinine to the suffering patients with necessary instructions. A gratifying feature of the year was that there was a great decrease in the number of malarial cases.

During the year plague was the most serious problem that confronted the department. Positive ratfalls were detected in Mattancheri in September-October. The ratfalls were soon followed by two fatal attacks of human plague. The town was declared plague-infected on 29th October, 1937, and an extensive and vigorous campaign to combat the menace was immediately organised. Intensive rat destruction by trapping and cyanogassing of rat-holes and burrows, disinfection and cyanogassing of godowns, anti-plague inoculation and propaganda in the prevention of the disease were carried out. Cyanogassing of *valloms* (country craft) laden with grains and proceeding from Mattancheri was also done. On the whole, more than 14,000 *valloms* were treated with cyanide. There were altogether five attacks of plague, and all of them proved fatal. Because of the prompt and

vigorous measures taken the outbreak was checked, however, and the town was officially declared free of plague on 26th February, 1938, although the town was still kept under observation and rat destruction and cyanogassing were continued unabated. The field laboratory improvised during the epidemic was also retained to examine rats.

The question of eradication of mosquito nuisance in the port area with special reference to the suppression of the *stegomyia* mosquito, the yellow fever vector, engaged the attention of the Government during the year, and, on the suggestion of the Director, Government approved the idea of conducting a mosquito survey of Ernakulam, Willingdon Island and Mattancheri with a view to concert measures later to prevent the nuisance. The Medical Officer for Epidemics was directed to make the survey towards the close of the year under report.

Sanitation and Conservancy.—The rural areas and non-municipal towns were, as usual, served by the department in the matter of sanitation and conservancy, while sanitation in the towns of Ernakulam, Mattancheri, Trichur, Chittur and Irinjalakuda was attended to by the municipalities concerned. While sanitation in Trippunitura, Cranganur, Chalakudi, Ollur, Wadakkancheri, Kunnampulam and Nemmara was under the direct charge of technically qualified officers, sanitation in other rural parts continued to be attended to by the respective panchayats. The conservancy staff consisted of 121 sweepers and 15 scavengers, including 19 sweepers and one scavenger newly employed during the year.

The Fowler's process of converting nightsoil and rubbish into manure had been a success at Kunnampulam, and it was proposed to adopt it as a permanent method. The same experiment was tried at Trippunitura during the year with great success. There was an increasing demand for this manure at Kunnampulam, and, to popularise it, the department tried during the year an agricultural demonstration work with it.

The usual lighting and sanitary arrangements on the occasion of important fairs and festivals in the State were attended to by the department.

Lighting.—The lighting of towns, markets and cartstands was attended to by the department. There were in all 322 lights (300 ordinary and 22 petromax) in use during the year in the towns of Cranganur, Kunnampulam, Wadakkancheri, Chalakudi, Nemmara,

Ollur, Kallanchira and Trippunittura. With the electrification of Nemmara during the year, the ordinary lights were put in parts where the electric line could not be extended, and the places at Trippunittura where also the electric line could not be taken were lit by ordinary kerosene lights. Lighting in rural areas was attended to by the panchayats. There were in all 460 ordinary and 19 petromax lights, including 50 ordinary and 10 petromax lights newly sanctioned in the course of the year.

Vaccination.—For vaccination purposes, the non-municipal areas of the State were divided into four divisions and 24 circles. Each of the four divisions was in charge of a sanitary inspector and each of the circles under a vaccinator. There were, on the whole, 24 men and four women vaccinators, and, in addition, two temporary vaccinators were appointed to cope with the work in the central division when there was an outbreak of small-pox epidemic in Urakam and the surrounding places. The total number of cases vaccinated was 104,453, of which 54,556 were successful, as against 106,536 and 59,888, respectively, in the previous year. Lymph to the value of Rs. 3,345 for the use of the department was got down from the King Institute, Guindy, and the expenditure on this account was Rs. 2,399.

Rural Welfare Work.—The three health centres of Irinjalkuda, Kunnamkulam and Nemmara continued to do useful work. The work of the medical officers of each of 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 eleven circles at the end of the year—at Cranganur, Elamkulam, Urakam, Kodakara, Kandassankadavu, Kurkancheri, Muriyad, Mundur, Nalleppilli, Mulakunnathukavu and Wadakkancheri.

In all the centres and circles together 1,120 labour cases were conducted.

One of the candidates sent up for advanced training as health visitor completed her course and rejoined service. Two more health

visitors were deputed during the year to undergo the advanced training course. Thus, at the end of the year, two candidates were undergoing advanced training in Delhi and 22 were working as health visitors.

With a view to provide trained midwives in rural parts, six more candidates were selected for training in midwifery from panchayat areas during the year. A monthly stipend of Rs. 10 was granted to each candidate during the training period, and the training was given in the Maternity Hospitals at Trichur and Mattancheri.

Dangerous and Offensive Trades.—As a result of discussions in the Legislative Council and also by the Advisory Committee on Public Health, professional fishermen were exempted during the year from payment of licence fees. The rates of licence fees to be levied on coffee shops were revised and divided into three classes with a fee of Rs. 2, Re. 1 and As. 8, respectively. The main object of issuing licences and levying licence fees is to enable the department to exercise effective control and check over the trades rather than to add to the receipts of the Government. Places of business where these trades were carried on were inspected as far as possible by executive officers. In deserving cases free licences were given without insisting upon the usual fees.

Markets and Cartstands.—There were 31 Government and 130 private markets functioning at the end of the year as against 32 and 127, respectively, in 1112. Besides attending to the usual P. C. R. works, some of the markets were improved during the year under report.

Contribution to Municipalities.—Over and above the usual contribution paid by the Government for maintenance of trunk roads of municipalities, special grants were given during the year for the opening of a road to the eastern side of the Trichur municipality and for a grazing ground for the Mattancheri municipality. The total contribution paid amounted to Rs. 34,661.

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.

Receipts and Expenditure.—The receipts and expenditure of the department during the year were Rs. 53,838 and Rs. 1,47,685, respectively, as against Rs. 45,334 and Rs. 1,51,142 in 1112.

3. PANCHAYATS

The revival of panchayats in the State was the result of a boon from His late Highness Sir Sri Rama Varma, G. C. I. E., on the occasion of His Highness's Shashtiabdapoorthi Thirunal in Dhanu 1088 (1913). In 1089 the Government, after careful consideration, passed the Cochin Village Panchayat Act, and, according to its provisions, five panchayats, one in each taluk of the State, was started as an experimental measure. Each of these panchayats consisted of five members, four nominated by the Government from the leading gentlemen of the village and the fifth the village officer ex-officio. Payment of an assessment of Rs. 50 was made the minimum property qualification for being a panchayatdar. Graduates of recognised Universities and Government pensioners who had been in the superior service of the State were also made eligible for membership.

The experiment so started proved a success, and the first few batches of panchayats, by their enthusiastic work and selfless efforts, were able to inspire confidence in the public and secure the recognition of the Government. The result was that in 1092 six of the panchayats were invested with judicial powers and authorised to form themselves into courts exercising civil jurisdiction in petty cases in the villages under their jurisdiction. From 1092 onwards, there was a rapid increase in the number of panchayats, with the result that in the next four years the panchayats had spread over almost the whole rural area of the State. Several amendments of the Panchayat Act were made since from time to time with a view to facilitate the working and increase the efficiency of the panchayats.

Important Changes in the Year.—With a view to ensure that the terms of members of all the constituent panchayats of a group court expired and began on one and the same date, the Village Panchayat Act was amended, reserving power to the Government to terminate or extend at any time by notification in the Government Gazette the terms of members of any village panchayat.

Another important change was made in the rules relating to the recording of illiterate votes in panchayat elections. These rules were

not specific as to whether the marking of ballot papers by the presiding officer could be done in the presence of the candidates or their agents. As in the case of the Legislative Council elections, it was ordered that such illiterate votes should be marked in the presence of candidates or their agents.

Further, provision was made in the rules to conduct elections of presidents of panchayats and group courts in the absence of full strength of members, so that it might not be found very difficult to conduct the election of presidents and to constitute panchayats and courts in time. According to the amended rules, if four out of five, five out of seven, seven out of nine and eight out of eleven members or judges are present, the election may be conducted.

In the case of road maintenance works costing more than Rs. 500, unlike other works, the Director of Public Health and Panchayats was empowered to sanction all deviations and utilise tender savings. The rules regarding inspection and check-measurement of works were also made more definite, the panchayat overseers and the division sanitary inspectors being authorised to check-measure works costing Rs. 200 and below.

In the course of the year orders were passed to constitute Tattamangalam into a minor municipality under the Public Health and Panchayat Department. Until the constitution of the minor municipality was brought into effect, it was ordered to treat Tattamangalam as a rural town.

Panchayats and Panchayat Courts.—There were 86 panchayats at work during the year under report, serving 267 villages in all. With the addition of a portion of Manavalasseri village falling outside the Irinjalakuda municipal limits to the Kattur panchayat, the strength of the panchayat which was originally seven was increased by two, one elected and one nominated seat being allotted to this portion of the village. Thus the total number of seats in panchayats during the year was 544 in all as against 542 in 1112. The actual number of panchayatdars holding office was only 539, however, the remaining five seats having been vacant. The attendance of members at the meetings of panchayats was fairly satisfactory, although in many cases explanations had to be called for from those who continuously absented themselves.

There were 23 group panchayat courts and 12 single panchayat courts functioning during the year, and the work turned out by these

courts was satisfactory. In all there were 8,243 cases for disposal, of which 6,462 were disposed of. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 7,060 and 5,189, respectively. The total value of suits disposed of was Rs. 1,12,871 and the average duration of each case was nearly five months. The staff attached to the panchayat courts consisted of 42 clerks, 14 copyists and 50 peons, although temporary copyists on wage system were employed to do copying work in courts where there were no paid copyists. The registers and records of the courts were inspected by the district munsiffs who gave proper instructions from time to time.

Activities of Panchayats.—There were about 180 irrigation works, including chiras, to be attended to by the department, and these were maintained properly. The Kumbalangi bunds which had been under the Public Works Department were transferred during the year to the control of the Panchayat Department for future maintenance. Rules were finally passed and published regarding the drainage of Chellanam fields so as to facilitate the proper maintenance of Chellanam bunds for which the Government had been spending a fairly large amount.

Twenty new wells were sunk during the year for the supply of water to rural areas, and repairs to existing wells were also attended to as far as funds permitted. Almost all the wells were silt-cleared and cleaned during the year. The usual bunds, about 75 in number, for the storage of water for men and cattle in summer were put up in time and maintained satisfactorily. In spite of the earnest attempts made to satisfy the needs of rural areas, the problem of water supply remained unsolved in certain particular localities. At Meenakshipuram scarcity of water was so very keenly felt during the hot months that the situation had to be met by carrying water to the village from the storage at Moolathura by engaging special coolies and carts. In this and other villages, especially in the Chittur taluk, there were wells, but most of them being of rocky bottom dried up in summer and did not yield sufficient quantity of water. Trial boring was experimented upon, but had not the desired effect.

More than 800 miles of road continued to be maintained by the panchayats. Some of the lanes under the panchayats which were badly in need of repairs were improved, and new roads, wherever absolutely necessary, were also opened during the year.

Improvement of Livestock.—Very few panchayats took advantage of the free grant of stud bulls offered by the Government to be

stationed in panchayat areas for service, and the experiment tried proved to be more a failure than a success. Stud bulls once granted being underfed and not maintained properly had to be taken back. The failure was mainly due to the scarcity of funds to maintain the bulls properly.

In the matter of assignments and leases of porambokes on which the department was consulted, the Director was careful to see that not a single inch of ground which would serve the purpose of a grazing ground or a recreation ground was recommended to be assigned or leased out.

Ayurvedic Dispensaries.—Including the new vaidyasala opened within the jurisdiction of the Kondazhi panchayat early in the year, there were 19 panchayat vaidyasalas rendering medical aid to the public. The working of these dispensaries was satisfactory. Of the 87,265 patients treated, 82,979 were cured, 105 died, 2,038 went away, and the remaining 2,143 were undergoing treatment at the end of the year.

Vishavaidyasalas.—Excluding the Vishavaidya Hospital at Trippunittura and the Sri Rama Varma Vishavaidya Sthapanam at Trichur, there were seven vishavaidyasalas in the several taluks of the State rendering medical aid to snake-bite and other poison case patients. The medicines required for the taluk vishavaidyasalas were supplied from the Vishavaidya Sthapanam located in the Rama Varma Central Ayurvedic Hospital compound at Trichur. In all the vishavaidyasalas together, 4,832 patients were treated, of which 4,773 were cured, 19 died, 11 went away and 29 remained at the end of the year.

Training in vishavaidyam continued to be given during the year. A batch of 20 students, of which 12 were stipendiaries, were given the usual training for three months at Trippunittura. Including these candidates, there were at the end of the year more than 120 trained men in the State. That the training in vishavaidyam imparted by the Durbar has attracted the attention of the public outside the State was proved by the fact that the Calicut municipality deputed a candidate for training during the year. A fee of Rs. 25 was charged on this candidate for admission and full training.

Rama Varma Central Ayurvedic Hospital.—The Rama Varma Central Ayurvedic Hospital continued to render useful service to the people who resorted to it. During the year a permanent building

was constructed in the compound of the hospital for the preparation of medicines.

The institution of cheaper medicines like *kashayams*, with the addition of new medicines to the stock-mixtures in hand, continued to be successful. A sum of Rs. 7,500 approximately was spent towards the manufacture of medicines, including those supplied to the panchayat vaidyasalas. Sale of medicines to the value of about Rs. 500 was effected during the year, in spite of the insufficiency of funds for the preparation of sufficient quantity of medicines to satisfy the demand from the public.

The total number of patients who resorted to the hospital for free medical advice and medicines during the year was 153,591 as against 146,472 in the previous year. Of the total number of patients, the poison and eye cases treated came to 2,419 and 11,290, respectively.

The medical advisory board of the hospital met twice during the year, and important subjects relating to the material advancement of the institution were discussed. The hospital participated in the All-India Swadeshi Exhibition held at Trichur in the month of Medam.

Receipts and Expenditure.—The receipts and expenditure of the department during the year were Rs. 3,051 and Rs. 1,95,551, respectively, as against Rs. 6,892 and Rs. 2,14,373 in 1112.

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 the 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 headmaster, 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 the Government at Ernakulam, where, subsequently, another girls' school was opened by the

authorities of the 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 the 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.—During the year under report, the Madras Government agreed to reserve six seats for candidates from Cochin State in the Teachers' College, Saidapet, and the Mysore Government to increase the number of seats from five to ten in the Maharaja's College, Mysore.

Six educational endowments were agreed to by the Government during the year. These were—K. Achyuta Marar Memorial Fund (for giving an annual prize in the shape of books to the best pupil teacher in the Government Training Institution who passed the theory examination of the Trained Teachers' Certificate with the

highest number of marks in kindergarten); Dr. Methil R. Nair Endowment Prize Fund (for a prize to be awarded each year in cash or books to the girl who passed first in the S. S. L. C. Examination from the High School, Nemmara); Sanskrit College Co-operative Home Endowment Fund (for giving an annual prize in money to the Sastra student of the college who got the highest number of marks in the annual examination); Cruickshank Memorial Prize (for a prize to be awarded annually in the form of books to the student appearing from the Maharaja's College, Ernakulam, for the March Intermediate Examination and who came out successful in all the parts in the first chance securing the highest number of marks in Part I); Diamond Jubilee Replica Fund (for awarding a replica of the Diamond Jubilee Shield to each of the captains—men and women sections—of the Hall scoring the highest number of points in the Inter-Hall sports and tournaments in the Maharaja's College, Ernakulam); and Kesavan Nair Gold Medal Fund (for the award of a gold medal every year to the student from the Maharaja's College, Ernakulam, who, offering Malayalam under Part II of the B. A. degree examination, secured at least a second class therein and headed the list of candidates successful in that part from the college).

Another important feature of the year was the sanctioning by the Government of the institution of the Education Department Benefit Fund (open to the members of the clerical staff of the department also) to safeguard the welfare of the members of the teaching profession in Government service.

New Schools and Classes.—New lower secondary schools with Form I at Parappukara, Mukkattukara and Moorkanad under private management, new lower primary schools for girls at Thottipal, Kanjiramuck and Kiralur and a night school at Enkakad were opened during the year. The St. Antony's Lower Secondary School, Mala, the St. Antony's Lower Secondary School, Pudukad, and the Chaldean Syrian Lower Secondary School, Trichur, were raised to high schools by the opening of Form IV, and the aided school, Varantharapilli, to a lower secondary school by the opening of Form I.

The Tharakan's Lower Secondary School, Aranattukara, and the Native Samajam Lower Secondary School, Madakathara, became fully developed lower secondary schools by the opening of Form III, and the St. Antony's School, Kottakal, became a fully developed primary school by the opening of Class IV. A few other classes and divisions were also opened and existing ones closed during the year,

The management of the Sirkar Malayalam Primary School, Mapranam, was transferred to the local convent from the beginning of the educational year.

A new Sanskrit school at Kizhakumpattukara, Trichur, and a new school for the deaf and dumb at Kunnamkulam were opened. Class IV was opened in the School for Blind at Kunnamkulam. The Sangeetha Vidyalayam, Thayankulangara, was, however, temporarily closed during the year under report.

Educational Institutions and Enrolment.—The number of Government institutions stood at 185 at the end of the year as against 186 in 1112. Of these, 27 were high schools, 14 lower secondary schools, nine English primary schools, 125 Malayalam schools and five fishery schools, the remaining institutions being the Maharaja's College, Ernakulam, the Government Training Institution, Ramavarmapuram, the Sanskrit College, Trippunittura, the Sri Rama Varma Music School, Trichur, and the Sanskrit School, Chottanikkara. As against 458 institutions under private management in 1112, there were 467 at the end of the year. Of these, two were colleges, 24 high schools, 47 lower secondary schools, 10 English primary schools, 365 Malayalam schools, four night schools, ten Sanskrit schools, one school for the blind, one school for the uncontaminated children of lepers, the Kalamandalam, the indigenous school at Pottore and the school for the deaf and dumb, Kunnamkulam.

The total enrolment of all the educational institutions together was 173,517 (100,460 boys and 73,057 girls) as against 169,501 (98,606 boys and 70,895 girls) in 1112. No fresh census having been taken of the unrecognised indigenous schools during the year, their number and strength were taken as 286 and 6,827, respectively, as in 1105. Including the pupils of the unrecognised indigenous schools and excluding the pupil teachers of the Government Training Institution, the total strength in the several educational institutions together was 180,236 (105,314 boys and 74,922 girls) as against 176,214 (105,455 boys and 72,759 girls) in the previous year. Of the total enrolment in the Government and recognised institutions, 101,158 were Hindus 64,369 were Christians, 7,638 Muslims, and 352 Jews.

Of the several agencies managing education, the percentage of educational work done by the Government was 32·2 as against 32·7 in 1112, the figures for the aided or recognised and the indigenous agencies being 64·5 and 3·3, respectively, as against 63·4 and 3·9 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. The total enrolment in all the three Colleges together was 1,380 (1,136 males and 244 females) as against 1,359 (1,100 males and 259 females) in 1112.

Maharaja's College.—In the Maharaja's College one assistant professor's place was abolished in each of the departments of English and Physics as a measure of retrenchment during the year, and a new post of an assistant professor was created consequent on the opening of Group V B—Malayalam Main with Sanskrit as related subject.

The total strength of the college was 714 at the end of the year as against 710 in 1112. The average strength and attendance for the year were 700·65 and 610·46, respectively, as against 686·33 and 611·69 in 1112, the percentage of attendance being 87·13. Of the total number of students, more than a hundred were enjoying either scholarships or half-fee concessions in the several classes together.

One hundred and seventy-two students appeared for the Intermediate examination, of whom 71 passed completely, the percentage of full passes being 41. For the B. A. examination, 97 appeared, of whom 60 were successful, the percentage of full passes being 61·9. For the B. Sc. Part I examination 50 students were sent up, of whom 23 or 46 per cent passed, and for the B. Sc. Part II 32 appeared, of whom 27 or 84·4 per cent came out successful.

On the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee, a committee consisting of five members was appointed during the year to advise the Government on the administration of the college.

There were two hostels attached to the college—the Rama Varma Hostel and the Shanmukham Hostel; the Women's Hostel, though housed separately, formed part of the Rama Varma Hostel under a separate superintendent. Besides, five approved lodges were available for the students—viz., the Thiyya Hostel, the Muslim Hostel, the Harijan Hostel, the Sadanam and the Y. W. C. A. Hostel.

Physical culture received proper attention, and there was special provision for women students of the college for games like badminton, tennikoit, volley ball, tennis, etc. Special activities like boxing and rowing received good response from the students.

The receipts and disbursements for the year were Rs. 64,935 and Rs. 1,47,953, respectively, as against Rs. 63,129 and Rs. 1,56,335 in 1112.

St. Teresa's College.—The total strength of the St. Teresa's College, Ernakulam, at the end of the year was 111 as against 92 in the previous year. Twenty students appeared for the Intermediate examination, of whom eight came out successful, the percentage of full passes being 40. Of the students sent up for the B. A. examination, 78 per cent passed in full. Physical training was regularly conducted, and girl guiding was a marked feature of the activities of the college. Hostel accommodation was extended during the year by the use of additional rooms. The receipts amounted to Rs. 7,826, inclusive of the Government grant of Rs. 1,000, and the expenditure to Rs. 5,518.

St. Thomas' College, Trichur.—The total strength of the college at the end of the year was 555 as against 557 in the previous year. Of the 159 students sent up for the Intermediate examination, 71 or 44 per cent came out successful. For the B. A. examination the percentage of full passes came to 38 as against 49 in 1112. Concessions to the value of Rs. 8,931 were allowed by the management during the year. Besides, there were a hundred students enjoying either scholarships or concessions awarded by the Government. Of the total number of students, 144 were accommodated in the college hostels and licensed lodges, and the rest lived with their parents, relatives or guardians. Physical training continued to receive proper attention. The receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 62,488 and the expenditure to Rs. 61,888, resulting in a surplus of Rs. 600.

SECONDARY EDUCATION

Upper Secondary.—As against 48 high schools in 1112, there were 51 high schools in the year under report. Of these, 27 (20 for boys and seven for girls) were under Government management and 24 (18 for boys and six for girls) under private management. The total enrolment in the upper secondary classes of these schools was 7,581 (5,289 boys and 2,292 girls) as against 6,594 (4,670 boys and 1,924 girls) in the previous year. The strength of the upper secondary department of Government institutions alone was 4,246 (2,957 boys and 1,289 girls) and that of the schools under private management was 3,335 (2,332 boys and 1,003 girls) as against 3,759 (2,697 boys and 1,062 girls) and 2,835 (1,973 boys and 862 girls), respectively, in 1112.

The Secondary School Leaving Certificate examination was held in the year in March 1938, as usual. From all the schools together (including private candidates), 2,046 students appeared for the examination, of whom 1,076 came out successful. For the benefit of the failed candidates under the 1933-37 scheme, another School Final examination was held in October 1937, in which 540 candidates passed out of 1,025 who appeared for it.

The Sirkar High Schools at Wadakkancheri, Kunnankulam and Chittur had hostels attached to them, and all of them worked satisfactorily. Equally satisfactory was the working of the boarding houses attached to a few of the schools under private management.

Lower Secondary.—Including the lower secondary department of high schools and of the Government Training Institution, Trichur, the total number of lower secondary schools was 112 as against 109 in 1112. Of these, 41 were Government institutions (31 for boys and 10 for girls), and the remaining 71 (52 for boys and 19 for girls) were under private management. Of these, again, lower secondary schools proper numbered only 61.

The total enrolment of the lower secondary classes of all the schools together was 15,464 (9,551 boys and 5,913 girls) as against 14,614 (9,172 boys and 5,442 girls) in 1112. Of the total number, 6,968 (4,571 boys and 2,397 girls) were in Sirkar schools and 8,496 (4,980 boys and 3,516 girls) in those under private management, as against 6,825 (4,535 boys and 2,290 girls) and 7,789 (4,637 boys and 3,152 girls), respectively, in 1112.

For the Form III Public Examination, 4,256 candidates appeared as against 3,873 in 1112. Of these, 2,597 came out successful, the percentage of passes being 60·9 as against 59·9 in the previous year. The Lower Secondary Scholarship Examination also was conducted along with the public examination.

No Sirkar lower secondary schools had hostels attached to them, but a few of the convent schools maintained boarding houses, and the Nambudiri Vidyalayam, Trichur, had a hostel attached to it for its girls. The working of these institutions was satisfactory.

To provide additional accommodation in the Girls' High School, Irinjalakuda, the school drill shed was converted into a permanent laboratory building. A building costing about Rs. 6,000 was constructed for the St. Antony's High School, Mala, and the work of

constructing a decent building for the Paliam High School, estimated to cost Rs. 30,000, was taken up during the year.

The secondary departments of Government institutions in the State had an income of Rs. 2,30,851 and an expenditure of Rs. 4,30,225 as against Rs. 2,21,883 and Rs. 4,16,847, respectively, in 1112. The corresponding figures for Cranganur schools were Rs. 15,604 and Rs. 24,631. The amount of grant paid to the secondary classes of aided schools was Rs. 90,988 as against Rs. 87,323 in the previous year.

PRIMARY EDUCATION

There were 513 primary schools at the end of the year as against 510 in 1112. Of these, 134 were Sirkar schools and the remaining 379 under private management. Of the 134 Sirkar schools, 104 were schools for boys and 30 for girls. Four schools under private management were night schools, 329 schools for boys and 46 for girls. Of the Sirkar schools, nine were English schools (four for boys and five for girls), and of the schools under private management 10 were English schools (eight for boys and two for girls). The total number of primary schools, including the primary departments of secondary schools and of the Government Training Institution, Trichur, was 600 (174 Sirkar and 426 private) as against 596 (175 Sirkar and 421 private) in 1112.

The total strength of these schools, including pupils in the primary departments of secondary schools and the Government Training Institution, was 147,144 (82,971 boy and 64,173 girls) as against 144,912 (82,082 boys and 62,830 girls) in the previous year. The strength in the primary classes of Sirkar schools alone was 44,942 (26,053 boys and 18,889 girls) as against 45,148 (26,103 boys and 19,045 girls) in 1112, the strength in such classes of schools under private management excluding that in night schools being 102,047 (56,788 boys and 45,259 girls) as against 99,764 (55,979 boys and 43,785 girls) in the previous year.

New buildings were constructed for the Sirkar Malayalam schools at Kalur and Moorkanikara and extensions and improvements effected to the Sirkar Malayalam School, Pullut. Some extensions and improvements were effected to a few of the school buildings under private management also.

The primary departments of Sirkar schools had a total receipt of Rs. 43,670 and an expenditure of Rs. 4,20,706 as against Rs. 43,327

and Rs. 4,28,145, respectively, in 1112. The corresponding figures for Cranganur schools were Rs. 4,176 and Rs. 24,076 as against Rs. 3,523 and Rs. 24,055 in 1112. The amount of grant paid to primary schools in the State and Cranganur, including provident fund contribution and interest, was Rs. 5,26,402 and Rs. 9,392 respectively, as against Rs. 5,23,388 and Rs. 10,008 in the previous year.

The number of night schools rose from three to four, and they had a total enrolment of 155 as against 101 in the previous year.

DEPRESSED CLASS EDUCATION

The policy of spreading education among the backward and depressed classes was steadily followed by giving half-fee concessions to pupils belonging to backward classes, and by free education, stipends and school requisites to children of the depressed classes. For the purpose of educational concessions, a few communities which were found to be backward in point of education were included in the list of backward classes, and a few communities which had already been classed as backward were temporarily declared depressed during the year.

The number of pupils belonging to the backward and depressed classes was 71,940 (44,536 boys and 27,404 girls) as against 66,317 (40,929 boys and 25,388 girls) in 1112. Of these, 15,466 (10,047 boys and 5,419 girls) belonged to the depressed classes as against 16,463 in 1112. On account of financial stringency, the system of giving feeding charges to all the depressed class pupils had to be stopped, and, as a matter of policy, it was also ruled that none of the concessions except free education would be allowed to pupils who failed to secure annual promotion. Of the 71,940 pupils, 199 (171 boys and 28 girls) were in the college department, 86 (80 boys and six girls) in the Sanskrit College, Trippunittura, 1,548 (1,237 boys and 311 girls) in the upper secondary department, 3,985 (2,825 boys and 1,160 girls) in the lower secondary department, 65,560 (39,890 boys and 25,670 girls) in the primary department including special schools, and 562 (333 boys and 229 girls) in the fishery schools.

The number of Muslim pupils attending schools and colleges was 7,636 (5,216 boys and 2,420 girls) as against 7,262 (5,002 boys and 2,260 girls) in the previous year. Of these, 52 (51 boys and one girl) were in the college department, one in the Sanskrit College, 233 (212

boys and 21 girls) in the upper secondary department, 424 (342 boys and 82 girls) in the lower secondary department, 6,897 (4,591 boys and 230 girls) in the primary department, and 29 (19 boys and 10 girls) in the fishery schools.

FEMALE EDUCATION

Educational institutions specially intended for girls numbered 107 as against 105 in 1112. Of these, 41 were Sirkar institutions and the remaining 66 under private management. One was a college, 13 were high schools, 16 lower secondary schools, 76 primary schools and one special institution.

The total number of girls in all the educational institutions together, including the 23 pupil teachers in the training section of the Government Training Institution, Trichur, was 73,057 as against 70,895 in the previous year. Two hundred and forty-four of these were in the college department, 133 in the Maharaja's College and 111 in the St. Teresa's College at Ernakulam. The number of girls attending secondary schools was 8,205. Of these, 2,292 were in the upper secondary classes and 5,913 in the lower secondary classes as against 1,924 and 5,442 respectively, in 1112.

Of the 76 primary schools, seven were English schools and the remaining 69 Malayalam schools. Five of the English schools were Sirkar and two aided ones. Of the 69 Malayalam schools, 25 belonged to the Sirkar and 44 were under private management. The total number of girls attending primary classes was 64,173 as against 62,830 in 1112. Besides, there were 238 girls attending fishery schools and 70 pupils attending Sanskrit schools as against 219 and 83, respectively, in the previous year.

Palace Girls' High School.—The Palace Girls' High School, Trippunittura, continued to be conducted out of palace funds exclusively for the teaching of the female members of the Ruling Family, although young Princes also were admitted to the primary classes. Besides the high school classes, special classes were held, as usual, for those who wanted to pursue higher studies in Sanskrit and for those who wanted to appear for the Intermediate examination. A special Hindi class also was held during the year after school hours for the benefit of students past and present. While in the regular classes the strength was 71 as against 80 in the previous year, eight Princesses studied in the special Sanskrit classes and one Princess in the senior Intermediate class. Nine candidates appeared

for the Form III Public Examination, of whom eight came out successful, five scoring first class. The two Princesses who were being coached for the 1938 Intermediate examination also came out successful, one of them securing a first class. Nine Princesses appeared for the Madhyama examination in Hindi, and all of them got through, one being first in the Presidency and another first in Kerala.

Sri Rama Varma Music School.—The Sri Rama Varma Music School, Trichur, continued to be popular, though the raising of the standard of literary qualification for admission to a pass in Form III slightly affected its strength which came down from 32 in 1112 to 28 in the year under report. The *veena* class opened in 1112 was popular, and its continuance was, therefore, sanctioned for another year.

Physical Education.—Most of the secondary schools made provision for games in badminton, basket ball, volley ball, tennikoit, etc. Training in theo-rhythm was given to pupils in a few schools, while *kaiḱottikkali* was practised in some others. Girl guiding received proper attention in all the girls' schools at Trichur and Ernakulam, the troops at Ernakulam partaking in several public functions as well. Besides, students took part as usual in inter-school sports and tournaments, and several girls' schools were taking an increasing interest in gardening.

SPECIAL INSTITUTIONS

Special educational institutions numbered 24 as against 23 in 1112. Of these, nine were Sirkar institutions and 15 under private management. The Government Training Institution, Ramavarmapuram, the Sanskrit College, Trippunittura, the S. R. V. Music School, Trichur, the Sanskrit School, Chottanikkara, and the five fishery schools were the institutions that belonged to the Sirkar. Of the 15 schools under private management, eight were Sanskrit schools, two Veda Sastra Patasalas, one school for the blind, one school for the uncontaminated children of lepers, one school for the deaf and dumb, and the remaining were the Kalamandalam at Cheruviruthi and the indigenous school at Pottore.

The total strength of the Government Training Institution, Ramavarmapuram, was 346 at the end of the year as against 721 in 1112. With the shifting of the institution to Ramavarmapuram, the number of divisions of each of the classes and the strength of each division were restricted, and to this was due the appreciable

decrease in its strength. Of the total number of students, 108 were in the training section and 238 in the model section. Among the pupil teachers, 60 (47 men and 13 women) were private candidates, and all of them were in the secondary grade. Of these candidates, 43 were paying candidates and the remaining free. The Trained Teachers' Examinations, viz., the theoretical and the practical, were held as usual. Of the 169 candidates who appeared for the theoretical examination, 112 were from the institution (79 for secondary and 33 for elementary). Of the candidates for secondary training 69 and of those for elementary 32 came out successful. For the practical examination, 121 candidates appeared, of whom 107 passed. Different kinds of handicrafts were taught both in the training and model sections, the most important being bamboo, screwpine, and palmyra leaf works, book-binding, coir works, etc. The receipts of the institution amounted to Rs. 5,279 and the disbursements to Rs. 34,304 as against Rs. 5,887 and Rs. 35,557, respectively, in 1112.

The Sri Rama Varma Sanskrit College, Trippunittura, worked in two sections as in previous years, viz., the Government section and the Endowment section. The two sections together had a total strength of 308 (272 boys and 32 girls) as against 352 in 1112. There were 14 full-rate stipendiaries in the Government section and 19 full-rate and eight half-rate stipendiaries in the Endowment section, as against 15 full-rate in the Government and 19 full-rate and 11 half-rate in the Endowment section in the previous year. Of the 24 students who appeared for the Kavya examination, seven attained full and ten partial passes. The annual Sastra Sadas was conducted in a seven days' session in January 1938. The receipts of the Endowment section of the College, including the closing balance of the previous year, amounted to Rs. 10,390 and the expenditure to Rs. 6,464. The expenditure on account of the Government section was Rs. 6,900.

The Maharaja's Grandha Library attached to the Sanskrit College contained in all 2,029 volumes at the end of the year, of which 1,298 were manuscripts, 412 transcripts and 309 printed books. Thirty-seven works were copied for the library during the year. A regular search for manuscripts of rare and ancient grandhas was made by the library staff and a few members of the college staff visiting as many as 26 private libraries and examining about 2,000 manuscripts. As a result, 50 Sanskrit works, very rare and unpublished, were got on loan for the library. The library secured

also a good number of old Malayalam songs and a few unpublished Malayalam works.

There were 11 Sanskrit schools, of which two were purely Vedic schools, the remaining institutions coaching up pupils for the State Kavya examination. These schools had a total strength of 796 (759 boys and 37 girls) as against 879 (796 boys and 83 girls) in 1112.

There were five fishery schools at work during the year, and the total enrolment was 597 (359 boys and 238 girls) as against 571 (352 boys and 219 girls) in 1112.

MISCELLANEOUS

Adult Education.—Night schools and libraries were the principal modes employed in the field of adult education. The total number of public libraries, excluding the Princes' Library and the Grandha Library attached to the Sanskrit College, Trippunittura, was 15 as against 12 in the previous year. Five new village libraries were opened during the year, and their number thus increased from 18 to 23. Besides, there was also one travelling library. All these institutions functioned satisfactorily. The amount spent on all the libraries together was Rs. 6,354. The staff of some of the schools also continued to render service towards adult education by propaganda among the illiterate masses. The agriculture-trained teachers were, as in the past, giving instructions to the local public in improved and scientific methods of agriculture.

Training of Teachers.—The 13 teachers under L. T. or B. T. training reverted at the end of their training course during the year, and a fresh batch of 18 teachers were deputed for training. The 53 teachers who were undergoing training in the Government Training Institution also reverted after the training course, and a fresh batch of 52 teachers was selected for training in the same institution.

Medical Inspection.—The medical inspection of schools and colleges was conducted, as usual, by the medical inspection staff, consisting of two medical inspectors and one medical inspectress. The two medical inspectors conducted the inspection of the Maharaja's College, 32 high schools, and 35 lower secondary schools between them, and the medical inspectress conducted inspection of the girls in the Maharaja's College and the St. Teresa's College at Ernakulam and of those of 18 high schools and 16 lower secondary schools. The total number examined by the inspectors was 7,282

boys, and the number examined by the medical inspectress was 3,721 girls, thus making a total of 11,003, as against 10,732 consisting of 7,860 boys and 2,872 girls in 1112. Forty-seven per cent of the girls and 45·5 per cent of the boys examined were found defective. On re-examination of the defective pupils of the previous year, it was found that 53·6 per cent of the boys and 55·6 per cent of the girls had followed the instructions given during inspection.

Committees.—The term of the Text Book Committee having expired with the close of 1112, the rules relating to the constitution of the committee were revised. According to the new rules, there are 15 members as against 13 in the old committee—two members elected by the non-officials of the Legislative Council, two elected by the Cochin Teachers' Association, two by the Cochin Women Teachers' Association, one by the Malayalam Improvement Committee and the remaining eight members nominated by the Government. The committee having been constituted rather late, only one meeting was held in the year. The rules relating to the constitution of the Board of Studies also were revised, and the board is to consist hereafter of seven members as against five of the previous committee. The Board was rechristened "The Sub-committee to advise Government on the Prescription of Text-books," and this committee met once during the year and recommended the prescription of books for the various classes.

There were a few changes in the personnel of the Malayalam Improvement Committee on account of the death of one of its members and due to the resignation of another. The activities of the committee were, in the main, directed towards the publication of rare and old unpublished works.

Scouting and Guiding.—The popularity of scouting showed a definite upward trend in the year. One local association at Ernakulam and three groups—at Kanjiramittam, Ochenthuruthi and Trichur—were newly registered. The Boy Scouts' Association conducted two training camps—one for cub-masters and the other for scout-masters. Forty-five pupil teachers attended the former camp and 21 scouts the latter.

With regard to girl guiding, there were three ranger companies, five guide companies and five flocks in Ernakulam and three guide companies and two flocks in Trichur at the beginning of the year. A new flock attached to the Munavirul Islam School, Ernakulam, was started during the course of the year.

Residential Palace.—There were 16 wards in the Residential Palace, Ernakulam, at the commencement of the year. There were four withdrawals, so that the year closed with 12 wards. The general health and conduct of the wards were satisfactory. Rama Varma Appan Thampuran continued to be the warden throughout the year.

Receipts and Expenditure.—The total receipts and expenditure for the year were Rs. 3,93,525 and Rs. 18,29,781 as against Rs. 3,77,671 and Rs. 18,23,191 in 1112, the net expenditure being Rs. 14,36,256 as against Rs. 14,45,520 in the previous year. Of the net expenditure, 5·4 per cent was on direction and inspection, 6·3 per cent on collegiate education, 20·2 per cent on secondary education, 62·3 per cent on primary education and 5·8 per cent on miscellaneous, including the Government Training Institution, as against 5·4, 6·7, 19·5, 62·3 and 6·1 per cent, respectively, in 1112.

CHAPTER XII

UPLIFT OF THE DEPRESSED CLASSES

Uplift work among the depressed classes who, according to the Census of 1931, numbered 124,298 or 10·3 per cent of the total population, has been systematically carried on in the State during the last one decade. There is a special department in charge of the work under an officer designated Protector of the Depressed Classes. 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 educate them in ways that make for a clean and simple life as well as in 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.

A few backward communities, such as Kudumi Chettis, Tholkollans and Perumkollans, Kumbarans, Kusavans, Boyans and Velaans, 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 taken to education in large numbers. Besides these concessions, in the forest tracts daily feeding of the children of the hill tribes is resorted to to induce them to attend schools. As a result of all this, 15,640

depressed class pupils received education during the year in all the schools together, of whom 10,176 were boys and 5,464 girls. Of these pupils, 15 (including two girls) were in the college classes, six (including one girl) in the Sanskrit College, Trippunittura, 256 (including 41 girls) in the upper secondary classes, 1,078 (including 243 girls) in the lower secondary classes, 14,035 (including 5,102 girls) in the primary classes, 174 (including 45 girls) in industrial schools and 76 (including 30 girls) in the fishery schools. Literacy has perceptibly increased in the community, so much so that over 70 per cent of the children of school-going age were at school during the year. Since the desire for education has rapidly increased among the depressed classes, the Government found that the weekly dole given to pupils for messing charges was unnecessary, and consequently stopped it during the 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 are also given special stipends as an additional encouragement. 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 these concessions to all the depressed class pupils attending secondary classes, so rapid has been the increase in the number of these pupils that the Government have limited the number of depressed class stipendiaries to 230 in the lower secondary department and to 110 in the upper secondary department in an order issued just after the close of the year.

In regard to collegiate education, concessions granted to depressed class students include the award of stipends at Rs. 5 per mensem, a lump sum grant of Rs. 25 for the purchase of school requisites and clothes, full fee concessions, grant of University examination fees for the senior students, and the provision of class fees to students in the aided colleges. Since the number of students seeking admission in colleges has increased in recent years, the Government have found it necessary to limit the number of stipendiaries to ten every year, and issued orders to that effect on 12th July, 1938.

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 drafted to the various departments of the State on the recommendation of the Staff Selection Board.

Industrial Education.—Special attention continued to be paid towards encouraging industrial education among the depressed classes. During the year 15 boys in the Government Trades School, Trichur, were granted stipends at Rs. 7 per mensem and 15 girls in the Government Industrial School for Girls, Trichur, at Rs. 5 per mensem. In all there were 28 depressed class pupils undergoing technical studies in the Government Trades School, Trichur, and they were receiving training in such subjects as weaving, mat-making, carpentry, rattan work, electro-plating, metal work, drawing, electricity, motor mechanism, etc. The subjects for girls included weaving, needle-work, embroidery, mat-making, music and laundry work. There were altogether 174 depressed class pupils in the various industrial schools of the State during the year, of whom 130 pupils were granted industrial stipends at Rs. 2 per mensem.

With a view to give training in mechanical works, the Government have sanctioned a monthly stipend of Rs. 7 each for six depressed class students to be trained as fitters in the tramway workshop at Chalakudi for three years. Besides, in response to a request by the Protector of the Depressed Classes, the General Manager of the Tata Oil Mills, Ltd., Ernakulam, agreed in the year to admit a few depressed class students as unpaid apprentices and to allow them to undergo a course of training in fitting and machine driving. Six depressed class students who had displayed special aptitude for technical studies were accordingly sent up for training. They were admitted as boarders of the Harijan Hostel, Ernakulam, and Government passed orders granting them a boarding grant of Rs. 3 per mensem. A depressed class student of the Royal College of Homeopathic Physicians, Ernakulam, who had been admitted as a free student by the principal, was also given a stipend of Rs. 3 per mensem for a period of four years by the Government.

Separate stipends were granted to both literary and industrial pupils in Cranganur schools. During the year six students of the upper secondary and 22 students of the lower secondary classes were granted stipends at Rs. 3 and Rs. 2, respectively, and three students in the Government Industrial School, Cranganur, were given special industrial stipends at Rs. 2 each per mensem.

The total expenditure on account of feeding, clothing and supply of school requisites during the year came to Rs. 31,339 as against Rs. 38,576 in 1112.

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 the Government or by acquisition of private lands at Government cost and allotting them in convenient plots according to requirements. Since the institution of the department, 1,415 house-sites have been provided by free assignment of poramboke lands and 457 house-sites by the acquisition of lands. In all 437 houses have been built by the Government for the use of the depressed classes.

Colonies.—There were 90 depressed class colonies as against 89 at the end of the previous year. The total expenditure on colonies amounted to Rs. 10,980, of which Rs. 655 was utilised for the acquisition of lands and the balance of Rs. 10,325 for the maintenance and organisation of colonies as well as for house construction. In the laying out of colonies particular care is taken to provide pathways, a plentiful supply of good water and sufficient open space for a school, a place of worship and for other common purposes. All agricultural implements, seeds, seedlings and manure are supplied free of cost whenever a new colony is established. Seventy-five new houses for the colonies were constructed during the year, and an expenditure of Rs. 4,000 was incurred in that behalf.

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.

Sixteen new wells were constructed during the year—at Perumpilliserry, Chengalur, Varandarapilli, Vadama, Ashtamichira, Panancheri, Mullakara, Perumpilavu, Kattakampal, Enkakkad, Mayannur, Kariyannur, Kainur, Malayattur, Kanjirappilli and Kanjiramittam.

Co-operative Societies.—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 2,189 and a working capital of Rs. 13,962. The total number of co-operative societies in 1112 was 46 with a total membership of 2,070. The general condition of these societies was better as compared with the previous year.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure of the department during the year was Rs. 66,353 as against Rs. 77,168 in 1112.

CHAPTER XIII

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

Local self-government in Cochin is represented by five municipalities—Mattancheri, Ernakulam, Trichur, Chittur-Tattamangalam and Irinjalakuda. Of these, the Irinjalakuda Municipal Council was inaugurated on 14th Vrischigam, 1112. All these municipalities have been created under the provisions of the Cochin Municipalities Act, XI of 1096.

As mentioned in last year's report, the life of the municipal councils was extended for one year from Vrischigam 1112 by a Proclamation of His Highness the Maharaja. It was expected that the new Municipal Bill (modelled on the lines of the Madras District Municipalities Act), which was then on the legislative anvil, would be passed and brought into force in the year under report. But the bill was passed by the Legislative Council only in its Vrischigam session, and the term of the councils was, therefore, extended until further orders by another Royal Proclamation dated 25th September, 1937. The new bill received the assent of His Highness the Maharaja on 8th Meenam.

The area and population (according to the Census of 1931) of these municipalities are as follows: Mattancheri—area about three 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.

Mattancheri Municipal Council.—As in the previous year, there were 15 meetings of the Mattancheri Municipal Council in the year under report. Four meetings had to be adjourned for want of a quorum. The percentage of attendance of members in the meetings was 57·89 as against 58·17 in 1112.

The total receipts of the Council amounted to Rs. 1,42,859 as against Rs. 1,38,490 in 1112 and the expenditure to Rs. 1,29,842 as against Rs. 1,33,084 in the previous year. Since the opening balance

of the year was Rs. 25,355, the assets at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 38,372.

Births and deaths registered during the year numbered 2,070 and 798, respectively, as against 1,961 and 734 in the previous year.

There were three fatal cases of bubonic plague in the first half of the year, and the town was declared plague-infected on 28th October, 1937. As a result of prompt preventive measures taken, such as the destruction of rats and the cynogassing of godowns, the town was declared free from plague on 17th March, 1938.

All the roads were maintained in good order. A large number of blind canals and low-lying areas were reclaimed and converted into roads to provide access into the interior, and a number of new roads were also opened in the course of the year.

One of the important events of the year was the laying of a submerged pipeline across the backwater from the Ernakulam mainland to Mattancheri for the direct supply of Alwaye water. The work in this connection was completed towards the end of the year, and the formal opening ceremony of the direct pipeline was performed by the Diwan on 25th June, 1938. There has since been a constant and regular supply of water throughout day and night.

Ernakulam Municipal Council.—Twenty-three meetings of the Ernakulam Municipal Council were convened during the year as against 18 in 1112. No meeting had to be adjourned for want of a quorum. The percentage of attendance of members in the meetings was 45·18 as against 44·76 in 1112.

The total receipts of the council, including receipts under debt heads, amounted to Rs. 1,98,533 as against Rs. 1,86,419 in 1112 and the total disbursements to Rs. 2,05,380 as against Rs. 1,68,504 in the previous year. Since the opening balance of the year was Rs. 88,438, the assets to the credit of the council amounted to Rs. 81,591 at the close of the year.

Births and deaths registered during the year numbered 1,279 and 552, respectively, as against 1,306 and 684 in the previous year, the birth-rate working out to 34·9 and the death-rate to 15·09 per mille as against 31·91 and 16·71 in 1112.

Works of improvement in connection with the Padiyath Basin, Market Basin and Canal were completed, and the widening of the

Palathode Road in continuation of the Shanmukham Road was commenced during 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 in 1112. Nine of these meetings (three ordinary and six special) were adjourned for want of a quorum. The average percentage of attendance of members in the meetings was 45 as against 41·41 in the previous year.

The total receipts of the council, including those under debt heads, amounted to Rs. 8,63,183 as against Rs. 1,99,085 in 1112 and the expenditure to Rs. 8,55,164 as against Rs. 1,94,492 in the previous year. The great difference between the figures for the year under report and the previous year was because of the loan of Rs. 6,52,776 taken from the Government and utilised on behalf of the electricity undertaking. Since the opening balance of the year was Rs. 1,02,016, the council had to its credit Rs. 1,10,035 at the end of the year.

The number of births registered in the year was 1,577 as against 1,267 in 1112, and the number of deaths was 647 as against 523 in the previous year, the birth-rate working out to 34·5 and the death-rate to 14·7 per mille as against 27·7 and 11·4, respectively, in 1112.

The Trichur electric undertaking purchased by the council from the Cochin State Power and Light Corporation, Ltd., at a total cost of Rs. 5,80,000, came to the possession of the municipality on 1st Chingam. Subsequent to the purchase of the undertaking, machinery costing Rs. 80,200 was purchased by the municipality and put up in the power house.

In regard to the question of water supply, the council accepted the Naduthodu scheme of water supply suggested by the Public Works Department, and resolved to raise a debenture loan of seven lakhs of rupees required for the purpose. But the Government directed that the matter might be considered afresh and finally decided by the council constituted under the new Municipal Act.

Chittur-Tattamangalam Municipal Council.—Twenty-nine meetings (18 ordinary and 11 special) were held during the year as against 28 (20 ordinary and eight special) in 1112. Fourteen of these meetings had to be adjourned for want of a quorum. The average attendance of members in the meetings was 53·6 per cent as against 47·6 per cent in 1112.

The total receipts of the council in the year, including those under debt heads, amounted to Rs. 49,511 as against Rs. 53,378 in 1112 and the expenditure to Rs. 40,456 as against Rs. 46,145 in the previous year. Since the council had an opening balance of Rs. 42,078, the year closed with a balance of Rs. 51,133 in its favour.

The number of births registered during the year was 675 as against 660 in 1112, and the number of deaths was 383 as against 440 in the previous year. The town was free from epidemics in the year.

Irinjalakuda Municipal Council.—Twenty-four meetings of the Irinjalakuda Municipal Council were held in the year as against 19 in 1112, and no meeting had to be adjourned for want of a quorum. The average attendance of members in the meetings was 60·7 per cent as against 71 per cent in 1112.

The total receipts of the council, including those under debt heads, amounted to Rs. 20,165 as against Rs. 9,025 in 1112 and the expenditure to Rs. 19,036 as against Rs. 5,741 in the previous year. Since the opening balance of the year was Rs. 3,284, there was a closing balance of Rs. 4,413 in favour of the council.

Births and deaths registered during the year numbered 328 and 127, respectively, the birth-rate working out to 20·2 and the death-rate to 7·1 per thousand as against 21·1 and 11·51, respectively, in 1112.

An important question for which a satisfactory solution was found in the year was that of the construction of the Shanmukham Canal. The Government agreed to undertake the work on the following conditions: (1) The Government would auction the right of collecting landing fees on the vessels using the canal; and (2) if the auction amount was less than four per cent of the capital invested, the municipality should make good to the Government the deficiency; but, if the bid amount went above five per cent, then the excess would be apportioned equally between the Government and the municipality. On the council accepting these conditions, the work of constructing the canal was commenced during the year.

CHAPTER XIV

HINDU RELIGIOUS AND CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS

The first time that the State assumed the direct management of Devaswoms 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 *urallars*, or managers, of a number of Devaswoms, these latter came under the direct management of the State. The corporations of the major Devaswoms were also, like the chiefs, deprived of their sovereign powers, and the management of most of them was assumed by the State. Several minor Devaswoms were subsequently taken over by the State owing to their mismanagement by incompetent or dishonest *urallars*.

Incorporated and Unincorporated Devaswoms.—The several Devaswoms 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 Devaswom property as Government property, merging all Devaswom receipts in the general revenues of the State and paying from the public treasury all Devaswom expenses according to a fixed scale.

About twenty-five years after the incorporation of these Devaswoms, two well-endowed temples were surrendered to the Government by the *urallars* 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 Devaswoms 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 Devaswoms, they are known as "Unincorporated Devaswoms." The number of Devaswoms 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 Devaswoms for proved mismanagement by their *urallars*.

Important Features of the Year.—As a result of the enforcement of the Madras Agriculturists' Debt Relief Act, allowing the tenants a discharge of the arrears provided they paid one year's rent before 30th September, 1938, and another year's rent before 30th September, 1939, the department found itself face to face with great difficulties in the administration of Devaswom lands in British Malabar. There was an appreciable fall in receipts in consequence.

The usual contribution of Rs. 40,010 per year for conducting religious *vazhivadus* in the several temples within and outside the State on behalf of the Ruling Family and of the State was reduced to Rs. 30,000 by the Government during the year.

The compilation of the Devaswom Manual was completed and submitted for the approval of the Government; and the revised *pathivus*, recommended by the special officer appointed for their revision, were approved for adoption with effect from 1114.

As a result of enquiries into the mismanagement of the Chengal, Cherusseri, Arattupuzha and Anthikad Devaswoms, the Government ordered during the year the assumption of management of these institutions, and they were taken to the control of the department. The Chowannur Sabha Madhom, an institution endowed for the benefit of Nambudiri Brahmins, was also placed under the management of the department during the year. Further, since the Swamiyar of the Naduvil Mutt, Trichur, expressed his inability to manage the properties of the institution and agreed to hand over their management to the Sirkar, the department assumed control over the affairs of the Mutt.

Under the disciplinary powers conferred by the Hindu Religious Institutions Act (I of 1081), enquiries were conducted into the affairs of the Panangattukara Bhagavathi Devaswom in Talappilli taluk, the

Anandapuram temple, the Keethara temple and the Thazhakad Devaswom in Mukundapuram taluk and the Choorakottu Devaswom in Trichur taluk. In the case of the Thazhakad Devaswom, it was decided that since the finances were not encouraging Government interference was not necessary.

A reference library containing religious and socio-religious books was opened in the Vadakke Madhom Brahmaswom during the year, and arrangements were in progress for the collection of manuscript grandhams, etc.

Sirkar Institutions.—As in previous years, the department continued to be responsible for the management of Group Devaswoms, the Cranganur Sree Kurumba Bhagavathi and Kannanamkulam Devaswoms, individual Devaswoms the management of which had been assumed by the Sirkar, and Oottupuras and Satrams. Under Group Devaswoms the department had under its control 165 major Sirkar Devaswoms and 146 kizhedoms, while under the Sree Kurumba Bhagavathi and Kannanamkulam Devaswoms there were 12 kizhedoms and the Methala Devaswom. Including the five Devaswoms and other religious institutions taken over to Government management during the year, there were 15 individual institutions under the control of the department at the end of the year. Besides the Kannankulangara, Ernakulam, Chowarah, Bhaktapriyam, Pattikad, Pazhayannur and Nellikulangara oottus, the Rameswaram and Benares Satrams and the Endowment Satram of Nattukal and the Chittur Vedasastra Patasala continued to be managed by the department.

The total demand on behalf of the State Devaswoms was 519,753 paras of paddy and Rs. 1,84,066, including current, arrears, interest, miscellaneous items and cost of puravaka articles in Cochin, British and Travancore lands together, of which 326,205 paras of paddy and Rs. 94,126 were collected, including an excess collection of 202 paras of paddy and Rs. 509, and 20,350 paras of paddy and Rs. 2,858 were written off. The balance of 173,400 paras of paddy and Rs. 87,591 was pending collection at the close of the year. The percentage of collection was 66.64 under paddy and 52.41 under money as against 69.88 and 54.71, respectively, in 1112.

Coercive action was taken in 1,810 cases for the recovery of rent. Lands were placed on Nadupattom in five cases and on Sthirapattom in five cases. The tenants' rights on lands were sold in twelve cases, bidders forthcoming in eleven cases and the Devaswom itself bidding in one.

Group and Individual Devaswoms.—The total receipts of the Group Devaswoms under service heads amounted to Rs. 5,38,294 as against Rs. 5,57,858 in 1112 and the expenditure to Rs. 4,83,830 as against Rs. 4,77,978 in the previous year. The transactions of the year under service heads resulted thus in a surplus of Rs. 54,464. Together with the opening balance of Rs. 7,73,527, the Group Devaswom surplus at the end of the year rose to Rs. 8,27,991. Of this, a sum of Rs. 6,55,271 stood invested, Rs. 3,075 was kept as permanent advance, and the balance of Rs. 1,69,645 was in the State treasuries.

As a result of the year's transactions, the total amount to the credit of individual Devaswoms was Rs. 9,39,758, of which Rs. 9,36,758 was invested and the balance remained in the treasuries.

The total investments including group and individual Devaswom surplus funds at the end of the year was, therefore, Rs. 15,92,029 as against Rs. 15,10,307 in 1112.

Cranganur Devaswoms.—The receipts under service heads of the Cranganur Devaswoms, comprising the two major institutions of the Sree Kurumba Bhagavathi Devaswom and the Kannanamkulam Devaswom with their respective kizhedoms, amounted to Rs. 19,916 as against Rs. 22,260 in 1112 and the expenditure to Rs. 19,863 as against Rs. 20,157 in the previous year. The transactions of the year resulted thus in a surplus of Rs. 53. Including the surplus of previous years, the net surplus at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 68,377.

Out of a total demand of 3,373 paras of paddy and Rs. 12,508 including the arrears and interest, the collection amounted to 555 paras of paddy and Rs. 10,211, leaving a balance of 2,818 paras of paddy and Rs. 2,297. The entire balance was due from lands in British Malabar, collection from which was seriously handicapped by the passing of the Madras Debt Relief Act. There was no necessity to adopt coercive processes for collection within the State.

As regards the Methala Devaswom, the year opened with a balance of Rs. 245 in the treasuries. The receipts and expenditure of the year being Rs. 188 and Rs. 165, respectively, the closing balance in the treasuries at the end of the year was Rs. 268. Out of the total demand of Rs. 235, a sum of Rs. 187 was collected in the year and Rs. 18 written off, leaving a balance of Rs. 30. Steps were being taken to realise the balance.

Oottupuras and Charitable Institutions.—The management of the Rameswaram satram was permanently transferred to the department from 22nd Edavam. Adequate supervision over the working and management of all the institutions was exercised. The total expenditure on account of feeding, adithoon, subscriptions, scholarships, establishment, vessels, etc., amounted to Rs. 49,285 as against Rs. 54,360 in 1112. Included in this expenditure was a sum of Rs. 7,200 spent on maramath works executed in the Chazhur Kovilagam during the year.

The Trichur Yogam students of the Nambudiri Vidyalayam and other schools continued to be fed at the Vēdakke Madhom Brahma-swom. There was the usual Anyonyam at Kadavēllur, and the Trichur Yogam students of the Madhom fared well at the Vedic competition.

Maramath Works.—During the year the expenditure on maramath works under the Group Devaswoms amounted to Rs. 42,611 as against Rs. 43,360 in 1112. The Pazhayannur temple renovation works taken up in 1112 were completed in the year. Reconstruction of the Nadapura and Sivelipura of the Thirumala Devaswom temple was taken up, and the work, estimated to cost Rs. 38,000, was in progress at the close of the year.

CHAPTER XV

MISCELLANEOUS

1. ARCHAEOLOGY

All the ancient monuments under the control of the department were under proper preservation during the year. The ruins of the Sasta temple at Akamala were conserved by erecting a small shrine near by, and the pre-historic laterite cave at Chovvannur, placed under the charge of the department in the previous year, was conserved by erecting a protective wall around it with a gateway at the entrance from the main road. Under the supervision of the department, the Devaswom authorities put up during the year brass railings to a height of three and-a-half feet from the floor all round the western chamber of the Mattancheri Palace where the earliest of the mural paintings in the State exist.

An extent of 41 cents of land near the Harikaniyur temple in the Kandanasseri village, containing seven *kotakkallus*, or umbrella-shaped stones, was purchased by the department in the year. For the purpose of constructing a small shrine in dedication to the Akamala Sasta, the Forest Department transferred to the control of the department the necessary reserve land at the slope of the Akamala Hills. Similarly, the Land Revenue Department transferred the ruins of the Kollannur temple and the site around it, comprising 77 cents. The department also took charge, under orders of the Government, of the site of the Irattachira temple at Trichur.

An expenditure of Rs. 1,287 was incurred for completing the work of copying the murals of the Mattancheri Palace. These murals were reproduced in 108 distinct panels, 521 square feet of which being in colours and the rest in lines. The actual expenditure incurred for the work of copying the murals till the end of the year was Rs. 4,787.

The preliminary work connected with the institution of the State Art Gallery, proposed to be located in the Trichur Town Hall, was completed at the end of the year. Copies of five paintings from the Ajanta and the Bagh Caves were specially purchased for the gallery at a cost of Rs. 1,000,

The total expenditure of the department for the year amounted to Rs. 5,955 as against Rs. 7,355 in the previous year. Of this, a sum of Rs. 2,913 was spent towards the Art Gallery.

Rama Varma Research Institute.—Two bulletins were published during the year from the Rama Varma Research Institute. Twenty-two new additions were made to the research library, bringing the total number of books to 1,146. The committee attached to the institute met four times in the year. The total expenditure of the institute amounted to Rs. 712 as against Rs. 1,003 in 1112.

2. MUSEUM AND ZOO

The Diwan Peishkar continued to be in charge of the Museum and Zoo. The full-time superintendent appointed in the previous year was confirmed on completion of his period of probation.

The average daily attendance of visitors to the museum and zoo on ordinary days was about 300 as against 200 in the previous year, while on public holidays and festival days the attendance varied from 5,000 to 6,000. Several parties of school children in charge of teachers visited the museum and zoo for study and recreation during the year.

The eastern wing of the museum building was thoroughly repaired during the year and made rat-proof for the purpose of exhibiting Kathakali figures. In the zoo an additional house for the carnivora was constructed. Besides, minor improvements to the animal houses, such as the erection of comfortable shelter for the wild boars and the construction of large water tubs for the bears and elephant tortoises, were effected. The garden was extended here and there by providing additional beds of cannas and flowering plants. In addition, a small vegetable garden was opened.

Several interesting exhibits were added to the museum in the year, of which special mention may be made of a large portrait of a Chinese Royal Family, a few paintings on glass, a pair of masks used for devil dance, a specimen of Malabar wood-carving, a palm-leaf document of Elankunnappuzha Swarupam, an old copper plate deed, a Hebrew dictionary in manuscript and a pair of granite temple step panels. The system of obtaining articles on loan for exhibition was started for the first time in the year, and a remarkable collection of articles of historical and antiquarian interest was received from the palace of His Highness the Maharaja. A rare specimen of a

musket in the form of a walking stick, an antique mariner's clock, a set of small metal images, an old mariner's compass with a thermometer, a black leaf and flower design ornamental stand made of wood—these were among the articles received from His Highness's Palace. Even more outstanding was the addition of a set of Kathakali figures specially made for the museum. These figures attracted considerable public attention.

The system of making articles for exhibition and sale in the industrial museum was stopped towards the close of the latter half of the year, and the workshop attached to the museum was ordered to be transferred to the Industries Department. But, as the actual transfer was not effected during the year, both the museum and the workshop functioned as in previous years. Among the major works undertaken in the year in this section might be mentioned two fully carved Raja's chairs and a pair of tusks mounted on a beautifully carved rosewood cabinet with side panels carved out of ivory. The museum participated in the All-India Khadi and Swadeshi Exhibition, Madras, the All-India Swadeshi Exhibition, Nalleppilli, and the All-India Swadeshi Exhibition, Trichur, and the exhibits came in for a good deal of praise and appreciation.

The identification of the trees in the museum compound was attended to early in the year, and painted metal labels with scientific as well as vernacular names were fixed on them.

Though there were a few casualties in the zoo due to anthrax, the health of the animals, on the whole, was satisfactory.

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 1112 continued throughout the year.

During the year under report two experts were got down for examining the working of the Government Press, and it was re-organised according to their recommendations. A ruling machine, a stereo plant and a time recorder were purchased during the year.

The receipts and expenditure of the press amounted to Rs. 62,628 and Rs. 96,090, respectively, as against Rs. 60,048 and Rs. 88,352 in the previous year.

4. STATIONERY

Receipts under stationery consisted of the value of stationery articles supplied to Government offices, Cranganur, Devaswoms, municipalities, panchayats, etc. A beginning was made in the year to reduce and standardise the scale of supply of stationery. As a result, receipts in the year on account of the cost of stationery supplied to the several departments amounted only to Rs. 45,396 as against Rs. 50,240 in 1112. There was also a reduction in the total expenditure for the purchase of stationery including writing and printing paper, etc., the cost of the articles, including reserve stock and contingencies, amounting to Rs. 52,975 as against Rs. 54,688 in the previous year.

CHAPTER XVI

CRANGANUR

Cranganur is a small principality with an area of $18\frac{3}{4}$ 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 Cranganur treasury	82,855	Disbursements under service heads		2,13,495
	Investments	1,27,364	Do. under debt heads		8,27,788
	Total	2,10,219	Total		10,41,283
Receipts under service heads Do.		1,98,329	Closing balance	Cash in Cranganur treasury	42,972
	debt heads	6,92,071		Investments	16,364
	Total	8,90,400	Total		59,336
Grand total		11,00,619	Grand total		11,00,619

APPENDICES

APPENDIX I

List of Agency Officials and High Officials in Cochin State showing changes in the personnel during the year 1113 M. E.

Serial No.	Name of Officer	Appointment	Period		Remarks
			From	To	
1	2	3	4		5
	Madras States Agency.				
1	C. P. Skrine, O. B. E., I. C. S.	Resident for the Madras States	17— 8—37	16— 8—38	
2	Rao Bahadur M. Viswanatha Menon, B. A.	Indian Assistant to the Resident	do	do	
3	Rao Bahadur Dr. K. Raman Tampi, M. D.	Residency Surgeon	do	do	
4	V. Govinda Menon, B. A.	Manager and Treas- ury Officer, Resident's Treas- ury	do	do	
	Palace.				
1	T. K. Sankara Menon, M. A. (Hons.)	Sarvadhikariakar	1— 1—13	3— 5—13	
	T. P. Narayana Ayyar	do	4— 5—13	24— 6—13	
	T. K. Sankara Menon, M. A. (Hons.)	do	25— 6—13	32—12—13	
2	P. S. Venkiteswara Ayyar, B. A.	Special Palace Officer	1— 1—13	32—12—13	
	General Adminis- tration.				
3	Sir R. K. Shanmu- kham Chetty, K. C. I. E.	Diwan	1— 1—13	32—12—13	

List of Agency Officials and High Officials in Cochin State showing changes in the personnel during the year 1113 M. E.—(cont.)

Serial No.	Name of Officer	Appointment	Period		Remarks
			From	To	
1	2	3	4		5
4	A. Sivarama Menon, B. A., B. L.	Minister for Rural Development	3—11—13	32—12—13	
5	K. P. Kannan Nayar, B. A., B. L.	Secretary to Gov- ernment	1— 1—13	do	
6	P. J. George, B. A., B. L.	Joint Secretary to Government	do	do	
	Legislative Council.				
7	A. Sankara Menon, B. A., B. L.	Deputy President	1— 1—13	19— 8—13	
	T. P. Poullose, B. A., B. L.	do	31—11—13	32—12—13	
	Accounts and Finance.				
8	P. V. Subramania Ayyar, B. A.	Comptroller of Accounts	1— 1—13	30— 3—13	
	Rama Varmha Tam- puran, M. A. (Hons.), B. Sc. (London), Bar-at- Law.	Comptroller of Finance and Ac- counts	1— 4—13 1— 9—13	30— 8—13 32—12—13	Designa- tion changed to Comp- troller of Finance and Ac- counts from 1—9—13
	Revenue.				
9	K. Achyuta Menon, B. A., B. L.	Diwan Peishkar	1— 1—13	32—12—13	

List of Agency Officials and High Officials in Cochin State showing changes in the personnel during the year 1113 M. E.—(cont.)

Serial No.	Name of Officer	Appointment	Period		Remarks
			From	To	
1	2	3	4		5
10	T. Narayana Menon, B. A., Diploma in Forestry (Oxford)	Conservator of Forests	1— 1—13	32—12—13	
11	E. C. King	Tramway Engineer	1— 1—13	7—11—13	
12	Rama Varmha Tampuran, M. A. (Hons.), B. Sc. (London), Bar-at-Law	Excise Commissioner	1— 1—13	30— 3—13	
	P. J. George, B. A., B. L.	do	1— 4—13	23— 4—13	
	K. M. Subramanya Ayyar, B. A., B. L.	do	24— 4—13	32—12—13	
Judiciary.					
13	V. D. Ouseph, B. A., B. L.	Chief Justice, High Court	1— 1—13	32—12—13	
14	P. Nilakanta Menon, M. A. (Oxon), Bar-at-Law	Judge, High Court	do	do	
15	T. S. Narayana Ayyar, M. A., B. L.	do	do	do	
16	P. V. Lonappan, B. A., B. L.	District and Sessions Judge, Anjikaimal	do	do	
17	K. M. Subramanya Ayyar, B. A., B. L.	do Trichur	1— 1—13	21— 4—13	
	U. Suppukutty Menon, B. A., B. L.	do do	22— 4—13	32—12—13	
18	M. Raman Menon, B. A., B. L.	District Magistrate	1— 1—13	32—12—13	

List of Agency Officials and High Officials in Cochin State showing changes in the personnel during the year 1113 M. E.—(cont.)

Serial No.	Name of Officer	Appointment	Period		Remarks
			From	To	
1	2	3	4		5
19	U. Suppukutty Menon, B. A., B.L.	Additional District and Sessions Judge	1— 1—13	19— 4—13	
	M. K. Raman, M.A., B. L.	do	21— 4—13	32—12—13	
20	Thomas Manjuran, B. A., B. L.	Advocate-General	1— 1—13	32—12—13	
	Police.				
21	A. L. Devassy, B. A., B. L.	Commissioner of Police and Commandant, Nayar Brigade	1— 1—13	10— 7—13	
	Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon	do	11— 7—13	32—12—13	
	Registration.				
22	M. Balakrishna Menon, B. A., B. L.	Superintendent of Registration	1— 1—13	32—12—13	
	Devaswam.				
23	E. Krishna Menon, F. C. C. S.	Devaswam Commissioner	1— 1—13	4— 5—13	
	T. K. Sankara Menon, M.A. (Hons.)	do	5— 5—13	19— 6—13	
	E. Krishna Menon, F. C. C. S.	do	20— 6—13	21—12—13	
	P. V. Sreenivasa Ayyar	do	22—12—13	32—12—13	

List of Agency Officials and High Officials in Cochin State showing changes in the personnel. during the year 1113 M. E.—(cont.)

Serial No.	Name of Officer	Appointment	Period		Remarks
			From	To	
1	2	3	4		5
	Public Works.				
24	V. K. Aravindaksha Menon, Assoc. A. I. E. E., A. S. M. E.	Chief Engineer	1— 1—13	32—12—13	
	Education.				
25	I. N. Menon, M. A., B. Litt. (Oxon.)	Director of Public Instruction	1— 1—13	9— 9—13	
	K. Karunakaran Nayar, M. A.	do in charge of current duties	10— 9—13	14—10—13	
	I. N. Menon, M. A., B. Litt. (Oxon.)	Director of Public Instruction	15—10—13	32—12—13	
26	H. R. Mills, B. Sc. (London), etc.	Principal, Maharaja's College	1— 1—13	4— 8—13	
	K. Karunakaran Nayar, M. A.	do	5— 8—13	32—12—13	
	Medical.				
27	Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao, L. R. C. P., M. R. C. S.	Chief Medical Officer	1— 1—13	32—12—13	
	Public Health and Panchayats.				
28	Dr. E. S. R. Menon	Director of Public Health and Panchayats	1— 1—13	30— 3—13	
	Dr. A. R. Poduval	do	1— 4—13	32—12—13	

List of Agency Officials and High Officials in Cochin State showing changes in the personnel during the year 1113 M. E.—(cont.)

Serial No.	Name of Officer	Appointment	Period		Remarks
			From	To	
1	2	3	4		5
	Agriculture.				
29	K. Krishna Warriar, B. A., B. Ag., Pusa trained	Director of Agri- culture	1— 1—13	32—12—13	
	Co-operation.				
30	K. Narayana Menon, M. A., C. H. D. (Manchester)	Registrar of Co- operative Socie- ties	do	do	
	Anchal.				
31	Vacant	Superintendent of Anchal			
	M. Balakrishna Menon, B. A., B. L.	Superintendent of Registration in charge	1— 1—13	32—12—13	
	Industries.				
32	V. K. Achyuta Menon	Director of Indus- tries and Com- merce	do	do	
	Uplift.				
33	V. R. M. Chohan, B. A., LL. B.	Protector of the Depressed Classes	do	do	
	Miscellaneous.				
34	E. Krishna Menon, F. C. C. S.	Special Officer in charge of His Highness's visit to Madras	5— 5—13	19— 6—13	Tempo- rary

APPENDIX II.

Main Heads of Receipts and Expenditure under Service Heads for the year 1113 M. E.

RECEIPTS.

Heads of Receipts	Actuals of 1113 Rs.	Budget estimate of 1113 Rs.	Actuals of 1112 Rs.	Actuals of 1111 Rs.	Actuals of 1110 Rs.
Land Revenue ..	12,28,011	12,12,700	12,24,403	10,59,668	11,43,472
Forests ..	3,61,913	3,78,100	4,12,280	3,74,538	3,51,831
Excise ..	34,95,761	41,36,300	41,61,206	42,09,598	41,48,367
Stamps ..	5,50,045	5,77,900	5,96,383	5,82,499	6,14,586
Profits from Capital Outlay ..	26,77,500	18,78,300	17,35,859	18,35,263	17,39,321
Income-tax ..	6,82,507	3,55,000	3,72,058	3,29,192	2,71,006
Other receipts ..	15,40,800	15,19,500	15,99,315	15,57,050	14,72,697
Total ..	1,05,36,537	1,00,57,800	1,01,01,504	99,47,808	97,41,280

EXPENDITURE.

Heads of Expenditure	Actuals of 1113 Rs.	Budget estimate of 1113 Rs.	Actuals of 1112 Rs.	Actuals of 1111 Rs.	Actuals of 1110 Rs.
Land Revenue ..	2,95,952	3,06,700	3,10,908	3,12,425	3,01,938
Agriculture ..	1,64,643	1,60,000	1,61,906	1,62,635	1,58,264
Panchayats ..	1,94,914	2,14,200	1,13,864	2,18,306	2,11,361
Palace ..	7,50,000	6,95,200	6,95,200	6,95,200	6,00,000
Subsidy ..	2,00,089	2,00,100	2,00,089	2,00,089	2,00,089

EXPENDITURE.—(*cont.*)

Heads of Expenditure	Actuals of 1113 Rs.	Budget estimate of 1113 Rs.	Actuals of 1112 Rs.	Actuals of 1111 Rs.	Actuals of 1110 Rs.
Excise including customs, matches, etc. ..	3,42,833	3,46,200	4,03,176	2,95,996	1,16,593
Forests ..	2,53,428	2,56,600	2,52,023	2,58,504	2,54,746
Tramway ..	79,876	85,200	80,664	1,59,827	1,75,764
General Administration ..	1,88,809	1,87,400	2,08,074	2,53,228	1,85,569
Law and Justice ..	2,94,043	2,95,400	3,00,663	3,07,339	2,92,466
Police ..	2,21,888	2,27,300	2,26,580	2,34,690	2,25,542
Education ..	18,29,779	18,66,500	18,27,761	18,33,564	16,93,928
Religious and charities ..	82,258	79,600	94,190	89,308	79,224
Medical ..	4,77,576	5,01,900	4,77,061	4,67,108	4,56,197
Public Health ..	1,41,170	1,46,100	1,45,712	1,70,963	1,72,354
Pension and gratuity ..	4,23,429	3,81,000	3,85,592	3,77,922	3,83,085
Military ..	1,09,923	1,12,000	1,16,344	1,29,113	1,21,731
Public Works ..	12,83,876	11,67,800	14,33,132	13,02,588	12,74,760
Industries and Commerce ..	1,38,805	1,27,100	1,30,090	1,29,991	1,90,644
Railway ..	12,03,418	12,00,000	11,66,013	12,43,609	11,08,018
Uplift of the De-pressed Classes ..	66,353	67,800	77,168	80,712	1,15,931
Other items of Expenditure ..	13,22,634	12,53,100	13,11,217	11,20,752	13,65,307
Total ..	1,00,65,696	98,77,200	1,02,17,427	1,00,43,869	96,83,511

APPENDIX III.

Acts, Proclamations and Rules passed during the year.

(a) Acts.

I of 1113:—An Act to amend the Cochin Salt Act, V of 1083.

II of 1113:—The Cochin Factories Act to consolidate and amend the law relating to Factories.

III of 1113:—An Act to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act, V of 1111.

IV of 1113:—The Payment of Wages Act.

V of 1113:—An Act to consolidate and amend the law relating to Steam Boilers.

VI of 1113:—An Act to consolidate and amend the law relating to Ports and Port-charges.

VII of 1113:—An Act to amend the Cochin Municipal Act, XI of 1096.

VIII of 1113:—An Act to amend the Indian Companies Act, 1913.

IX of 1113:—The Cochin Rubber Control (Amendment) Act, XXXIV of 1111.

X of 1113:—The Cochin Debt Conciliation (Amendment) Act, XXVI of 1112.

XI of 1113:—The Cochin Village Panchayat (Amendment) Act, V of 1089.

XII of 1113:—The Cochin Income-tax (Amendment) Act, VIII of 1108.

XIII of 1113:—The Cochin Fisheries (Amendment) Act, III of 1092.

XIV of 1113:—The Cochin Penal Code (Amendment) Act, 1059.

XV of 1113:—The Cochin Tenancy Act (II of 1090).

XVI of 1113:—The Cochin Criminal Procedure Code (Amendment) Act, 1086.

XVII of 1113:—The Cochin Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, Act I of 1059 and Act II of 1086.

XVIII of 1113:—The Cochin Municipal Act (XI of 1096.)

XIX of 1113:—The Cochin Tenancy (Amendment) Act, XV of 1113.

XX of 1113:—The Government of Cochin Act.

XXI of 1113:—The Cochin Bar Council Act.

XXII of 1113:—The Civil Procedure Code (Amendment) Act, XXIX of 1111.

XXIII of 1113:—The Cochin Debt Conciliation (Amendment) Act, XXVI of 1112.

- XXIV of 1113:—The Cochin Land Conservancy (Amendment) Act, IV of 1096.
- XXV of 1113:—The Cochin Village Panchayat (Amendment) Act, V of 1089.
- XXVI of 1113:—The Cochin Co-operative Societies Act.
- XXVII of 1113:—The Cochin Maternity Benefit Act.
- XXVIII of 1113:—The Cochin Debt Conciliation (Amendment) Act, XXVI of 1112.
- XXIX of 1113:—The Cochin Nayar Act to consolidate and amend the Act, XIII of 1095.
- XXX of 1113:—The Cochin Tea Cess Act.
- XXXI of 1113:—The Cochin Payment of Salaries and Allowances Act.
- XXXII of 1113:—The Cochin Income-tax (Amendment) Act, VIII of 1108.
- XXXIII of 1113:—The Cochin Marumakkathayam Act.
- XXIV of 1113:—The Cochin Dangerous Drugs (Amendment) Act, XLIX of 1112.

(b) *Proclamations.*

1. Proclamation dated the 9th day of Kanni, 1113, extending the term of Municipal Councils.
2. Proclamation dated the 9th day of Makaram, 1113, amending the Proclamation of the 7th day of Meenam, 1106, regarding the Pilotage Fund, the Land and Shipping Fund and the Port Fund of the Port of Cochin.
3. Proclamation dated the 10th day of Mithunam, 1113, authorising the Administrative Officer and Harbour Engineer-in-Chief of the Cochin Harbour to levy landing and shipping fees on passengers and goods.

(c) *Rules.*

1. Rules under sections 28 and 29 of the Cochin Trade Union Act, III of 1112.
2. Rules under section 71 of the Cochin Partnership Act, XXIV of 1112.
3. Amendment to the Motor Vehicles Rules under section 11 of Act I of 1094.
4. Amendment to the Village Panchayat Rules under section 17 of Act V of 1089.
5. Amendment to the Companies Rules under section 151 of the Companies Act as made applicable to Cochin by His Highness the Maharaja's Proclamation.
6. House service connection rules under section 195 (2) of the Cochin Municipal Act, XI of 1096.
7. Rules under section 4 of the Plant Pests and Plant Diseases Act, XIV of 1095.

8. Rules under the Cochin Abkari Act, I of 1077, for the control of methyl alcohol.
 9. Legislative Council Electoral Rules under section 7 of Act VIII of 1098.
 10. Rules under section 19 of the Cochin Trade Disputes Act, LXVI of 1112.
 11. Revised Rules under section 14 of the Places of Public Resorts Act, X of 1097.
 12. - Amendments to Matches Excise Duty Order Rules under section 20 of Act VIII of 1110.
 13. Dangerous Drugs Rules under sections 6 and 7 of the Dangerous Drug Act, XLIX of 1112.
 14. The Factories Rules under Act II of 1113.
 15. The Electricity Rules under section 38 of Act III of 1102.
 16. Rules under sections 2 and 8 of the Poisons Act, XXX of 1111.
 17. Calcium Carbide Rules under sections 4 and sub-section 1 of section 29 of the Cochin Petroleum Act, XXVI of 1112.
 18. Mussalman Wakf Rules under section 11 of the Mussalman Charitable Endowment Act, XXXI of 1111.
 19. Rules under section 35 (1) of the Cochin Ports Act, VI of 1113.
 20. The Cochin Municipal Rules under sub-section 2 of section 314 of the Cochin Municipal Act, XVIII of 1113.
 21. Rules under section 5 (b) of the Fisheries Act, III of 1092.
 22. Amendment to the Public Canal and Backwaters Navigation Rules under section 9 of Act I of 1092.
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APPENDIX IV.
Particulars of Newspapers and Magazines in circulation at the end of the year 1113.

Serial No.	Names of newspapers and magazines	Language of publication	Place of publication	Daily, weekly or otherwise	Remarks
1	Malabar Mail	Anglo-vernacular	Ernakulam	Daily	Social, religious and political
2	Deepam	do.	do.	do.	Social and political
3	Gomathi	do.	Trichur	do.	do.
4	Jayabharathi	do.	Ernakulam	do.	do.
5	Sahodaran	do.	do.	Weekly	do.
6	Sathia Deepam	do.	do.	do.	Social, religious and political
7	Sathianadam	do.	do.	do.	do.
8	Yogakshemam	Malayalam	Trichur	do.	Literary, social and political
9	Veerakesari	Anglo-vernacular	Ernakulam	do.	Social and political
10	Jayakesari	do.	do.	do.	do.
11	Prakasam	do.	Cochin	do.	do.
12	Saracen	Malayalam	do.	do.	Mainly religious
13	Sanatani	Anglo-vernacular	Trichur	do.	Religious and social

Serial No.	Names of newspapers and magazines	Language of publication	Place of publication	Daily, weekly or otherwise	Remarks
14	The Cochin Argus	English	Cochin	Weekly	Containing all matters of public interest
15	Ephemerides	English, Malayalam and Latin	Ernakulam	Not fixed	Religious and social
16	Yukthivadi	Malayalam	Irinjalakuda	Monthly	Cultural and social
17	Maithri	Anglo-vernacular	Ernakulam	do.	Literary, social and political
18	Kudumba Deepam	Malayalam	do.	do.	Purely religious and social
19	Kairali	do.	Trichur	do.	Literary
20	M. N. Nayar Magazine	Anglo-vernacular	Ernakulam	do.	Religious, social and political
21	Navajeevika	Malayalam	Trichur	do.	Purely religious and social
22	The Little Flower	English	Palluruthy, Cochin	do.	do.
23	Ernakulam Missam	English, Malayalam, Latin and Syriac	Ernakulam	do.	do.
24	Promptuarium	English and Latin	do.	do.	do.
25	Prabuddha Bharatham	Malayalam	Vilangans, Trichur	do.	Social and educational
26	Lakshmi Bhai	do.	Trichur	do.	Literary and social

Particulars of Newspapers and Magazines in circulation at the end of the year 1113.—(cont.)

Serial No.	Names of newspapers and magazines	Language of publication	Place of publication	Daily, weekly or otherwise	Remarks
27	Insurance Agents' Companion	English	Trichu	Monthly	Pertaining to insurance
28	Rajarshi	Malayalam	o.	do.	Literary and social
29	Preshithan	do.	do.	do.	Religious and social
30	Rajahamsam	do.	do.	do.	Literary and social
31	Jayarasmi	do.	do.	do.	Religious and social
32	The Cochin Law Journal	English	Ernakulam	do.	Pertaining to law
33	Gosri Scout	Anglo-vernacular	Cochin	Quarterly	Pertaining to education and scouting
34	Sahakarana Prabodhini	Malayalam	Trichur	do.	Pertaining to co-operation
35	Samastha Kerala Sahitya Parishath Journal	do.	Ernakulam	do.	Literary
36	Maharaja's College Magazine	Anglo-vernacular	do.	Thrice in a year	Purely academic and literary
37	St. Thomas College Magazine	do.	Trichur	do.	do.
38	Rama Varma Research Institute Bulletin	English	do.	Twice in a year	Research subjects

Serial No.	Names of newspapers and magazines	Language of publication	Place of publication	Daily, weekly or otherwise	Remarks
39	The Madras States and Mysore Directory	English	Cochin	Annual	A pictorial reference book of statistical, historical and commercial information regarding the Madras States and Mysore
40	St. Teresa's College and High School Annual	English and Malayalam	Ernakulam	do.	Purely academic and literary

APPENDIX V.

DIWAN'S SPEECH

*At the opening of the Budget Session of the Legislative Council
on Thursday, 14th July, 1938.*

Honourable Members, I have great pleasure in extending a cordial welcome to all the Members of the Council. Amongst those whom the electorate has returned, some have sat in this Council for many years and others have come for the first time. I have no doubt that within a short time the new members will become familiar with the practice and traditions of this House. Enough has been said during the last few weeks about the memorable changes that have been brought about in the character and composition of the Legislature of Cochin and I do not propose to dilate on that theme. The Members of this Council have come with the mandate of an electorate which is nearly three times as large as the electorate that returned your predecessors. The first place on the Government benches is now occupied by an elected representative of the people, thus symbolising the fundamental change that has been brought about by the New Constitution. In spite of differences amongst the political parties and individuals, every one has welcomed the New Constitution in a spirit of good-will. I hope that your deliberations in this and the succeeding sessions will result in promoting the happiness and prosperity of the people of the State.

ACTUALS OF 1112 AND REVISED ESTIMATE FOR 1113.

2. I shall now give a brief review of the general financial position of the State and touch upon some of the salient features of the administration during the year that is now coming to a close. The final account of the year 1112 has turned out to be better than what we anticipated this time last year. According to the revised estimate for 1112, the year was expected to close with a deficit of Rs. 3.53 lakhs ; but actually the deficit has been only Rs. 1.16 lakhs. The anticipated revenue of Rs. 99.88 lakhs actually turned out to be better and we realised Rs. 101.02 lakhs, whilst the expenditure which was expected to be Rs. 103.41 lakhs was kept within Rs. 102.17 lakhs. An increase in the revenue and decrease in the expenditure have helped us to close the year with a much smaller deficit than we anticipated.

3. For the current year 1113, we anticipated a receipt of Rs. 100.58 lakhs, and we budgetted for an expenditure of Rs. 98.77 lakhs, thus leaving a surplus of Rs. 1.81 lakhs. The revised estimate, however, has disclosed a deficit of Rs. 2.71 lakhs. There have been a number of variations on the receipt side. The actual details of these variations will be explained by the Hon'ble Finance Member. The greatest disappointment has been under 'Customs' which, as against a budgetted estimate of Rs. 20 lakhs, yielded only Rs. 13.47 lakhs, thus leaving a shortage of Rs. 6.53 lakhs under this one item alone. This fall in our share of the customs revenue was due to the almost total disappearance of the import of foreign sugar into the Port of Cochin. The falling off of the import of sugar is solely due to the remarkable progress made by the Indian sugar industry. India, which was until recently a great sugar importing country, is now in a position to manufacture almost the entire requirement for the home market. Though our revenue has suffered seriously on account of this factor, we must rejoice that an industry of such magnitude has been built up so successfully

in our country within so short a time. The disappearance of the import of foreign sugar in the Port of Cochin should now be taken as a permanent and normal feature and not merely a temporary one. It will be seen that if we had received as our share of the customs revenue the normal amount of Rs. 20 lakhs for which we had budgetted, our revised estimate for the current year would disclose a surplus of Rs. 3·82 lakhs instead of a deficit as it has turned out to be. Our deficit for the current year would have been much greater but for the unexpected receipts under certain other items. Two of the major items that helped us to tide over the difficulty are: the receipt of Rs. 3·37 lakhs from the Harbour Authorities as royalty on a portion of the Reclamation ground, and an increase under income-tax. I shall explain later on the transaction relating to the royalty paid by the Harbour Authorities. Under income-tax, while we budgetted for only Rs. 3·55 lakhs, we expect to realise Rs. 6·60 lakhs during the current year. The increase is largely due to a stricter application of the income-tax law and to certain changes in the mode of assessment. Though according to the revised estimate for 1113 a deficit of Rs. 2·71 lakhs is anticipated, I am hoping that the year will actually end in a substantial surplus. We are carrying on negotiations with the Government of India regarding the sale of a portion of the Reclamation ground to the Port Authority and if this transaction is completed we would be getting in the current year on the revenue side Rs. 5·92 lakhs representing interest on our capital and royalty. This receipt if it materialises would enable us to close the account for 1113 with a surplus of Rs. 3·21 lakhs. Later on in my speech I shall give a fuller explanation of the details relating to this transaction.

BUDGET ESTIMATE FOR 1114.

4. For the coming year 1114 M. E., we have budgetted for a receipt of Rs. 104·87 lakhs. The customs revenue is expected to yield Rs. 23½ lakhs as against a normal revenue of Rs. 20 lakhs and the actual realisation of Rs. 13·47 lakhs in 1113. The increased receipt under customs is entirely due to a change in the classification of duties which the Government of India had to adopt as a result of the coming into operation of the Government of India Act of 1935. Honourable Members may know that Burma has now been separated from India and it is no longer a Province of British India. While Burma was a part of British India, all the petrol and kerosene oil that we received from that country was assessed to excise duties. Though Burma has now been separated we still get the mineral oils from that country. But Burma being now a foreign country the duties on the imported oils have to be classified under customs duty and we become entitled to a share of the duties collected on the oils imported through the Cochin Port. The customs duty collected on mineral oils imported through the Cochin Port comes to over Rs. 53 lakhs, and the increase in our share is due entirely to this factor. But for this extraneous circumstance we would have been faced with a very serious problem in balancing our budget. Without bringing the duty on the oils in the customs pool our share of the customs duty would have been reduced to about Rs. 13½ lakhs per year as against the normal expectation of Rs. 20 lakhs and we would have had to face the problem of making good a deficit of Rs. 6½ lakhs per year. Luckily for us, this serious position has been averted and we may now safely assume that our share of the customs revenue from the next year onwards will not be below Rs. 23½ lakhs per year.

We have augmented our resources still further by the imposition of a super-tax from next year onwards. This is expected to bring in a net annual revenue of about Rs. 1 lakh. From the Bill that will be introduced during this session it will be found that the burden of the super-tax would not be seriously felt. We propose to levy super-tax on the income of companies which is over Rs. 50,000 per year, and in the case of private individuals the excess income over Rs. 75,000 will be liable for taxation. As a result of careful investigation it has been found that most of the companies and individuals that will have to pay the super-tax would get a corresponding refund from the Government of India and the Cochin Government in accordance with the reciprocal arrangement for the relief against double taxation. The tendency of all modern Governments is to levy the maximum amount of tax on the richer classes who can afford to bear the burden and I have no doubt that this Council would welcome the step that we have taken in this direction.

5. We have budgetted for an expenditure of Rs. 101.47 lakhs for the coming year. A close scrutiny of the budget will disclose that considerable economies have been effected in the merely spending departments and increased provision has been made for the departments under the control of the Minister and for the Medical and the Education Departments. A special grant of Rs. 20,000 has been placed at the disposal of the Minister for Rural Development work, besides a provision of Rs. 17,500 for the Rural Development Centre which has been recently started at Cherpu. In my last budget speech I had indicated the steps that we were taking for opening a Rural Development Centre. A Rural Development Officer has now been appointed and a Centre has been established at Cherpu. It is in the fitness of things that with the creation of a Ministry for Rural Development there should be a special Rural Development Officer. It is my intention that this officer would be an expert adviser to the Minister in all matters relating to problems of rural development and that he would also bring about full co-ordination amongst the activities of the various departments which cater to the needs of the rural population. Besides undertaking schemes of amelioration and development in rural areas, the Rural Development Centre will aim at training a band of young men for this kind of work and also serve as a place of demonstration in rural development activities. Under the Medical Budget we have provided Rs. 68,000 more than the revised estimate figures. Out of this increased provision, Rs. 25,000 has been earmarked for the contribution to the Anti-Tuberculosis Fund started by Her Excellency Lady Linlithgow. Ninety-five per cent of this contribution will come back to us for expenditure in the State itself and it is my earnest hope that this will form the nucleus of a fund for fighting the ravages of this terrible disease. Besides these increased grants, we have made liberal provisions under the Education Department also. The increased grant of Rs. 69,000 under this head is intended partly for aiding the primary classes which have been opened since the year 1110. There is a steady increase every year in the number of divisions in the primary classes of the State. The problem of providing funds year after year for this inevitable and welcome growth will have to be faced seriously by the Government and this Council. From the experience of the last few years I find that we would have to make provision every year for an increase of 3,000 to 4,000 children in the primary classes. If all the classes are to be aided, we must find every year an additional amount of about Rs. 20,000 to

Rs. 25,000 for this item alone in the Education Budget. Government are placing this subject shortly for the consideration of the Education Advisory Committee and I hope that later on, after the deliberations of the Committee are over, we would have a useful discussion on the subject on the floor of this House.

RETRENCHMENT

6. Simultaneously with the increased provision for the nation-building departments we have brought about considerable retrenchment in expenditure in the other departments. In my last budget speech I had mentioned that strict control is being exercised over public expenditure. This control has already borne fruit. A very substantial reduction has been effected under "Stamps, Stationery and Printing". For the last thirty years, our anchal stamps and judicial and revenue stamp papers were got printed from England. Arrangements have now been made for printing all these in India. The extent of saving that has been effected under this one item alone can be realised from the fact that a contract which according to the rates of the English manufacturers would have come to Rs. 97,000 has been settled in India for Rs. 45,000, thus effecting a saving of Rs. 52,000. The annual recurring saving under this item would be not less than Rs. 25,000. The Government Press has been in a most chaotic condition. Two experts were got down for examining the working of the Press and, as a result of the recommendations of these experts and the consequent re-organisation, it is expected that a saving of not less than Rs. 17,000 would be effected in the working of the Press for 1114, and that an annual saving of not less than Rs. 20,000 would be effected when the re-organisation is complete. The rules relating to the supply of stationery and the Government Gazette have been revised with the result that the savings under these items would be not less than Rs. 5,000 per annum. Another item of expenditure on which considerable saving has been effected is the Sirkar Stables. An annual saving of Rs. 12,000 would be secured by the re-organisation that has recently been ordered. Honourable Members must note that all these savings to which I have drawn attention are not merely savings effected in one particular year but annual recurring savings. The quest for economy and retrenchment will be pursued still further and every effort will be made to keep down the expenditure within reasonable limits. From the foregoing figures it will be observed that the Budget Estimate for 1114 shows a surplus of Rs. 3.40 lakhs. Last year I mentioned that in my opinion it will be prudent to prepare our annual budget with a margin of at least Rs. 3 lakhs. The surplus of Rs. 3.4 lakhs anticipated for 1114 would afford a safe margin.

THE COCHIN HARBOUR

7. All the works in connection with the fourth and final stage of the Harbour are progressing satisfactorily. Practically the whole of the capital dredging and the reclamation have been completed. Only the dredging at the wharf site remains. The new bucket dredging plants have arrived and the vessels were put in commission after satisfactory trials. The construction of the ships' wharf is proceeding satisfactorily. One thousand and four hundred feet of steel sheet piles have been driven and the construction of the anchor wall is proceeding apace. The first consignment of electric cargo-handling cranes is expected to arrive from England

shortly and their erection will be undertaken soon after. The construction of the warehouse at the wharf has just been commenced and the foundation piles have been driven. The Administration Block of buildings to accommodate all the offices of the port have been completed and occupied in February 1938. The power house at the Willingdon Island has been completed and three generating sets with a combined maximum output of 500 K. W. have been installed. With the extension of the pipeline from Ernakulam to Mattancheri, Willingdon Island will get a plentiful supply of fresh water from this source and the piping for the water main which will take off from the State's water main to Mattancheri is being laid. The construction of the rail and road bridge between Ernakulam and Vendurutti which is a major work in connection with the fourth stage has made satisfactory progress. The screwing of cylinder foundation has been completed and six of the spans have been erected. The embankment for the rail and road bridge across Vendurutti has been formed and the minor bridges over the principal pathway and across the main drainage canal have been finished. A major part of the material for the harbour railway has been acquired and over $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles of tract laid. On the Ernakulam side the diversion from Edapilly is making satisfactory progress. It is expected that the rail and road bridge between Ernakulam and Vendurutti would be finished by March 1939 and the railway construction completed by January 1940. The warehouse, the ships' wharf and the erection of the electric cranes at the wharf will all be completed before March 1939. The total estimated cost of the fourth stage works is Rs. 92.23 lakhs. Out of this amount about Rs. 53½ lakhs have been spent up to the end of March 1938. In addition to this Rs. 20 lakhs has also been spent on the purchase of a new dredger for the port. This Government's share in the cost of the fourth stage works is approximately Rs. 61.48 lakhs. Towards this liability we have so far paid about Rs. 43.80 lakhs, thus leaving about Rs. 17½ lakhs to be paid by us in the course of the next two years. In addition we have already paid Rs. 13½ lakhs, being our share of the cost of the new dredger. So far as our advance for the dredger is concerned, the Harbour Authority is bound to repay the amount to us with interest at 4 per cent per annum in 20 equated annual instalments. Repayment has already commenced. The advance for the fourth stage works will, as Honourable Members are already aware, be paid in equated instalments over a period of 30 years with interest at 5 per cent per annum beginning from 1946.

THE TRADE OF THE PORT

8. The trade of the port continues to be satisfactory except for the drop in the import of sugar to which I have already made reference. For the year ending 31st March 1938 the total tonnage of trade was 780,500 tons made up of 151,700 tons of exports and 628,800 tons of imports. Striking variations from the averages of the previous three years are noticeable in a drop of 63,000 tons in grains and pulse, 10,000 tons in coal and sugar and an advance of 28,000 tons in mineral oils, 7,000 tons in machinery, 15,000 tons in other imports and an advance of 14,000 tons in export including 7,000 tons of cashew nuts and kernels. On the whole the total trade during the year was only 23,000 tons less than the average of the previous three years and this is largely accounted for by the heavy decline in imports of grains from Burma and the complete cessation of the import of broken rice from Siam owing largely to better crops in South India and the imposition of a duty on broken

rice. The total number of steamships that entered the harbour during the year was 695 as against 774 in the previous year.

9. One factor which threatened to be a serious menace for the trade of the port during the year under review was the outbreak of plague at Mattancheri. Frequent outbreaks of plague in this area would be a very serious menace to the trade of the port as Mattancheri is a large grain centre and is particularly liable to infection. The importance of preserving Cochin's role as a rice depot for South India has drawn the attention of the Government and the Port Authority forcibly to the question of taking adequate measures to minimise if not to eradicate the outbreak of plague. It was considered by the Harbour Authority that the time was ripe for building modern rat-proof granaries on the Willingdon Island to deal with at least a part of the grain trade of the port. It is well known that to exclude rats granaries should be of substantial build and should have rat-proof floors in addition to being guarded properly and equipped with up-to-date fumigating appliances. The Port Authority thought that the erection of such modern granaries on the Willingdon Island together with the necessary shallow wharfage and equipment is necessary for preserving the grain trade of the port. The proposal, however, was viewed with suspicion and some amount of alarm by the merchants and the Chambers of Commerce as in their opinion such a course might cause serious inconvenience to the grain trade. With a view to meet the objections of the mercantile community an alternative scheme is being examined. The scheme involves a shallow reclamation and wharf, the demolition of the existing property between the water front and the Mattancheri bazaar road for a length of 2,400 ft. and the raising of the level of the ground by about 3 ft. to admit of proper drainage and the construction of new business premises together with the widening of the existing road. The scheme is expected to cost approximately Rs. 18 lakhs apart from the expenses of acquiring the necessary land. The execution of the scheme if finally undertaken would be spread over a period of years. The materialisation of such a scheme would not merely prove to be the greatest safeguard for the trade of the port, but also result in the much needed town improvement to Mattancheri. The scheme, however, is so vast in magnitude that it will not be possible to undertake it without the willing co-operation and support of the public and especially of the mercantile community. For a better appreciation of the financial implication of this comprehensive project plans and estimates are now under preparation. When the scheme is fully ready we expect to discuss the matter with all the interests concerned and then take a final decision.

TWO TRANSACTIONS

10. I shall now briefly refer to the two transactions with the Harbour Authorities about which reference was made in the earlier part of my speech. In the current year we have received Rs. 3.37 lakhs as royalty on a portion of the Reclamation ground. This Reclamation ground comprising 337 acres was formed from the annual maintenance dredging operations of the Port Authorities. The reclaimed area is contiguous with the Willingdon Island. The Cochin Government has not incurred any expenditure on this reclamation which was done entirely at the cost of

the Port Authorities. This is the only portion of the Island the ownership of which had not been settled so far. We allowed the Port Authorities to exercise full rights of ownership over this area on payment of a royalty at the rate of Rs. 1,000 per acre. The amount of Rs. 3.37 lakhs referred to relates to this item. It has been made clear that the exercise of the rights of ownership over this area by the Port Authorities will be subject to the sovereignty and jurisdiction of His Highness the Maharaja. The other transaction referred to relates to the negotiations that are going on between the Governments of India and Cochin about 150 acres on the Willingdon Island. A reference to the first speech that I delivered in this Council in 1935 would enable Honourable Members to understand the terms and conditions on which the original 250 acres of the Willingdon Island were reclaimed. Reclamation of this area was undertaken at the cost of the Cochin Government which paid Rs. 37½ lakhs for this work. One hundred acres of this area which has cost us Rs. 15 lakhs is already in the possession of the Harbour Authorities, and we are getting an annual rental of Rs. 75,000 for this area. Though the terms of occupation of the remaining 150 acres have been settled we have not yet received a single pie of return on the investment of Rs. 22½ lakhs. As a result of a close examination of this question I came to the conclusion that it will be difficult to say when exactly the Harbour Authorities will be in a position to give us an adequate return on this big capital outlay. Taking all the factors into consideration the Cochin Government made an offer to sell this area to the Port Authority at an amount equivalent to the actual cost price of Rs. 22½ lakhs, plus interest at 3 per cent per annum on this amount from the date when the first instalment was paid by the Cochin Government, plus a royalty of Rs. 1½ lakhs per acre. The negotiations relating to the transaction are now nearing completion and we expect to get from the Port Authority Rs. 28.42 lakhs on this account. This arrangement will enable us to reduce our commitments on the Harbour works to the extent of Rs. 28.42 lakhs, and will also be of real advantage to the Port Authorities. As we have the greatest financial stake in the Port it is to our interest to do everything to maintain the financial solvency of the Port, and from this point of view the arrangement is one which is beneficial to both the parties. If the scheme finally comes through, the Government of India will lend this amount to the Port Authorities in order to enable the latter to pay the purchase money to the Cochin Government. As in the case of the other areas comprised within the port limits, this sale also will be subject to the sovereignty and jurisdiction of His Highness over this land.

COMMUNICATIONS

11. The work on the two big schemes of waterway communications, namely the Appankat Canal at Narakkal and the Shanmukham Canal at Irinjalakuda has been undertaken during the current year. The land acquisition for the former work has been completed, and according to the original understanding arrangements are being made with the people to secure their co-operation for digging the canal. An estimate amounting to Rs. 1.80 lakhs has been sanctioned for the construction of the Shanmukham Canal. The land acquisition proceedings are going on briskly. An understanding has been reached with the Irinjalakuda Municipality by which the Council has agreed to guarantee a minimum return of 4 per cent on the capital invested on this scheme, and in return the Municipality would share in the excess profits of the undertaking. It is confidently hoped that the construction of this

canal will materially increase the prosperity of Irinjalakuda as a commercial centre and will also bring in a substantial additional revenue to the Municipality. I mentioned in my last budget speech that the proposal for constructing a road to serve as an outlet for the Anamallais Plantation was under contemplation. Though a detailed survey was made and estimates prepared the work has been abandoned for the present. Government found that it would not be safe to undertake this work at a cost of over Rs. 8 lakhs without adequate guarantees from the interests concerned. As it was found that the guarantees were not forthcoming Government have decided to abandon the scheme for the present.

WATER SUPPLY

12. The most memorable work in connection with the extension of water supply is the work of taking a submerged pipe-line across the backwaters to Mattancheri. This work has been completed at a cost of Rs. 1'67 lakhs. From the technical point of view the work is of a unique kind. The extension of the pipe-line to Mattancheri will supply a long-felt need of the town for an adequate supply of fresh water. The harbour and British Cochin will also be benefited by this work. We have been supplying fresh water for harbour purposes and for ships by means of barges which transported the water from Ernakulam across the backwaters. This was found to be a very costly and unsatisfactory method. With the extension of the pipe-line to Mattancheri supply to the harbour will be made directly from the State main, and the Harbour Authorities have already undertaken the work of laying their distribution system. As a result of representations made, the Cochin Government have now agreed to supply a maximum quantity of one lakh of gallons per day of fresh water to the inhabitants of the British Cochin Municipality. The terms on which this supply is to be given have now been finally settled. British Cochin may look forward at an early date to a supply of fresh water for domestic purposes. The arrangements with the Travancore Government with regard to our taking a supply of water from the Alwaye River which have been pending for many years have now been satisfactorily settled. We have agreed to pay a royalty of Rs. 100 per annum for the off-take of nine lakhs of gallons of water per day, and we are permitted to take a further nine lakhs of gallons per day on the payment of a further royalty to be agreed upon mutually by the parties. This brings to a satisfactory close an affair which has been pending for many years.

13. The problem of an adequate water supply to the town of Trichur has engaged the earnest attention of the Government for some time. A scheme was prepared during the year under review and the concurrence of the Trichur Municipality was asked for putting the scheme into execution. Unfortunately the Municipal Council of Trichur have not yet satisfied the Government about the financing of this scheme. In view of the large demands on the funds of the Government it is not possible to start a scheme of this kind unless the financial burden is undertaken by the Municipality concerned. It is only when Government are satisfied that the Municipality in question is unable to bear such a burden that Government would step in with a contribution for the works. In the execution of the Trichur water supply scheme, Government are satisfied that the Municipality is in a position to undertake the financial responsibility if only the Council will levy a reasonable rate of water tax. The Council has so far shown a reluctance to undertake this

responsibility. Government must make it clear that the problem of water supply to Trichur rests now entirely with the Municipal Council and that Government have done all that they are expected to do in this matter.

SCHEMES OF DEVELOPMENT

14. The electrification of Nemmara has been completed at a cost of Rs. 40,000 and power is now available in the rural area round that place. Work in connection with the electrification of Chittur is now under progress and the scheme will be finished during next year at an estimated cost of Rs. 68,000. The Government Stone-ware Works at Chalakudi has been re-organised and the service of a Pottery Expert has now been secured at a very much cheaper cost. In spite of this re-organisation the results of its working are far from satisfactory. Apart from the difficulty experienced in selling the products, the unsatisfactory results are partly due to the inherent weakness of a business concern directly managed by Government. As one who has had the advantage of studying the results of Government managed industrial concerns and similar concerns privately managed I have no doubt in my mind that a Government managed concern has some inherent weaknesses which very often make success almost impossible. There is no doubt a great deal to be said for public ownership and State management of certain public utility undertakings. But, ordinarily, industry and business thrive most satisfactorily under private management. Government would be prepared to consider any reasonable scheme for the taking over of the Stone-ware Works by a company incorporated in the State. The Cochin Textiles, Limited, which started under the patronage of Government has commenced production and it is the means of providing employment to hundreds of people in and around the Amballur village.

15. Recently there was a strike of the workmen of the Cochin Textiles, Limited, which happily has been settled amicably. I must here give a word of warning to employers and workmen alike about the potential danger that threatens the smooth development of industrial activities in India. The rapid industrialisation of the country has brought in its train industrial unrest which has manifested itself in the form of strikes and lock-outs. While the right of labour for collective bargaining and their right to resort to strike as the ultimate sanction have been recognised by all, the leaders of the labour movement should show a proper appreciation of the dangers to industrial development which may arise out of frequent strikes. The proverbial shyness of Indian capital is well known and it is only during the last two decades that the investing public in India have come forward to show their interest in industrial enterprises. Industrial unrest will have the unfortunate effect of creating nervousness amongst the investors and handicap further industrial expansion in this country. I do not mean to suggest that the working classes should not claim their legitimate rights in respect of conditions of work and rates of wages. I have given practical proof of my sympathy towards the working classes by having our factory legislation remodelled on more up-to-date lines. A further tangible proof of this sympathy has been shown in the recognition of the right of the labourers for representation in this Council. My appeal is to employers and workmen alike. While employers must realise that contentment amongst the workmen is in itself a valuable asset to any industrial concern, the workmen must realise in an equal measure that they should co-operate in the building up of industries in our country,

especially in the earlier stages of development. Such a mutual appreciation will alone result in the orderly growth of industry.

16. An investigation was undertaken about the possibilities of starting a paper industry and thereby utilise our own forest produce. After very careful investigation we have come to the conclusion that the resources available at present in our forest area are not sufficient for maintaining a paper factory on an economical basis. The scheme has therefore been dropped. Not long ago, speaking at another place, I said that after studying the conditions of this State I am inclined to think that there is not much scope for the expansion of large scale industries. We have therefore to concentrate attention on the development of industries of smaller scale. The development of cottage industries has been entrusted to the charge of the Minister and I hope that with his intimate contact with the rural life he would be in a position to evolve schemes for promoting various cottage industries in the State. While Government would be prepared to help in the starting of industries, there should be on the part of those interested in industrial development a proper appreciation of the limits within which alone State help could be made available. I am not a believer in the State subsidising any industry. Apart from my belief, the resources of this Government will not permit the grant of any subsidy worth mentioning to any industry. While Government would be prepared to help in the initial stages with advice, the grant of facilities and the grant of credits at cheap rates, an industrial concern must depend mainly in all its stages on itself. State help and an appeal to the enthusiasm and patriotism of the people will not by themselves help the promoters of a concern to run it on successful lines. The success of an undertaking must ultimately depend upon efficiency and sound business principles.

CONCLUSION

17. The review of the year's activities that I have made would go to show that every attempt is being made by the Government to maintain the financial solvency of the State and to promote the prosperity of the people. We commence our work in this session with new hopes and aspirations. In previous years a great deal of the time of this Council was taken up in discussions on constitutional reforms. Now that this problem has been satisfactorily settled at least for the time being, let us hope that the Council will devote greater attention to the more difficult problems of daily administration. The new Minister will require in his task the sympathy and co-operation of every one inside this Council and outside. If the good-will expressed on all sides already is a measure of the co-operation that he may expect, we can confidently look forward in the coming years to greater prosperity and contentment amongst the people of this State.



