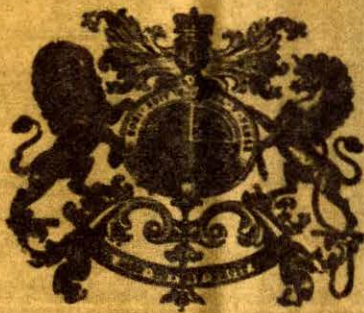


REPORT

ON

THE ADMINISTRATION OF BURMA

FOR THE YEAR 1904-05.



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REPORT
ON
THE ADMINISTRATION OF BURMA
FOR THE YEAR 1904-05.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

The references from which this report has been compiled are indicated at the ^{Introductory} head of each Chapter in Part II. The departmental reports refer to varying periods. The records of Revenue, Land Records and Forest administration and the Season and Crop Report are for the agricultural year ending the 30th June 1905. Police, Judicial, Jail and Sanitary affairs are dealt with for the calendar year 1904. The record of other matters is for the official year ending the 31st March 1905. Certain items of standing information are omitted. They are recorded in the Administration Report for 1901-02, where, as in this report, the headings are distinguished by red letters.

2. Sir Hugh Barnes, K.C.S.I., K.C.V.O., held charge of the administration <sup>The Admin-
istration.</sup> throughout the year. With the exception of unimportant modifications of certain district and township boundaries, the constitution of a new subdivision and the addition of a new township, the territorial units of Civil Administration remained unaltered. Important changes were, however, made in the administration of justice by the formation, at the close of the year, of separate Judicial Services in Lower Burma, whereby the Commissioners of four divisions and the Deputy Commissioners of thirteen districts were relieved, wholly or in part, of their judicial duties, and the pay and prospects of subordinate Judges were improved.

3. In the <sup>Southern
Shan States</sup> Southern Shan States there were no untoward border incidents to check the steady progress of good government and material welfare. The Political Officers had however to deal with individual cases of inept or despotic conduct among the Chiefs, and a thorough enquiry was held into the causes of the popular discontent which had threatened the peace of Yawnghwe State. A successful and well-attended durbar was held by Sir Hugh Barnes in March, and was followed by a cattle show and an exhibition of arts and crafts, which served to illustrate the great resources of the country, and the need of a railway to extend its markets. The replacement of the military garrison by Military Police was completed, internal communications improved, and the principles of the revenue system embodied in a simple Code of Rules. There was no serious increase of crime. A dangerous gang of robbers was successfully dispersed by one of the Chiefs, and the

leader killed. The school for the sons of Shan Chiefs continued to flourish and measures were taken for the improvement of indigenous schools. Agricultural conditions were favourable, and tribute and taxes were paid for the most part without difficulty.

Northern
Shan States.

4. The complete tranquillity of the Northern Shan States was only threatened by an abortive rising under a religious fanatic, who, with many of his followers, was killed by the Military Police. The satisfaction of border claims was again obtained by meetings with the Chinese authorities, and this method of adjustment was extended to the ill-administered state of Mêng Ting. Partial failures of the staple food crops were counterbalanced by the facilities for trade afforded by the railway, to which, also, are to be traced a large increase of crime among the alien population and the more frequent resort to the Civil Courts. The tea crop was abundant and commanded good prices. The work of the Police was satisfactory, and nearly all serious cases were brought to light. Fiscal independence was still withheld from the Acting Chief of Hsipaw pending the liquidation of his debts, and an Adviser was appointed to reduce to order the financial chaos produced by similar extravagance in Tawngpeng. The rate of tribute in the Kachin tracts was raised and the demand paid without difficulty. Expert assistance was obtained from Burma for the supervision of the extensive public works undertaken by the Chiefs, and similar action towards the furtherance of education is contemplated.

The petty States of Hsawngsup and Singkaling Hkamti were quiet and prosperous. In both of them, and in Mông Mit, which was still administered under Government control, an abundant rainfall produced an excellent harvest.

The Chin
Hills.

5. Raids by trans-frontier villages continued to interrupt the peace of the Chin Hills, but the development of the people made remarkable progress. The resentment caused by the unprovoked attacks from across the border did not assume an active form, and the peaceful resort of the Chins to the plains continued unchecked. In the Pakòkku tract a shortage of crops caused some anxiety, but good relations were maintained with trans-frontier villages with the help of the Chin Police, who have almost entirely replaced the Military Police force. The Piya Chins on the Upper Chindwin border made their submission and the blockade, which had been enforced against them, was removed.

Kachin
Hills.

6. Regard for administrative efficiency necessitated the constitution of a new charge in the Kachin Hill tracts of the Myitkyina district. Border cases with China were adjusted satisfactorily with the help of the Chinese officials and the Consular authorities at Yünnan-Fü and Têngyüeh to whom this government is much indebted for cordial assistance on all occasions. A brutal murder, ascribed to Kachins from across the pale, was a symptom of unsettled conditions to the north. The internal administration of the Hills was uneventful, crime was light, and tribute was collected without difficulty in spite of an indifferent harvest. The output of jade increased enormously, and the Hukawng Valley sent in large quantities of amber and rubber. Fourteen trans-frontier Chiefs paid a visit to the Deputy Commissioner at Myitkyina, at which border affairs were discussed, and the opium policy, which has been the cause of some irritation across the border, was explained.

7. The material prosperity of the people continued to improve. The rice crop was below normal, but prices were good and in spite of a somewhat capricious rainfall there was no check to the steady extension of cultivation. Condition of the people.

8. Owing to an indifferent season, both remissions and outstandings of land revenue were heavier than in the previous year. The former amounted to Rs. 2,90,414 and the latter to Rs. 70,725, but the collections were nearly 14½ lakhs in excess of 1903-04. The same cause operated to enhance the difficulties of collection in the case of fishery revenue, of which Rs. 41,436 or 1·4 per cent. of the net demand (including arrears from the previous year) remained outstanding at the close of the year. The outstandings of water-rate, capitation-tax and *thathameda* were trifling, the collections amounting to Rs. 31,665, Rs. 49,84,819 and Rs. 48,63,120 respectively. Resort was had to the same process for the recovery of Rs. 11,15,107 of revenue, of which 86 per cent. was realised. Process was directed against immoveable property in a large number of cases, warrants of attachment being 30 per cent. and actual sales 39 per cent. more numerous than in the previous year, but arrests of the person were less than half as frequent. Realisation of the revenue.

9. Three hundred and sixty-five square miles in the Pakòkku district and nine hundred and eleven square miles in Thayetmyo besides smaller areas in Katha, Mergui and Mandalay, were demarcated with a view to survey. The Survey of India party (No. 7) made good progress in the first-named district and completed the large scale survey of the extensions of the Rangoon Municipality. Revision surveys were carried out by local agency over an area of 972 square miles of country, exclusive of the work on island cultivation which is undertaken annually, the work being either preliminary to settlement or the necessary result of rapid extensions of cultivation, and local parties executed original surveys in Katha and Tavoy over an area of 139 square miles for settlement purposes. The towns of Maymyo, Pegu and Tavoy were mapped on a large scale. Surveys.

10. The settlement of portions of the Hanthawaddy, Prome and Tharrawaddy districts was completed during the year, and the rates notified. The original settlement parties operating in Katha, Shwebo and Tavoy completed their field work, and work was commenced in the Mandalay Canal tract. In the Myaungmya district rates were revised and published, and revision operations were pushed forward in the adjoining district of Ma-ubin, while the reports for Kyaukse and Mandalay were completed, and work commenced in Minbu. Summary settlements were effected in Kyaukpyu and Meiktila. The two settlements which received the orders of Government resulted in enhancements in the revenue demand of 50 per cent. and 37 per cent., respectively, and cost four annas or less per acre. Settlements.

11. The system of annual correction of cadastral maps was extended over an area of 918 square miles, and is now employed in the assessment of nearly 240 lakhs of rupees of revenue. The cost of the Land Records Department, which was strengthened during the year, amounted to Rs. 23·8 per square mile of cultivation and 4·25 per cent. of the revenue assessment, the latter being 1½ lakhs in excess of the previous year. There was a falling off in the attendance at Government survey schools owing to the raising of the educational test for admittance. Land records.

Transfer of land.

12. The average sale price of land rose from Rs. 34 to Rs. 38 per acre. Speculation was rife in two districts, but on the whole sales were less frequent than in the previous year, as the chetties were reluctant to advance money to intending purchasers except at exorbitant interest. On the other hand land was very extensively mortgaged to cover losses inflicted by cattle disease, the area under mortgage at the end of the year being over ten lakhs of acres.

Waste lands.

13. In the Pegu Division the issue of grants for the cultivation of waste land was suspended, and elsewhere applications were less numerous. Progress was made with the disposal of long standing cases in Lower Burma, and there was a strong demand for land in the new district of Pyapón, but the whole area granted or leased was 123,00 acres less than in the previous year, applications in the Upper Province being mainly confined to the tracts under the Mandalay and Shwebo canal systems. The area granted free of revenue included, in Upper Burma, land assigned to headmen as an appanage of their office, and amounted to 779 acres.

Land holders and tenancies.

(14. Eighty-six per cent. of the occupied area was held by agriculturists, the proportion being slightly higher than in the previous year. Local failures of crops induced non-resident landlords to sell some of their holdings in Thatón, which mostly passed into the hands of resident non-agriculturists. The area occupied by the latter class increased from 622,651 to 695,394 acres.)

The average tenancy rent was Rs. 9.78 per acre and was paid on an area of 2,226,630 acres, both figures being considerably higher than in the previous year.

Legislation.

15. The undermentioned Acts were passed by the Legislative Council during the year :—

I of 1904, The Rangoon Police Act Amendment Act.

II of 1904, The Burma Towns and Village Laws Amendment Act.

III of 1904, The Burma Excise Law Amendment Act.

Four important Bills were introduced in the Council and were enacted after the close of the calendar year. The subjects dealt with by these enactments are the amendment of the Gambling Law, the administration and management of canals, the revision and consolidation of the law relating to fisheries, and the administration of the affairs of the Port of Rangoon.

Portions of the Municipal Law of Burma were extended by notification to the Shan States and provision was made for the municipal administration of Lashio.)

Police.

16. The conduct and discipline of the police force was on the whole satisfactory, but the year was distinguished by an increase of crime in several of its more serious phases both in Rangoon and in the more populous districts of Lower Burma, and by the failure of the police to deal with it adequately. It is hoped that the reforms about to be introduced will result in substantial improvement both in the prevention and detection of crime. In the simpler forms of theft, in excise and opium cases and in violent crimes a somewhat more satisfactory degree of success was attained by the police, and there were not lacking instances of real detective ability in important cases, such as that which brought to justice the chief actor in a brutal murder committed in a railway carriage. (Another murderer paid the penalty of a crime ten years old. Headmen and villagers gave effective

co-operation and on occasions displayed signal address and courage in attacking dacoits. The surveillance of criminals was more complete in Rangoon than in the outlying districts, where many habituais have evaded attention. Punitive police were employed in four cases.)

The policy of developing the military instincts of the indigenous races was extended by the enlistment of 50 Shans in the Military Police, the strength of which was increased by seven companies for service in the Southern Shan States.

17. The constitution of the courts was unaltered, but relief was afforded by the appointment of a temporary Additional Sessions Judge and several additional magistrates. The increase of 6,000 in the number of cases instituted in the courts, though mainly due to the enforcement of Municipal bye-laws and minor enactments, included a large number of prosecutions for grievous hurt, and the percentage of convictions deteriorated both in regular cases and in proceedings for bad livelihood. The delegation of enhanced powers to subordinate Magistrates relieved some of the Sessions Courts, but the Sessions business of the Chief Court almost doubled. (Long terms of imprisonment and transportations were more numerous than in the previous year, and a larger number of petty cases were met by the imposition of a fine or by the demand of security for good behaviour, while whipping was more sparingly inflicted. Increased resort was made to the Appellate Courts, and the percentage of non-interference was remarkably low in parts of Lower Burma.) A very large number of cases were scrutinized on revision. Five thousand one hundred and twenty-four persons were pending trial at the close of the year. Criminal justice.

18. The number of Central and District Jails remained the same as in the previous year, and the existing accommodation was adjusted to growing needs without difficulty. The number of admissions and the daily average of prisoners were greater than in the previous two years. Five out of seven prisoners who escaped were recaptured. Discipline improved, more than half of the major offences being committed by habitual criminals.) Murderous assaults were committed on jail officials at Insein and Mandalay, but there was no general outbreak. Anticipatory purchases and a growing jail population raised the total expenditure, but the net cost of each prisoner to the State was reduced by economical management. The profits from manufactures were the highest on record, and the jail gardens realised a profit on surplus vegetables sold to the public. The health of the prisoners was generally good. There were fewer admissions and daily sick in hospital than in the previous year, but the death rate was slightly higher owing to the occurrence of cholera and dysentery at Mandalay. Prisons.

19. The introduction of the separate judicial services did not take place till after the close of the year, but the growing volume of litigation necessitated the appointment of a few Additional Judges. The increase in the number of original suits, which was most remarkable in the Delta districts of Lower Burma, was responsible for a heavy list of pending cases, but the duration of decided cases was shorter than in the previous year. The great majority of the new cases were suits for the recovery of money or moveable property in the Township Courts, but there was a notable rise in mortgage suits. Both are attributable to the normal growth of trade and population. Many cases of high value were instituted in the Chief Court and in the District Courts. Applications for execution of decrees were 2,000 Civil justice.

in excess of the previous year and a smaller proportion was infructuous, though the total amount realised shewed a decrease. The growth of original litigation did not materially affect the number of appeals, except in the Chief Court, and there was little change in the degree of interference exercised, which was highest in the Divisional Courts of Lower Burma. Fewer inspections were performed by the Judges of the Chief Court, but the Judges of Divisional and District Courts found time for more than usual. Improvements were effected in the accommodation of the Courts and in the management of court libraries and record-rooms.

Registration.

20. The Registration law underwent no change during the year, but the forms were further simplified and the rules adapted to local requirements. Forty-four thousand three hundred and eighty-one transactions were registered in 145 offices and the aggregate value of the documents was Rs. 8,21,05,739. The main features of the year were the rise in the value of land, especially near Rangoon, and the tendency of outright sales to displace mortgages of agricultural holdings in parts of Upper Burma. The net receipts from registration amounted to Rs. 1,23,231, the increase of expenditure being proportionately greater than that of receipts owing to increases in the pay of clerks and in the staff of the Rangoon Office.

Municipal
Adminis-
tration.

21. The ordinary income of the Rangoon Municipality rose by nearly a lakh of rupees, and the incidence of taxation per head of population by 7 annas 3 pies. The ordinary expenditure was more than Rs. 3,80,000 in excess of the previous year, chiefly owing to the greater cost of works on account of public health and convenience. (A loan of two lakhs was raised for reclamation works, for which a separate banking account was opened, and Rs. 11,20,500 were borrowed for other purposes, the greater part being needed for the completion of the Hlawga water-works, which were formally opened by the Lieutenant-Governor in February 1905.) The transfer of the control of the Municipal Hospitals to Government was accompanied by the surrender of an annual grant of over two lakhs in lieu of Excise receipts. The ordinary income of the forty minor municipalities amounted to Rs. 26,20,502 and their expenditure to Rs. 29,94,161. The incidence of taxation fell slightly. (New service taxes were introduced in two towns, and in four others new imposts were levied or old ones extended, but the total receipts from Municipal taxation were Rs. 8,500 lower than in the previous year.) On the other hand, there was a large increase in receipts from markets and slaughter houses, and grants and contributions from Government and other sources were more liberal. Heavier expenditure was incurred on public safety, and street lighting was extended in several towns. (Large water-works were completed at Moulmein and Prome, and an important scheme for Akyab has been prepared and is being financed. Experiments were undertaken at Mandalay and smaller projects were pushed forward elsewhere. The drainage systems of several of the large towns were improved and the expenditure on conservancy rose by more than Rs. 28,000. Hospital accommodation was newly provided or improved at several towns and sites for camps were set aside for plague patients. The Electric Tramways at Mandalay were opened and achieved instant success. More money was spent on Education than in the previous year and several Municipal Schools showed satisfactory results.) Two more loans were taken from Government by the Committees of Toungoo and Ma-ubin. The receipts of Town

funds, the number of which was increased by two, were Rs. 4,09,292, and their expenditure amounted to Rs. 3,93,164.

22. The strength of the regular garrison of Burma was 9,311 officers and men, of whom 4,131 were Europeans. The volunteer force numbered 2,294 adults and 279 cadets, of whom 2,396 were efficient. There were also 157 reservists. Rs. 93,515 were earned in grants. Military and Volunteer-ing.

23. The military works undertaken during the year included a house for the Lieutenant-General Commanding at Maymyo and officers' quarters and an artillery mess house in Rangoon. New barracks for native troops were constructed at both stations. The water-supply at Maymyo, Shwebo and Mandalay and the sanitation of the British Infantry lines at Maymyo and Rangoon were improved. An armoury and quarters for the sergeant-instructor of the Upper Burma Volunteers were built at Maymyo. Military Works.

24. The light-houses and light-vessels were regularly visited, and details of all the light-houses have been submitted for the advice of the Trinity House Board. Estimates were prepared for a new structure at Beacon Island. A small light was erected at Mergui harbour, and various wharves in Lower Burma were constructed, extended or repaired. The river steamers of the Royal Indian Marine were fully occupied in the conveyance of troops, stores, and specie, and the flotilla of small vessels was increased by eight to meet growing requirements. The cost of the upkeep of the Provincial Flotilla was Rs. 5,69,639, and its earnings amounted to Rs. 3,65,917. Marine.

25. The income of the Rangoon Port Trust increased by six lakhs, and the expenditure from revenue amounted to Rs. 15,84,759. A debenture loan of 20 lakhs was raised, and good progress was made with the heavy programme of improvements which the Trust has undertaken. Pilotage receipts amounted to Rs. 2,55,720. Heavy expenditure was incurred on precautionary measures against the plague. The income and expenditure of the minor ports were Rs. 3,36,562 and Rs. 3,49,868, respectively. Port Administration.

26. The number of vessels entering and clearing from the port of Rangoon increased from 2,961 to 3,011 and their tonnage from 4,149,409 to 4,701,129. The gross tonnage in the ports of the province was 6,494,358, of which more than one-third represented shipping to or from foreign ports, while 159 vessels sailed under a foreign flag. Commercial Marine.

27. Cattle disease and floods were responsible for exceptionally heavy mortality amongst plough animals, and were coincident in Lower Burma with an unfavourable rainfall, which, though there was no suspicion of scarcity, considerably reduced the surplus paddy available for exportation and therefore the capacity of the people to replace lost stock. The system of inoculation against rinderpest found increased favour with cattle-owners, and the Veterinary staff did much to reduce the dimensions of the calamity. (Five cattle shows were held during the year, but were not entirely successful. A free distribution of agricultural loans mitigated the losses of cultivators, who borrowed four and half lakhs of rupees from Government, and the

concession of fallow rates has been made easier of attainment.) An auspicious commencement was made with the system of Co-operative Credit Societies, by which it is hoped that the people will by their own efforts become independent of the native money-lender. Agricultural prices responded to the shortage in the main crop and the tenacity of speculators, but it is improbable that the people at large reaped any advantage from a market in which Rs. 110 per 100 baskets was paid in May 1905. There were local failures of the *sessamum* crop in Upper Burma, where the season was more than usually favourable to paddy cultivation. (Embankments afforded protection to a smaller area than in the previous year owing to a serious breach in the Henzada district, but irrigation in Upper Burma was considerably more effective, an additional area of over 10,000 acres coming within the range of Government canal systems or private projects.)

Weather and crops.

23. The coincidence of an unfavourable monsoon and a light paddy crop with very large extensions of the cropped area is explained partly by the insistent demands of a growing population, and partly by the fact that the rainfall, which was untimely and capricious in Lower Burma, was unusually well distributed in the Upper Province. Moreover, even in the delta, the commencement of the season was exceptionally hopeful, and the shortcomings of the harvest were the result of excesses and failures in the later months. Five per cent. of the crops sown failed to mature. In some places floods completely stopped agricultural operations, and in others three sowings were necessary to secure an indifferent crop. That the year can show an expansion of cultivation by nearly 600,000 acres is largely due to the rare timeliness and abundance of the rainfall in Upper Burma, and in particular in districts where the paddy crop is ordinarily precarious. The result was seen in a very general substitution of paddy for millet and other crops which are suited by a lighter rainfall. The effect of the favourable season in Shwebo, where 82,000 acres came newly under the plough, affords a happy augury for the time when the new canals will render a large area independent of variations of rainfall.

Horticulture.

29. The site of the Agri-Horticultural Gardens in Rangoon was removed to make room for the new General Hospital, and good progress was made with the equipment of the new gardens. Experimental gardens were maintained in various places in Upper Burma, the Chin Hills and the Southern Shan States, and some success attended the cultivation of fruit and vegetables. Potatoes did well, especially at Launggyi, where, also, oats have survived the experimental stage.

The breeding of silkworms was a failure, but exotic tobacco was successfully grown in some districts. Tea and coffee were planted, the former without results, and the latter with very limited success. Further efforts were made to improve the outturn and quality of cotton by the selection and distribution of indigenous seed.

Forests.

30. An area of 373 square miles was added to the reserved forests of the Province, the cost of completed settlements being Rs. 14,423. The survey of 1,174 square miles was completed by two parties of the Survey of India, besides a large amount of rough survey by local officers, and 479 miles of forest boundaries were demarcated. One working plan was completed for an area of 39 square miles and others, involving 2,700 square miles, were under compilation. The

number of reported forest offences rose, chiefly owing to better supervision, by 28 per cent. There were 88 prosecutions for injuring forests by fire, and incendi- arism was suspected in several other cases. Fires were unusually destructive in Lower Burma owing to the length of the dry season, and protection was only successful in 92 per cent. of the area in which it was attempted. The area of teak *taungya* plantations was largely extended, and protective fences were erected round the rubber plantation, which had suffered from the incursions of wild animals. There was a great expansion in the outturn of timber and fuel, though teak declined. *Pyingado* was extracted in large quantities for railway sleepers, and there was a heavy demand for unreserved timber and fuel. The receipts, which exceeded the expenditure by nearly 74½ lakhs, were swollen by the early sale of timber in the Pegu circle.

31. The output of the oil-fields of Burma increased by 30½ million gallons, and there was a continuance of prospecting work in the main fields, which it is proposed to connect by a pipe-line with Rangoon. Mines and
quarries.

The Burma Ruby Mines Company were slightly less successful in their operations. More ruby earth was treated, but the value of the stones obtained was Rs. 76,000 less than in the previous year. The gold-dredging industry continues to attract enterprise and a number of applications were received during the year. Tin was produced in slightly increased quantities but the coal-fields of the Province are yet to be found. The output of jade was nearly double that of the previous year, though there was delay in commencing work. Marble and steatite were also extracted in small quantities.

32. There was no development of the home industries of the people, which continued to supply the bulk of their own simpler needs, and to supplement rather than to displace the pursuit of agriculture. The growth of the rice-milling trade was maintained, nine new mills being erected during the year. Defects of management or sanitation were brought to light in Rangoon and Bassein, and the necessity of regular inspection was emphasised. The general condition of the operatives was satisfactory. Manu-
factures.

33. The value of the maritime trade of the Province was Rs. 42,18,00,740, or 68 per cent. more than the record figure of the previous year. Rangoon absorbed 81 per cent. of the total trade and 98 per cent. of the foreign imports, of which cotton goods formed more than one quarter. The decline of the silk and match trade with Japan and the persistence with which American oil was forced into competition with the local product were features of the year. Rice comprised 81 per cent. of the foreign exports from Rangoon and 92 per cent. of those from the minor ports, while it had a predominant share in the abnormal development of the outward coasting trade, which increased by one crore and 47 lakhs. The demand for rice in Japan, owing to the war, was phenomenal, and the shipments of oil both to India and to other countries evidenced the expansion of the industry. Sea-borne
trade.

34. Inland trade, except that with Karenni and Southern Siam, continued to expand, though it is noticeable that the imports fail to keep pace with the exports, especially in the trade with China, which has little to offer, except forbidden opium, for the goods which are sent over the border. The Northern Shan States paid Inland
trade.

for imported cotton with tea. In the Southern States improved registration indicated remarkable prosperity. The project for the construction of a Railway to these States has been warmly supported. There is every reason to believe that such a Railway will be useful and remunerative. The decline of the teak industry and the replacement of imported by Kheddah elephants affected the trade with Siam and Karenni.

Public Works.

35. The year was one of great activity in the Public Works Department, involving an expenditure of a crore and a quarter of rupees. Among the more important items of construction were the demarcation of the Burma-China boundary and the provision of houses and offices at Maymyo, and of accommodation in Lower Burma for the courts to be established under the new Judicial scheme. New jails at Mogök and Moulmein, new barracks for the Military police at Pyapön and in the Southern Shan States, block-houses on the North-Eastern Frontier, and stations and quarters for the Civil Police in many places were completed or under construction. The scheme for the construction of a new General Hospital was sanctioned and work commenced, and the designs and estimates for the Chief Court were completed. The additional wings of the Public Offices in Rangoon were approaching completion by the end of the year. Communications were improved by the addition of 304 miles of roads to the mileage already supervised by the Department. The Siamese Frontier was tapped in two places, while the Chinese Frontier road was carried over the border and continued for 26 miles in Chinese territory. Some of the main roads of the province were considerably improved, and road-making was actively pushed forward in the Shan States and Chin Hills. Several important bridges, notably those over the Myitnge at Hsipaw and over the Sittang on the road to Thandaung, were projected, begun or completed. A considerable number of quarters were constructed for subordinates and clerks, several bazaars and hospitals in the mofussil built or extended and the construction of four important schools was completed or advanced. The Department also met the increased requirements of the Postal and Telegraph services and carried out the construction of a museum at Fagan.

Railways.

36. Only a small extension was made to the open line, but two important projects—the Pegu-Moulmein and Henzada-Kyangin railways—were sanctioned and commenced. The gross earnings of the railway system increased by Rs. 11,07,116 and the working expenses by only Rs. 3,40,105, the net earnings increasing by Rs. 7,67,011, which represented 430 per cent. of the capital outlay. Three lives were lost in accidents. Large additions were made to the rolling stock and the open line was partially relaid and duplicated.

Tramways.

37. The electric tramway in Mandalay proved very popular and successful, and electric power is to be applied to the tramway system in Rangoon. The steam line from Thatön to Duyinzeik showed increased receipts, and a similar line is projected to run from Mandalay to Madaya.

Irrigation.

38. Good progress was made with the construction of the Shwebo, Ye-u and Môn canals, which, with the completed Mandalay canal, absorbed a capital expenditure of over 12 lakhs of rupees, while canals and embankments together

protected 40,000 acres more than in the previous year. The assessment of water-rate to the credit of the Mandalay canal more than doubled. On the Shwebo system 75 miles of the main and branch canals and 87 miles of distributaries were completed, and the head works of the new Ye-u canal were well advanced. Ground was broken on the Môn project. The remodelling of the distributaries on the smaller systems was well advanced and extensive repairs were undertaken. The incursions of the Sittang necessitated the abandonment of the proposed new lock at Minywa on the Pegu-Sittang canal. River navigation was facilitated by the removal of obstacles and the widening of channels.

39. The gross revenues of the province amounted to Rs. 10,82,40,114 and the expenditure to Rs. 6,83,41,594. Both exceeded the figures of the previous year, the former by Rs. 48,29,224 and the latter by Rs. 1,52,012. The share of the net revenue credited to Imperial funds was Rs. 4,14,28,605, but the expenditure from Provincial funds exceeded the receipts by nearly 16 lakhs, mainly owing to heavy expenditure on irrigation and other public works. Gross Revenues.

40. The area under assessment increased by about 440,000 acres, and the land revenue of the province, which had been Rs. 2,15,08,765 in the previous year, rose to Rs. 2,29,82,704. The introduction of a summary settlement and the adoption of acre rates in the Chindwin districts supplemented the effect of a generally favourable season in Upper Burma, while in the delta extensions were considerable in spite of an exceptionally unfavourable season, and a large number of grant-holders came on the rolls on the expiry of their terms of exemption. The revenue demand responded to the introduction of enhanced rates in three districts in Lower Burma, the assessment of full rates in the Mandalay canal tract and the extension of survey in Katha. Remissions of revenue were heavy on account of floods in the Lower Province. The demand of capitation-tax was nearly Rs. 1,20,000 more than in the previous year and indicated both an increase of population and more careful assessment. More than 20,000 households were added to the *thathameda* assessment rolls and two and a half lakhs to the demand, as a result of the attractions of a favourable season for a usually migratory population. An increase of over Rs. 70,000 in the demand of fishery revenue was shared in the proportion of nine to one by leased fisheries and net license fees. The latter was the result of improved supervision, but the fishing season was not a good one and reckless bidding for leases at auction was not justified by results. Royalties on the extraction of petroleum produced four lakhs more than in the previous year, and there was a considerable recovery in the revenue from the Ruby Mines. Land Revenue.

41. Customs receipts produced a revenue more than 15½ lakhs in excess of the previous year. The export trade in rice recovered, and the importation of cotton goods was very heavy. Customs.

42. The extension to the Upper Province of the Lower Burma system of Opium vend of opium, with the consequent increase of establishments, was the main factor in the growth of excise charges, which amounted to Rs. 16,46,552, or more than three and a half lakhs in excess of the previous year. The abolition of the auction system resulted in a decrease of a lakh of rupees in the receipts from

license fees, but the duty on excise and foreign opium realized Rs. 50,11,715 or an increase of Rs. 7,19,328, of which six and a quarter lakhs were the result of the larger issues of opium in Lower Burma. Restrictions were placed on the amount to be sold to individual purchasers, with a view to the suppression of hawkers, and the increase of consumption was coincident with the exercise of considerable activity on the part of the excise staff towards the abolition of opium dens. The growth of the cocaine habit led to the issue of a notification subjecting the drug to the provisions of the excise law.

Salt.

43. Collections on account of salt excise revenue aggregated Rs. 2,73,140 as against Rs. 2,67,610 in 1903. The output of local salt declined considerably owing to the reluctance of the people to work under the new system of assessment on outturn, and the low prices obtainable. The duty levied on foreign salt increased by nearly three-quarters of a lakh. Aden successfully competed with England and Germany, which had shared the market for a year.

Excise.

44. The estimated increase in the receipts from license fees and duty on liquor was two and three-quarter lakhs, in spite of a considerable reduction in the number of licensed shops. There were remarkable increases of 72 per cent. in the excise revenue on account of country spirits and of nearly three lakhs on account of country fermented liquor, and, though the number of *tari* shops was reduced by 110, the sale of licenses produced half a lakh more than in the previous year. Licenses for the sale of imported liquors realised Rs. 12,05,234, an increase of Rs. 57,000, but the output from the European distilleries declined, owing chiefly to the competition of country made liquor.

Stamps.

45. A central depôt for the supply of stamps to Burma and the Andamans was established at Rangoon, but the increase of expenditure was trifling as compared with the general growth of the stamp revenue from Rs. 29,41,940 to Rs. 33,12,820. Fifty-six per cent. of the increase was attributable to the effect of prosperity on litigation, while speculation in land and commercial activity in the chief town and the extension of cultivation elsewhere enhanced the demand for non-judicial stamps.

Assessed taxes.

46. The operation of the Income-Tax Act was slightly extended and nearly nine hundred more persons were assessed, with a resultant demand of one and three-quarter lakhs in excess of the previous year. The total collections increased from Rs. 11,86,971 to Rs. 13,67,105. Nearly half a lakh of the increase represented the expansion of petty trade in Rangoon, and the money lenders of the district were more closely assessed. The commercial depression of Mandalay was slightly less marked than in the previous year.

Forests.

47. The receipts of the Forest Department showed an increase of more than 24 lakhs of rupees, while the expenditure was only slightly in excess of that of 1903-04. An outbreak of anthrax in the Rangoon Depôt necessitated the early sale of departmentally extracted teak at local centres which would otherwise have been disposed of after the close of the year, and the lessees in the Southern circle extended their operations.

48. The most considerable increase in purely provincial revenues was the result of the sale of elephants by the Kheddah department. Larger expenditure was incurred under several heads, especially police (Rs. 4,85,000), Education (Rs. 2,02,000), Law and Justice—Courts of Law (Rs. 1,80,000) and Medical (Rs. 1,00,000), while Jails, Kheddahs and Embankments were maintained at a smaller cost than in the previous year. Provincial Revenues.

49. The income and expenditure of Incorporated Local Funds were Rs. 28,03,558 and Rs. 27,83,173, respectively, the increase of the latter (Rs. 1,70,942) being proportionately twice as heavy as that of the former. The income of the District Cess Funds of Lower Burma expanded with the growth of land revenue, and the fees from slaughter-houses and ferries were generally more considerable. The expenditure on public works increased with the growth of revenue. Local Funds.

The total income of the various Excluded Local funds was Rs. 38,23,131, and their expenditure Rs. 32,04,372. Cantonment funds were aided considerably by Government contributions. The Land Sale and Rent fund at Akyab and the College fund of the Educational Syndicate were closed.

50. Excluding Rangoon and Moulmein, Municipal receipts amounted to Rs. 28,49,260 and expenditure to Rs. 31,33,252. The aggregate indebtedness of Municipalities was Rs. 1,27,07,804, of which Rs. 1,24,24,500 represented the public loans of Rangoon, Moulmein and Mandalay. Municipal Revenues.

51. The birth-rate fell to 32·71 per 1,000 during the year. The marked variations in the rate for both rural and urban circles show that registration is still carried out in a defective manner. The climatic conditions of the year were healthy, and the death-rate fell from 24·13 per 1,000 to 22·36 in the Lower Province, and from 21·80 to 18·69 per 1,000 in Upper Burma. As usual, malarial fevers contributed the largest number of deaths, and the efforts made to increase the popularity of quinine make little progress. The country was unusually free from cholera and small-pox. A very large proportion of the deaths occurred amongst young children. Plague did not obtain a footing in the province till after the close of the year. Births and deaths.

52. The emigration of 125,215 persons left a balance of over 50,000 to swell the population of the province. Most of them are of the coolie or cultivator class, but railway construction attracts a few labourers from Northern India. Emigration and Immigration.

53. There was a large increase in the number of in-patients and out-patients treated in the various hospitals of the province. The ratio of attendance to population, which is still only 11·33 per cent. will, it is hoped, be improved with the provision of more hospitals and the establishment of the proposed medical school in Burma. The total number of hospitals supported or aided by Government for the public is now 145. Twelve new institutions were opened during the year, and the new General Hospital at Rangoon has been commenced. The increase in receipts and expenditure was about equal, Rs. 64,000. There was a larger attendance at police, railway, and private hospitals than in the previous year. The affairs of Medical relief.

the Dufferin Hospital for women in Rangoon have been placed on a satisfactory basis and the out-look is more promising. There was a decline of 43 in the number of in-patients during the year.

Sanitation
and Vaccination.

54. Rather more than half of the total municipal income of the province was expended on sanitary works, and several large schemes of water-supply, drainage and conservancy have been undertaken. The Rangoon and Moulmein water-works have been completed and those at Prome renewed. Sanitation in the smaller towns and villages is backward. The contemplated reorganisation of the inspecting staff will, it is hoped, improve both the efficiency of vaccinators and the accuracy of their returns. Both the number (397,411) and the success (84.71 per cent.) of their operations show a falling off from the previous year. They were, however, handicapped by a partial failure of the lymph supply during the hot weather. The expenditure on vaccination was just over a lakh of rupees and the cost of each successful case five annas two pies.

Education.

55. The expenditure on education from all sources was about three lakhs in excess of the previous year. A considerable portion of the expenditure was met from the special grant made by the Government of India towards the fulfilment of the policy enunciated by the Simla Conference of 1901, and further measures for its realisation have been sanctioned. The staff of the Educational Department was reorganized at considerable expense and further facilities were afforded to teachers to acquire sound methods of instruction. The establishment of twelve primary schools under Government control has been sanctioned, and Government Anglo-Vernacular schools have been opened at three centres. Normal schools were opened in Rangoon and Akyab, and those at Moulmein, Toungoo and Mandalay were reorganised. The opening of a Government Primary school at Falam in the Chin Hills was successful and assistance is to be afforded in the Shan States. Compared with the previous year the number of schools increased by 4 per cent. and the attendance by 7 per cent., and the efficiency of the system of education as measured by the results of the departmental examinations was in most cases maintained and in many improved. The advance of secondary vernacular education was noteworthy, and both the attendance and the application of female pupils were good. The sanctioned scheme includes six primary schools for girls. Technical education was backward, but the reorganisation of the Government Engineering school is expected to effect an improvement. The poor attendance at colleges and the frequent failures at the University examinations were also unsatisfactory features of the year, and a committee has been appointed to investigate the cause of the defects. The Rangoon College was removed from the control of the Educational Syndicate and came under the direct control of Government. It has been decided to open a hill school for Europeans and Eurasians at Maymyo. The attendance at survey schools was lower than in the previous year, but it is thought that the cause was only temporary. Some success was attained in technical education at the Reformatory School at Insein.

Literature
and the
Press.

56. The year was distinguished by the issue of the first novel in Burmese. Other publications were mainly religious or educational. A considerable number of vernacular newspapers obtained circulation, and included issues in Tamil, Gujerati and Chinese.

57. The annual provincial competition included for the first time an exhibition ^{Arts and} of paintings and photographs, and was of special interest. The exhibits of ^{Science} handicrafts attained, as usual, a high degree of excellence.

58. The Ancient Monuments Preservation Act ~~was~~ passed during the year, ~~Archaeology~~ and lists of monuments and buildings to which its provisions may be applied were ordered to be prepared. The dismantlement and reconstruction of the spire of the Mandalay palace was begun, and a number of inspections of ancient buildings were carried out by the Government Archaeologist, who also made some interesting discoveries at the old city of Halingyi in the Shwebo district. The cost of the Department was Rs. 19,534.

59. The Cathedral at Rangoon was consecrated in January 1905. The ^{Ecclésiastical} location of the proposed church, in memory of those who fell during the war in Upper Burma, was changed to Maymyo in view of the number of British troops to be stationed in that cantonment.

PART II.

I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

REFERENCES—

- Report on the Administration of the Shan States for the year ending the 31st March 1905.
- Report on the Administration of the Chin Hills for the year ending the 31st March 1905.
- Report on the North-Eastern Frontier of Burma for the year ending the 31st March 1905.
- Season and Crop Report for the year ending the 30th June 1905.

Physical Features of the Country, Area, Climate and Chief Staples.

Information on these subjects is contained in paragraphs 1—8 of the Report for the year 1901-02. It is not repeated here.

POLITICAL.

Historical Summary.

2. A brief account of the principal events in the history of the Province is to be found in paragraphs 9—19 of the Report for 1901-02.

Form of Administration.

3. The general form of administration remains as it was in 1901-02, and is described in paragraphs 20—38 of the Report of that year. At the end of paragraph 28 certain changes in the direction of the separation of the Judicial and Executive services were foreshadowed. (From the 1st March 1905 practical effect was given to these long-considered proposals by the formation of a Superior Judicial Service, consisting of five Divisional and eight District Judges, and this was followed a month later by the institution of the Township Judicial Service, the strength of which was 36. The former was framed on the model of the Punjab system, the Divisional Judges being the Sessions Judges of their Divisions and District Judges confining themselves mainly to the exercise of civil jurisdiction. The scheme included the most populous districts of Lower Burma, and did not extend to Kyaukpyu, Sandoway, Salween, Tavoy, Mergui or Thayetmyo, where the Deputy Commissioner continues to perform *ex-officio* the duties of District Judge, to Rangoon, where the Chief Court takes the place of the District Court, or to the Arakan Hill Tracts, which are under a special law. In the remaining 13 districts of Lower Burma the Deputy Commissioner ceased to have any concern with civil justice. In four cases two, and in one case three, districts have been grouped under one District Judge, who spends part of his time in each.) Besides their civil jurisdiction, District Judges were invested with powers under sections 30 and 34 of the Criminal Procedure Code in order that they might partially relieve Deputy Commissioners of the burden of criminal work, and they were also empowered to hear criminal appeals from 2nd and 3rd class Magistrates. Two of the appointments of District Judge are open to members of the Provincial Civil Service.

(Similarly, by the appointment of Divisional Judges the Commissioners of the Pegu, Tenasserim and Irrawaddy Divisions were relieved of all judicial work, criminal and civil, and the Commissioner of the Minbu Division received similar relief in respect of Thayetmyo district; but in the Arakan division the Commissioner continues to be Divisional and Sessions Judge for his division. The districts in the Pegu and Irrawaddy Sessions divisions, with the addition of Thayetmyo, were distributed among four Divisional and Sessions Judges.) Though the Rangoon Town District is in the Hanthawaddy Sessions Division, the Sessions cases and criminal regular appeals belonging to it are tried by the Chief Court, and it is not

I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

in the Hanthawaddy civil division. The old appointments of Additional Sessions Judges in those divisions, together with that of District Judge of Amherst and the cognate post of Additional District Judge of Mandalay, were absorbed into the new service.

By the constitution of the Township Judicial service 36 appointments were removed from the Subordinate and Provincial Executive Services and formed into a separate cadre of four grades on pay ranging from Rs. 400 to Rs. 200 a month. The scheme only extended to Lower Burma and, apart from the question of remuneration, was the natural outcome of the progressive addition to all kinds of public business, which had for some years necessitated the employment of an increasing number of officers on purely judicial work.

Character of Land Tenures : System of Survey and Settlements.

4. These are described in the Report for 1901-02, paragraphs 39—55.

Civil Divisions of British Territory.

5. The civil divisions of the Province, as they existed in 1901-02, are described in paragraphs 56—67 of the Report of that year. Administrative convenience has since dictated various alterations. In the year under report the changes effected were of minor importance. In the Kyaukpyu district a new subdivision was constituted without addition to the number of townships. Certain small areas were transferred from the Upper Chindwin to Myitkyina, from Pyapôn to Myaungmya, and from Myingyan to Pakôkku. Inter-township boundaries were modified in the Shwebo, Sagaing and Pegu districts. The headquarters of the Kyaukyit township in Sagaing district, of Pasôk township in Pakôkku, and of Oktwin township in Toungoo, were moved to Myaung, Saw and Pyu, respectively, and in the last named case the township was subsequently divided into two, Oktwin being reconstituted a headquarters. It was finally decided to transfer the headquarters of the Minbu Division to Magwe, but pending the erection of the necessary buildings the decision has not yet been carried into effect.

Details of the last Census : Tribes and Languages.

6. Information on these subjects will be found in paragraphs 68—75 of the Report for 1901-02.

Changes in the Administration.

7. THE HON'BLE SIR H. S. BARNES, K.C.S.I., K.C.V.O., I.C.S., held charge of the administration throughout the year under report.

Relations with Tributary States and Frontier Affairs.

Southern Shan States.

8. (Peace on the frontier and internal progress were the main features of the year's administration in the Southern Shan States. Law and order having been established in Northern Siam, the troubles which threatened the Kêngtung border were averted, while the chaotic condition of Kênghung politics had no actual effect on the tranquillity of the cis-Mekong States. The resentment aroused amongst a portion of the inhabitants of the Yawnghwe State by the introduction of fiscal innovations was allayed by the withdrawal of the obnoxious measures; steps were taken to remodel the revenue system of the State, and a potential cause of unrest and intrigue was removed by the Lieutenant-Governor's announcement in Durbar that the *Sawbwa's* authority would not be curtailed by the revival of a local Chieftainship. Enquiry having shown that the presence of an Adviser was distasteful to the *Sawbwa*, and mistrusted by the people, the appointment, which had only been in existence for two years, was abolished. Proof of the material progress and prosperity of the people was afforded by the successful cattle show and exhibition of arts and crafts which followed the Durbar held by the Lieutenant-Governor in March.) The quality and number of the exhibits, both agricultural and industrial, lent strength to the anticipation that the construction of the projected railway from Thazi in Burma will be financially justified. Rubber of a high quality was shown from Kêngtung and elicited expert commendation.

The process of displacement of the military garrison of the States by Military Police was completed during the year, a small portion of the new battalion being locally enlisted Shans. Crime was not heavy and was moderately well dealt with by the regular Government Police, by the paid force employed in the Yawnghe State and by the large irregular staff which is employed for the maintenance of order by the other chiefs. The Pwela *Myosa* successfully attacked and dispersed a dangerous gang of armed robbers, led by an outlaw, who was killed. Civil litigation increased in Taunggyi in sympathy with the growth of an alien population. Elsewhere the bulk of such disputes continue to be settled out of court.

I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

In spite of local calamities the rice crops were up to the average and in Kéngtūng abnormally good. Dry crops gave excellent returns, and it is hoped that the introduction of a better quality of seed will improve the outturn and staple of cotton. The reservation of forests has been commenced. Nearly 4½ million cubic feet of teak were exported into Burma during the year, but the efforts of the Chiefs to work their own forests, otherwise than for local consumption, have to a great extent proved a failure. In other cases they participate in the profits. Improved methods of registration showed that the volume of trade between the States and Burma was much larger than that previously recorded, the aggregate value of exports and imports giving an apparent increase of 28 lakhs of rupees. The successful competition of Kéngtūng silk with the famous Chinese product, and the introduction of grass mats on the model of the Indian matting observed by the Chiefs who attended the Delhi Durbar, give satisfactory evidence that local industry has the merit of adaptability.

The Chiefs have shown praiseworthy energy in the construction of roads and bridges, and it has become necessary to restrain their zeal within the limit imposed by their resources by the preparation of a programme which will provide adequately for the maintenance of roads already existing.

The development of the postal system received a check owing to the abuse of the privileges of the parcel post by Kéngtūng tradesmen, which led to its displacement by a contract system. The practice was but a symptom of the progressive concentration of trade in the hands of natives of India and the consequent drain of money from the States. It remains to be seen whether the Shan is capable by nature of taking full advantage of the facilities which the projected railway will afford for the disposal of his produce and of recovering lost ground. The revenue demand in the various States showed an increase of slightly over Rs. 7,000, and there were no outstandings at the close of the year. The principles of the revenue system were briefly codified during the year with the object of securing uniformity in the preparation of budgets and the collection of taxes. The Government tribute was paid with commendable punctuality. Only in the Myelat was it found necessary to remit a portion of the tribute. The States were happily free from epidemics, but the hospitals were well attended. The school at Taunggyi for the sons of Chiefs admirably fulfils the object with which it was founded, and it has been decided to depute an officer of the Education Department to encourage the growth and systematise the methods of the elementary education afforded by the monasteries.

Karenni remained at peace, but elements of discord were engendered by the mutual jealousies of the Chiefs and embittered by religious animosities.

9. An abortive rising by a religious fanatic on the border was the only incident which threatened the peace of the Northern Shan States during the year. It was suppressed by the Military Police, the ringleader and twenty-two of his followers being killed. The annual meeting with Chinese officials for the settlement of border cases was successfully carried out, but the claims against Chefang went by default in the absence of Chinese Representatives. With the help of His Britannic Majesty's Consul at Têngyüeh a meeting was arranged for the adjustment of claims against the State of Méng Ting, and existing cases were disposed of, but it is to be feared that until the method of administration of this turbulent State is improved and the authority of the *Sambwa* supported by an adequate force, this portion of the border will remain a source of friction.

Northern Shan States.

There was a considerable increase in the number of crimes among the

alien population along the railway line, but the small force of Government Police was reasonably successful in dealing with it. The efficiency of the Hsipaw State Police showed signs of improvement, and in Tawngpeng the force was reorganised. Violent crimes were few and were successfully brought home to the culprits, but the escape of two men under sentence of death was a blot on the record of the year. Litigation increased, especially in Hsipaw Town, and the work of the Civil Courts showed a satisfactory improvement. Formal extradition of criminals to China was made in three cases. An abnormally heavy rainfall and a plague of rats injuriously affected the paddy crop in Hsipaw and Manglūn, and the sessamum and tobacco crops were poor. The results of experimental cultivation, also, were discouraging. On the whole, however, crops were good, and tea gave excellent results. The mortality amongst cattle was severe in most of the States, the depredations of wild dogs adding to the loss inflicted by disease. A commencement was made with the protection of forests, which has become imperatively necessary. Trade returns indicate increasing prosperity, the most significant features being the progressive success of the tea industry and the gradually increasing demand for outside products. Expenditure on public works was mainly confined to the upkeep of roads and the erection of official buildings and bazaars, but the bridge over the Namtu at Hsipaw was commenced and another over the Nam Hkai river is contemplated. The general condition of the people was satisfactory, the influence of the railway on prices being reflected in the ease with which the State revenues were collected. It is observed that here also the Shans are being ousted from the most profitable lines of trade and labour. The acting Chief of Hsipaw is still heavily involved in debt, and the control of Government over his finances was maintained. A similar control has been established in Tawngpeng, from which good results are anticipated. Corruption amongst minor officials and injudicious remissions by the Chief retarded the progress of the North Hsenwi finances. An increased rate of tribute in the Kachin tracts was collected without difficulty. Municipal Government was introduced during the year in Lashio, the headquarters of the Superintendent. An interesting attempt was made by the Public Works Officer recently appointed to the supervision of State undertakings to train local pupils in the elements of road-making, and the backward cause of education is to be advanced by the appointment of an officer of that department from Burma and by the opening of a Government Vernacular Primary School at Lashio.

States under the control of Commissioners.

10. The petty States of Mōng Mit, Hsawngsup and Singkaling Hkamti enjoyed a prosperous and peaceful year. The harvests were excellent and the trade in forest produce more than usually lucrative. The *Sawbwas* of the Chindwin States afforded useful co-operation in the suppression of opium-smuggling. Administrative powers have not yet been conferred on the young *Sawbwa* of Mōng Mit, but proposals for his installation are under consideration. Meanwhile the resources of the State are being carefully husbanded.

The Chin Hills.

11. Continued outrages committed by villages in the unadministered tracts upon the hill folk under British control, while they afforded an opportunity for a signal display of self-restraint by the latter, forced the attention of the Local Government towards a solution of the difficult problem involved in giving to peaceful traders such measure of protection in their journeys beyond the administrative border as is compatible with the established policy of non-interference in the internal affairs of these turbulent and irresponsible tribesmen. One of the raids was characterised by brutal tortures inflicted on the prisoners before they were murdered, and reprisals were narrowly averted. Events such as these serve to throw into strong relief the remarkable progress towards civilisation of the Chins within the pale. The almost total disappearance of violent crime, the ready submission of causes of quarrel to the decision of the Political Officers, the increased resort of hill men to the plains in search of work and their eager acceptance of instruction and medical assistance, afford a gratifying illustration of the results to be obtained by the sympathetic management of a naturally intractable people.

The process of disarmament was practically completed, and it is believed that the number of unstamped guns in the Hills is now very limited. Potatoes and

other vegetables and fruit were cultivated with fair success, but the experiments with wheat and oats were not encouraging. Communications were improved by the bridging of the Falam-Tyao road, and new houses are being provided for officers at Falam, where also the water-supply project is making progress. The blockade of the Piya Chins on the Upper Chindwin border, which has been enforced since 1901, was terminated by the payment of a fine and promises of amendment on the part of the Chief.

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12. The year passed without any important event in the Pakókku Chin Hills. With the exception of a small depôt at the Assistant Superintendent's headquarters, the Military Police force was entirely replaced by Chin Police, and the Ilkrum villagers, in whose submission the latter played a conspicuous part, sent in emissaries in token of adherence to their compact. A succession of bad crops has impoverished the inhabitants of the Hills, and precautions were taken against scarcity.

Pakókku Chin Hills.

13. A raid by a village in unadministered territory was promptly punished by the Deputy Commissioner of the Arakan Hill Tracts, who marched over the border, recovered the captives, and inflicted a fine on the raiders. The Deputy Commissioner of Akyab held a successful durbar at Ponthawa, and with the above exception the relations of the people on either side of the administrative border were satisfactory.

Arakan Hill Tracts.

14. Tranquillity prevailed on the north-eastern frontier, where, so far as China is concerned, border disputes were satisfactorily settled in concert with Chinese officials. Relations with the unadministered territory to the north caused some uneasiness. A Chinese trader with his family and servants were murdered a few miles from Myitkyina, in satisfaction, it is supposed, of a debt which the murderers believed to be due to them. At the invitation of the Deputy Commissioner fourteen trans-frontier Chiefs visited Myitkyina, and good results are anticipated from the interchange of courtesies and the discussion of border matters. The Sadon tract having proved unmanageably large, a new charge was formed comprising part of the Sadon jurisdiction and bringing under the more direct supervision of the civil officers the hitherto neglected tracts immediately north of the defile. During the tours of civil officers the boundary pillars erected on the Chinese frontier were repaired, frontier roads were inspected, and guns were registered. Enquiry was instituted into the extent to which the crops had failed, and small remissions of tribute were found necessary. Crime was not serious. One of the murders committed is believed to be referable to the activity of the Excise Department. There were several large seizures of opium during the year, and it is known that this has caused resentment in the transborder tracts, where the drug is used as a medium of exchange. There was a large number of kidnapping cases, the victims being sold into slavery over the border. The output from the jade mines was nearly double that of the previous year, and would have been larger, but for the delay which occurred in commencing the workings. The jade extracted was valued at 1½ lakhs. Magisterial powers were conferred on the *Duwai* of the tract to enable him to deal with the influx of non-Kachins to the mines. The rubber industry in the Hukawng valley attracted large numbers of people, and the revenue obtained from it materially increased. The quantity of amber imported increased by over 40 per cent.

The Kachin Hills.

Condition of the People.

15. The partial failure and uneven distribution of the autumn rains spoiled what had early in the season promised to be a bumper crop of rice. The grain threshed out somewhat light and the outturn was 94 per cent. of the normal. There was, however, no suspicion of scarcity, and in Lower Burma good prices for surplus paddy were maintained. Agricultural conditions in Upper Burma were on the whole more favourable. There was a further extension of the cropped area by about 600,000 acres including all crops, and there is no indication that there has been any check in the advance of the people towards a higher standard of living. An attempt is being made to assist the cultivator by the establishment of Co-operative Credit Societies. Though the system was only initiated early in 1905, some measure of success has already been obtained.

Condition of the People.

II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

References—

Land Revenue Administration Report for the year ending the 30th June 1905.

Land Records Administration Report for the year ending the 30th June 1905.

Twenty-first issue of the Agricultural Statistics of India for the years 1900-01 to 1904-05, Volume Tables V, V-A and B and VI, VI-A and B.

Realization of the Revenue.

Amounts
recovered
and out-
standing.

16. The current demand of land revenue for the year was Rs. 2,33,43,843. Of this sum Rs. 2,90,414 were remitted and the outstandings at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 70,725. The actual collections (Rs. 2,29,82,704) were Rs. 14,73,939 in excess of the previous year. The increase both of remissions and outstandings was mainly due to a bad season in Lower Burma. The water-rate demand of Rs. 32,159 was all collected with the exception of a sum of Rs. 466, and the outstandings of capitation-tax, the net demand of which was Rs. 49,84,988, only amounted to Rs. 169. The collections of *thathameda* aggregated Rs. 48,63,120, and the unrealized balance, which consisted mainly of Kachin tribute, was Rs. 2,510. Out of a current demand of Rs. 29,79,529 for fishery revenue, Rs. 29,670 were remitted and Rs. 29,10,674 collected, the failure to recover the balance of Rs. 41,436 (which included arrears from the previous year) being mainly due to the poverty of the fishing season in the delta.

Coercive
process.

17. Application was made for process to compel the payment of arrears of revenue amounting to Rs. 11,15,107, of which Rs. 9,66,854 or more than 86 per cent. was realized. The losses of cultivators owing to an unfavourable season in Lower Burma necessitated the more frequent resort of head men to coercive process with a lower percentage of recoveries, and the number of cases in which immoveable property was sold to satisfy the demands of Government increased from 921 to 1,271, but the issue of a warrant was effectual in the great majority of cases, and there was a remarkable decrease in the number of processes against the person of defaulters, the number of arrests being only 3,382, or less than half the number effected in the previous year, and of these less than two in a hundred were committed to jail.

Surveys.

Demarcation
preliminary
to survey.

18. With the demarcation of 365 square miles in the Pauk township the preliminary work of survey in the Pakòkku district was completed, and the two demarcation officers proceeded to Thayetmyo, where an area of 911 square miles was dealt with before the close of the year. Similar work was completed by the Land Records Department in Katha district and small areas of 12 and 5 square miles were prepared for survey in the Mergui and Mandalay districts, respectively. Demarcation was completed and boundary disputes settled in the area of nine square miles by which the limits of the Rangoon Municipality have been extended, and the preliminary work for the survey of the Municipal Town of Pegu (five square miles) was carried through.

The cost of the most important operations was in Pakòkku Rs. 1,768, in Thayetmyo Rs. 2,659, in Rangoon Rs. 14,192 and in Pegu Rs. 1,026.

Survey of
India.

19. No. 7 party of the Survey of India continued its operations in the Pakòkku district, where 660 square miles in the Seikpyu and Pauk townships were traversed and 605 square miles in the Myaing and Pakòkku townships cadastrally surveyed. In addition, 25 square miles of topography and 31 square miles of river blocks were executed on the 16-inch scale. Seven hundred and seventeen square miles remained to be traversed in the district. The extensions of Rangoon Town referred to in the last paragraph were surveyed on the scale of 100 feet to the inch. The estimated cost of the operations of the party was Rs. 1,92,938.

20. The requirements of the settlement party necessitated extensive revision surveys in the Ma-ubin and Pyapôn districts. A field establishment of eight Inspectors, six sub-surveyors, 65 field surveyors and seven draftsmen and computers began work on the 14th December and the cadastral resurvey of 692 square miles with a cultivated area of 273,939 acres was completed at an estimated cost of Rs. 71,397. An area of 54 square miles was also cadastrally surveyed in the Mergui district. Four-fifths of this area only required resurvey, but 10 square miles were new country and had to be traversed, the whole cost being Rs. 8,990. In the Mandalay district the revision survey for settlement was completed, the operations extending over an area of 49 square miles and costing Rs. 3,836, and a special staff was engaged to make a detailed survey of the Aungbinlê lake area (six square miles), which had been recently drained by the Public Works Department. The land was laid out in blocks and the cost of survey (Rs. 817) will be more than covered by the survey fees to be paid by intending cultivators. The survey of 24 square miles of land was revised by a special party in Katha, which was primarily engaged in the preparation of that district for settlement. In the course of the latter, 127 square miles were surveyed in detail and 103 square miles traversed in a difficult and unhealthy country at a cost of Rs. 24,272, while Rs. 3,275 were expended on an extra establishment for the preparation of maps and computation of areas for settlement purposes. A small special party surveyed 12 square miles of cultivated blocks in Tavoy outside the tract under supplementary survey, and the municipal towns of Tavoy and Pegu were mapped on a large scale at the cost of their respective Committees. Extra men were engaged on the land required for the Pegu-Moulmein Railway and special surveyors were, as usual, employed in the annual survey of the island *kwins* in the Mandalay, Sagaing and Myingyan districts. The redrawing of maps in Minbu required an extra staff, and one Inspector and four surveyors were employed in the mapping of Maymyo town and its surroundings.

Revision surveys, unconnected with settlements, but necessitated by the inability of the local staff to keep pace with the rapid changes of field boundaries and the expansion of cultivation, were undertaken in Prome and Toungoo, where 95 and 68 square miles were resurveyed at a cost of Rs. 8,402 and Rs. 8,979 respectively.

Special establishments were entertained for *potta* surveys in 15 districts. The temporary suspension of the grant system in the Pegu Division reduced the volume of this work, which employed 16 Inspectors and 119 surveyors for varying periods, besides three special grant officers. In all 9,064 cases were dealt with and 69,052 acres surveyed at a cost of Rs. 44,607, which was practically covered by fees.

Settlements.

21. The recess work of the original settlement party engaged in parts of the Hanthawaddy, Tharrawaddy and Prome districts was completed during the year and the new rates were notified from the 1st July 1905. The operations, which commenced in November 1903, involved an area of 1,490 square miles, were carried out at an average cost of four annas per cultivated acre, and will result in an enhancement of nearly 50 per cent. in the revenue demand. The party then moved to Tavoy where its work approached completion at the end of the year. In Upper Burma, the original settlements of Shwebo and Katha entered on their concluding stages, the field work being completed in both. The cost of these operations up to date is 8½ annas and Re. 1-4-6 per cultivated acre respectively. Crop cutting and soil classification were completed in the Mandalay canal area, which has anticipated its place in the settlement programme, but a second year's work is contemplated.

22. The recess work of the revision settlement party, which had been at work in the Myaungmya district since November 1903, was completed and the report submitted in November 1904. The report, after examination by a Conference, received the orders of Government, and the sanctioned rates, which were notified from the 1st July 1905, represent an enhancement of Rs. 1,18,028 or 37·36 in the revenue demand over an area of 645 square miles.

II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

Survey by local parties.

Original Settlements.

Revision Settlements.

II. ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

The same party proceeded to the revision settlement of the Pantanaw, Danubyu and Yandoon townships of the Ma-ubin district and, in spite of delays in the preliminary survey, had approached the completion of its labours at the close of the year. The Revision Settlement Report of Kyaukse awaits the orders of Government. The settlement effected in the Mandalay district in 1892-93 had been under revision since the end of 1903. The field and recess work were satisfactorily completed during the year and the report was examined by the prescribed conference. The inception of operations in Minbu, which should have been undertaken by this party, was delayed by the decision to push forward the settlement of the Mandalay canal tract, but preliminary enquiries and crop cuttings were commenced by a detachment under an Assistant Settlement Officer. The cost per cultivated acre of the completed settlements of Myaungmya, Ma-ubin, Kyaukse and Mandalay was $3\frac{1}{2}$, $2\frac{1}{2}$, 4 and 5 annas respectively.

Summary settlements.

23. In October 1904 was commenced the summary settlement of an area of 76 square miles in the Kyaukpyu district which had been surveyed in the preceding season. The work was completed in August 1905 in spite of the difficult nature of the country. A similar settlement of the Samôn Valley tract, Meiktila district, was also completed during the year, and the report submitted to Government.

The area dealt with on summary settlement was 135 square miles and the total cost Rs. 10,941.

Land Records.

Area under supplementary survey.

24. The completion of summary settlements in the Upper and Lower Chindwin was mainly responsible for an increase of 918 square miles in the area under supplementary survey, which amounted to 42,837 square miles, with an assessment of Rs. 2,39,77,857. In the accretions of the Sittang in the Pegu district 17 square miles had been actually under supplementary survey for some years, though omitted from the returns, and local surveys and verification of areas added 31 square miles in Myaungmya and Katha. The increase of revenue, which amounted to over $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, was the result of the introduction or revision of settlement rates in Akyab, Pyapôn, Myaungmya and the Chindwin districts, the assessment of time-expired *pottas* and the general extension of cultivation. The assessment was largely reduced in the Thatôn and Amherst districts by remissions on account of floods.

The cost of supervision was Rs. 3,81,298 and of the survey staff Rs. 6,38,042. The total cost, which was Rs. 26,866 in excess of the previous year, represents an expenditure of Rs. 23'80 per square mile and 4'25 per cent. of the assessment as against Rs. 23'68 and 4'26 in 1903-04. The cost was enhanced by the appointment of additional Inspectors and surveyors in Lower Burma, the extension of operations in the Lower Chindwin and the formation of a separate staff at Pyapôn.

Survey Schools

25. As in the previous year, 18 survey schools were maintained by Government. The number of pupils on the rolls on the 31st March declined from 455 to 414, of whom 33 per cent. were exempted from the payment of fees. The falling off in the number of pupils was due to the introduction of the fourth standard as a minimum qualification for admission. This order has since been withdrawn. The gross cost of the schools was Rs. 59,538 of which Rs. 14,499 were paid in scholarships. The income from fees and other sources was Rs. 5,627 and the net cost per head Rs. 84. A large number of certificated men passed into employment during the year.

Transfers of land.

26. The area of land sold during the year was 539,565 acres, or 14,648 acres less than in the previous year, and the average price realized rose from Rs. 34 to Rs. 38 per acre. Circumstances varied in different districts, but in Amherst a decrease of over 7,000 acres is ascribed to the tightness of the money market, the money lenders having suffered by the heavy floods, and in Mandalay, where the canal has enhanced the value of land, cultivators were reluctant to alienate it permanently. Speculation followed the establishment of the new district of Pyapôn, where the area sold increased by 5,641 acres and the average price by 30 per cent., and in Thatôn the advent of the railway forced the price of land up to Rs. 86 per acre,

at which point the boom collapsed. The losses caused by cattle disease increased the alienation of land in some districts and the rate of interest was so high that cultivators in some cases preferred to sell outright, but for the most part these transactions took the form of mortgages, and the area of land so encumbered at the end of the year had increased by over a lakh of acres to 1,012,395 acres, Tharrawaddy showing an increase of 7,790 acres, Bassein 16,424 acres and Pyapôn 19,194 acres. In Myaungmya the increase of 22,089 acres included many old transactions newly recorded, and better registration produced an apparent increase in other districts. Floods in the one case and the failure of the rains in the other increased the number of mortgages in Amherst and Yamèthin, while in Pegu the abolition of the grant system reduced it by withholding a title, the premature transfer of which, though forbidden by law, had been freely effected.

11.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

Waste Lands.

27. The area granted or leased for cultivation during the year was 87,676 acres or 23,100 less than in the previous year. (The falling off is partly due to the temporary suspension of the system in the Pegu Division, but intending cultivators were discouraged by floods in Amherst, and in Toungoo, Thatôn and Akyab fewer fresh applications were made, the Revenue officers being engaged in the disposal of old cases, with which good progress was made.) In the new district of Pyapôn there was an increase of nearly 4,500 acres, nearly 1,500 acres being granted to headmen as an appanage of their office. In the Pegu Division only cases in which a survey had been made were disposed of, the survey fees being returned in other cases. In Hanthawaddy the demand for culturable land was successfully dealt with by allotment without title, but special arrangements became necessary for the disposal of land in the neighbourhood of Rangoon, which commands a high value.) Except in the canal areas of Mandalay and Shwebo there was a general decrease in the leased area in Upper Burma, cultivators being encouraged to take up waste land without recourse to the Revenue Offices. Leases were granted for 2,623 acres in Mandalay district, and in Shwebo, though the canal is not completed, competition for the land which it will command brought a steady flow of applications.

Grants and leases for cultivation.

28. Seven hundred and seventy-nine acres were granted, revenue free, for either religious or public purposes as against 207 in the previous year. The increase was mainly due to the inclusion of *thugyisa* grants in Upper Burma which had hitherto been excluded.

Revenue free grants.

Government Estates and Wards' Estates.

29. There are no such estates in Burma.

Revenue and Rent-paying Classes.

30. The area occupied by agriculturists rose from 10,601,041 to 10,975,695 acres. Non-agriculturists occupied 1,795,459 acres as against 1,669,047 acres, but a smaller proportion of this area (61 per cent. as against 63 per cent.) was in the hands of non-residents. In Pyapôn and Toungoo the growing value of land attracted numbers of capitalists, but in Myaungmya the greater part of the extensions of cultivation were in the hands of *bona fide* agriculturists. (The partial failure of crops in Thatôn in the previous year induced a large number of non-resident landlords to part with their land, but few of the local purchasers were actual cultivators.)

Land holders.

31. The area held by rent-paying tenants increased from 2,204,603 to 2,226,630 acres and the average rent from Rs. 8'45 to Rs. 9'78. Of the total number of tenants, (171,559), 13'3 per cent. had rented their land continuously for five years or more. There was an influx of Chittagonian tenants into Akyab and of Natives of India into Ma-ubin, and in Pyapôn 35 per cent. of the total occupied area was held by tenants. Rents were raised in Amherst by the good harvest of the previous year, which was not repeated, in Mandalay by the development of the irrigation system and in Prome by the competition amongst tenants.

Tenants.

III.—PROTECTION.

REFERENCES—

- Report on the Police Administration of Burma for the year 1904.
Report on the Police Administration of Rangoon Town for the year 1904.
Reports on the Administration of Civil and Criminal Justice in Burma for the year 1904.
Report on the Prison Administration of Burma for the year 1904.
Report on the working of the Registration Department in Burma for the three years ended the 31st December 1904.
Report on the working of the Rangoon Municipality for the year ending the 31st March 1905.
Resolution on the working of Municipalities in Burma for the year ending the 31st March 1905.
Report on Government steamers, vessels and launches in Burma for the year 1904-05.
Report on the Maritime Trade of Burma for the year ending the 31st March 1905.
Thirty-ninth issue of the Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India with the British Empire and Foreign countries in the year ending the 31st March 1905 and the four preceding years, Volume II, Tables 1, 2, 8, 9, 12 and 13.
Thirty-ninth issue of the Annual Statement of the Coasting Trade and Navigation of British India in the year ending the 31st March 1905, Tables 2 to 7.
Report of the Commissioners of the Port of Rangoon for the year ending the 31st March 1905.
Tenth issue of the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1904-05 and preceding years—Tables I, II, III, IV, V, VII, IX, XI and XVII.

Legislating Authority.

32. The constitution of the legislating authority of the province is described in paragraphs 106—109 of the Report for 1901-02.

Course of Legislation.

Acts passed.

33. The three Bills described in paragraphs 25—27 of the Report for 1903-04 became law during the year as Burma Acts I, II and III of 1904. Several other Bills were under the consideration of the Local Government and four, the provisions of which are summarized below, were introduced in the Burma Legislative Council in December 1904.

Amendment of the Burma Gambling Act.

34. The object of Burma Act I of 1905 was to introduce a wider wording in section 6, sub-section (4) of the Burma Gambling Act, 1899, so as to permit the reports of the proceedings of Police officers under section 6 to be sent to any Magistrate who has jurisdiction to take cognizance of any offence which may appear to have been committed, and to leave the question of jurisdiction dependent solely on the construction of the Criminal Procedure Code adopted by the High Courts. The opportunity was also taken to extend the power of the arresting police officer to release accused persons on bail or on their own recognizances to cases in which it is practicable to send the accused before a Magistrate within three hours of the arrest, and to make the acceptance of sufficient bail obligatory in cases in which he does not produce them before a Magistrate within that period. Section 8 of the Act was also amended so as to extend the powers conferred by that section to the case of all persons accused of any offence under the Act. Section 9 was amended so as to apply to the case of a person who has been examined as a witness otherwise than under the provisions of section 6.

Owing to the prevalence of gambling in Rangoon town, the lucrative nature of the business and the reluctance of Magistrates to pass sentence of imprisonment for first offences, the scale of fines was enhanced from Rs. 200 to Rs. 500 for a first offence, and from Rs. 400 to Rs. 1,000 for a subsequent offence.

The Burma Canal Act.

35. The object of the Burma Canal Act is to provide for the regulation of irrigation and navigation canals and drainage works in Burma. The construction of the Mandalay Canal from Imperial funds and the still more important project of the Shwebo Canal formed, for this province, a new departure, which rendered legislation necessary for the purpose of regulating the construction and management of canals similar in class to the large State canals of Northern India. Sec-

tions 34 to 36 of the Upper Burma Land Revenue Regulation, 1889 (III of 1889), were primarily intended to apply to the numerous tanks, canals, navigation channels and other minor irrigation works constructed in Burmese times; but the powers conferred by those sections were found insufficient and unsuitable for regulating the construction and management of large State canals. The Pegu and Sittang Canal Act, 1881 (II of 1881) which was a reproduction of the provisions of the Northern India Canal and Drainage Act, 1873, regulated the navigation of a particular canal and could not be extended to any other existing or contemplated work.

III—Pro-
SECTION.

To make the new measure a comprehensive enactment dealing with both irrigation and navigation canals throughout the province, the Pegu and Sittang Canal Act, 1881, and sections 34 to 36 of the Upper Burma Land and Revenue Regulation, 1889, were repealed. The navigation of canals is regulated by Chapter VII of the Act, the construction, management and upkeep of minor canals by Chapter VI. As the general provisions regulating the larger State canals are unsuitable in the case of minor canals, the application of the rest of the Act to these works is barred; but power is conferred by the Act to apply such of those provisions as are considered suitable either generally or specially and in a general or modified form.

Chapter IX of the Act contains provisions respecting the supply of labour. Under the Northern India Canal and Drainage Act, 1873, the duty of supplying labour is imposed on the proprietors of land, but, having regard to the conditions prevailing in Burma, this duty is imposed by the local Act on the villages concerned and in emergencies labour is impressed through the village headman in accordance with the existing practice under the village enactments.

The main provisions of the Northern India Canal and Drainage Act, 1873 (VII of 1873), in respect of the construction and maintenance of canals, of the supply of water, of water-rates, of the jurisdiction of Civil Courts, and of offences and penalties have, with such modification as were necessitated by local conditions, been adopted in the Act.

36. (The Burma Fisheries Act, 1905 (Burma Act, III of 1905), is a measure to regulate the rights of Government over fisheries in the Province. Although the Act in the first instance only applies to Lower Burma, power is conferred on the Local Government for its extension by notification to any part of Upper Burma.) The rights were in Lower Burma previously regulated under the Burma Fisheries Act, 1875 (VII of 1875). Until the present Act is extended by notification, the rights of Government over fisheries in Upper Burma continue to be regulated under sections 32 and 33 of the Upper Burma Land and Revenue Regulation, 1889 (III of 1889). The investigation held under the orders of the Local Government shewed that the supply of fish in many of the best fishery tracts in the Irrawaddy Delta and consequently the quantity of the capture had largely decreased and was continuing to decrease owing to the reckless depletion of fisheries and the want of conservation. Further regulation was found necessary to prevent the one and provide for the other. The Act provides for the creation of reserved fisheries in which fishing operations may, by bye-law, be entirely prohibited or permitted to a limited extent. Provision is made for the notification of close seasons for certain species of fish. The prohibition of the poisoning and stupefaction of fish has been made more stringent. Power is taken in respect of leasable fisheries for the issue of licenses or leases of rights to fish which are not inconsistent with or in derogation of the leases of the exclusive right to certain kinds or modes of fishing. Provision is made for the appointment of special fishery officers, on whom special powers are conferred for the prevention and detection of fishing offences and for the arrest of offenders. A procedure similar to that under Act XII of 1884 for loans to agriculturists has been provided for the advance of money on proper security to fishermen.

The Burma
Fisheries
Act.

37. (The object of the Rangoon Port Act, 1905 (Burma Act, IV of 1905) is to provide for the better management of the affairs of the Port of Rangoon. The administration of the Port was previously regulated by the Rangoon Port Act.)

The Ran-
goon Port
Act.

III.—~~Pro~~
2807102. Commissioners Act, 1879 (XV of 1879), which came into force on the 1st January 1880.) The earlier measure was in its nature somewhat experimental, and under it the widest powers of control were vested in the Local Government. The constantly recurring necessity of reference hampered and delayed the action of the Commissioners in the development of a Port, the importance of which had outgrown its equipment. Amongst the improvements which were suggested by the growing needs of the Harbour were (1) the increase of wharf and godown accommodation, (2) the provision of hydraulic machinery on wharves and in warehouses, (3) more efficient lighting, (4) the training of the river and (5) the provision of a dry dock. The Rangoon Port Act, 1905, while vesting powers of control in the Local Government gives the Commissioners less restricted powers for the execution of these works. Under the Act of 1879 the Acts and proceedings of the Commissioners were subject to the approval of the Local Government. For the minute supervision exercised by Government under the earlier Act, the Rangoon Port Act, 1905, substitutes a system of annual estimates, the sanction of which by the Local Government will include sanction to the works included therein. The works being sanctioned the Commissioners will have a comparatively free hand in carrying them out. Power is conferred on the Chairman to carry out new works, up to a cost of one thousand rupees each, if they are provided for in a budget sanctioned under the provisions of Chapter VII, and to execute repairs provided for in the budget subject to such rules as the Commissioners may prescribe in regard to the preparation and sanction of detailed estimates therefor. The Commissioners may, under the Act, sanction the estimate of any work provided for in a sanctioned budget if the estimated cost does not exceed Rs. 50,000, but if the cost of a work exceeds Rs. 50,000, the plans have to be submitted to and approved by the Local Government; and, if the cost of a work exceeds two lakhs, the plan and estimate have to be approved by the Governor-General in Council.

To meet the expenditure necessary for the various improvements required by the Port, power is conferred upon the Commissioners, with the previous sanction of the Local Government, to impose a River due not exceeding four annas and not less than one anna for each ton of goods, and subject to those limits to vary the rate at any time.

Section 34 of the Act confers borrowing powers upon the Commissioners. The conditions under which they may borrow and the provisions for the repayment of loans and for the establishment of sinking funds are contained in Chapter VI of the Act. Provision is made by section 7 of the Act for the representation on the body of Commissioners for the Port of Rangoon of four members elected by the Chamber of Commerce and of one member elected by the Rangoon Trades Association.

General Acts
affecting
Burma.

38. The undermentioned General Acts affecting Burma were passed by the Governor-General in Council during the year :—

- I.—An Act to provide for the regulation of the possession and sale of all poisons in certain local areas, and the importation, possession and sale of white arsenic generally. (The Poisons Act, 1904.)
- III.—An Act to make further provision regarding the borrowing powers of certain local authorities. (The Local Authorities Loan Act, 1904.)
- V.—An Act to amend the Indian Official Secrets Act, 1889. [The Indian Official Secrets (Amendment) Act, 1904.]
- VI.—An Act further to amend the Transfer of Property Act, 1882. [The Transfer of Property (Amendment) Act, 1904.]
- VII.—An Act to provide for the preservation of Ancient Monuments and of objects of archæological, historical or artistic interest. (The Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, 1904.)
- VIII.—An Act to amend the law relating to the Universities of British India. (The Indian Universities Act, 1904.)
- X.—An Act to provide for the Constitution and Control of Co-operative Credit Societies. (The Co-operative Credit Societies Act, 1904.)

- XI.—An Act to revive and continue Section 8B of the Indian Tariff Act, 1894. III.—PROTECTION.
- XII.—An Act further to amend the Indian Emigration Act, 1883. [The Indian Emigration (Amendment) Act, 1904.]
- XIII.—An Act further to amend the Indian Articles of War. [The Indian Articles of War (Amendment) Act, 1904.]
- XV.—An Act further to amend the Indian Stamp Act, 1899. [The Indian Stamp (Amendment) Act, 1904.]
- XVI.—An Act to repeal certain words in the Sea Customs Act, 1878. [The Sea Customs (Amendment) Act, 1904.]

39. Subject to modifications, the Burma Municipal Act Amendment Act, 1902 (Burma Act, III of 1902), was extended to the Shan States, and certain provisions of the Burma Municipal Act, 1898 (Burma Act, III of 1898, as amended by Burma Act, III of 1902), to the notified area of Lashio. Extension of Enactments to the Shan States.

Police.

40. Many important questions affecting the administration of the Police force were kept unsettled, pending the orders of the Government of India on the Report of the Police Commission. The police had to deal with an increased volume of crime and were less successful in detection than in the previous year. General observations.

41. The increase of crime in some of the Lower Burma districts was the main cause of an addition of 292 officers and men to the force, the cost of which increased by Rs. 81,312. Part of this increased cost was due to the improvement of accommodation. Strength and distribution of the force.

42. The actual strength fell short of the sanctioned strength by 569, the service failing to compete successfully with other more remunerative employment in some districts. It is hoped that a more elastic system of pay may remedy this defect. There was a slight decline in the number of punishments, but there was an apparent lack of system in the granting of rewards to which the Lieutenant-Governor drew attention. On the whole there was a slight improvement in the conduct and discipline of the force. Recruiting and conduct.

43. The additions to the force slightly reduced the percentage (86 per cent.) of literacy. With the exception of three districts, where the methods of instruction probably require to be simplified, the results of the training of recruits were satisfactory, but there was a considerable falling off of efficiency as indicated by the results of the quarterly examinations. Musketry practice was retarded, as the rearmament of the force with the smooth bore carbine was in progress during the year. There was a gratifying improvement in the health of the police. Training and education of the men.

44. Good progress was made with the provision of accommodation. The work is shared between the Public Works Department and District Police Officers, who are provided with funds for the purpose. Buildings.

45. There was an increase of 4 per cent. in the volume of cognizable crime, which though largely due to greater activity under the Excise, Opium and Gambling laws and under the various enactments which regulate the conduct of the public in Municipalities and small towns, also included some serious elements such as the increase in the number of cases of grievous hurt and of aggravated forms of house-trespass, and the leading position occupied in the record of crime by the more populous and progressive districts. Violent crime, also, though less by 25 cases than in the previous year, included a larger number of dacoities. It would appear that in some districts the criminal propensities of a section of the population have outstripped the capacity of a limited police force to cope with them, and demand both a numerical increase in the staff and keener intelligence in its personnel. On the other hand, in most of the districts of the Pegu and Irrawaddy Cognizable crime.

III.—PRO-
TECTION.

divisions, where crime is heavy, the village law was worked with vigour and discretion and with happy results. Cattle theft was more rife than in 1903, though it did not attain the proportions which it had assumed a decade ago. The efforts of the police were directed towards the suppression of the system of ransom by insisting upon prompt reports by the owners. On the whole, detection in cattle theft cases was poor. One of the chief benefits which is expected to accrue from the recommendations of the Police Commission is an improvement in the *status* and intelligence of officers in charge of police-stations, who form the back-bone of the police as a detective agency. Investigation was, however, somewhat more successful in cases of ordinary theft, which, though fewer than in 1903, involved a considerably larger amount of property, and in opium and excise cases it achieved a high standard.

Vigorous and successful action was taken against professional gamblers. In minor cases, which were, it would seem, instituted too freely, detection was fair. Prosecutions under the Arms Act were more numerous than in the previous year, but were adequately dealt with. They included three cases of illegal possession of dynamite.

Violent
crime.

46. Firearms were employed in 49 cases of violent crime, and though a fair proportion of the cases was brought to light, only 10 per cent. of the property stolen in dacoities and robberies was recovered. The record of the year was, however, relieved by the capture of the last of the men implicated in the murder of Mr. Tucker, District Superintendent of Police, in 1894, and by the successful detection of a brutal murder committed on a Madrasi money-lender in a railway carriage. In the Pyapôn, Bassein and Tharrawaddy districts the police were also remarkably successful in dealing with dacoity, but in the northern districts of the Tenasserim Division they were frequently outwitted. In Upper Burma, the Yamèthin district not only headed the list of violent crimes but provided the material for the harassment of its neighbours, and the police were unequal to the situation.

Working
of the pre-
ventive law.

47. The progressive relief which is afforded to magistrates will, it is hoped, enable them to find time for the local enquiry which prosecutions under the preventive sections require. Fewer proceedings were instituted than in 1903, but want of care in the initial stages was responsible for a considerable number of abortive prosecutions. Well conceived and well sustained action in the Paungdè subdivision of the Prome district against men who were really leaders in and organisers of crime contrasted favourably with the tendency in other districts to employ the preventive provisions against persons suspected of comparatively trivial offences.

Surveillance
of criminals
and beat
patrols.

48. The number of criminals registered as habitual or as conditionally released steadily grows. It now reaches over 22,000. Of these 1,347 were again convicted during the year, and 17 per cent. of the total could not be traced. New rules are being devised to improve the efficiency of beat constables in this direction. The importance of enlisting the services of village headmen in the work is evidenced by the fact that the last of Mr. Tucker's murderers was found after ten years in his own village. The system of identification by finger-prints produced good results, but is capable of further improvement.

Railway
Police.

49. The discipline of the Railway Police was well maintained, and the service appears to be popular. There was a nine per cent. increase in cognizable crime, which included one dacoity, four murders and two robberies, but detection, particularly in the more serious cases, was reasonably successful. Two or three heavy thefts, one involving a sum of Rs. 10,000, were committed.

Military
Police.

50. Seven additional companies of Military Police were raised to replace the Military Garrison of the Southern Shan States, and the employment of indigenous races was further extended by the experimental enlistment of fifty Shans. The new companies consisted mainly of Chattri and Rohilla recruits and were enlisted without difficulty. Karen recruits do not come in freely. The cost of the

force was Rs. 51,64,818; its discipline was satisfactory, though three officers were included among the punishments; but its general health, as indicated by the number of admissions to hospital, was very indifferent. In the suppression of the rising referred to in paragraph 9 of this Report, 25 men of the Tangyan outpost were successfully employed against 100 rebels.

III.—Pro-
scription.

51. Punitive Police were employed in four cases in the Ma-ubin, Sagaing and Meiktila districts. The cost of their entertainment, which was recovered from the villages concerned, amounted to Rs. 12,602.

Positive
Police.

52. (Although the total number of village headmen was less than in the previous year, there was a further advance towards the ideal set up in 1888, which aims at a system of independent headmen enjoying the full commission on the revenue collections within their charges, and the abolition of the highly paid circle *thugyi*. Progress was made in the mapping of village limits. Extended civil and criminal jurisdiction was conferred on a number of headmen, who ordinarily maintain order in their villages by the exercise of very limited powers. That these powers, under which fines amounting to over a lakh of rupees were imposed, were not often abused is indicated by the fact that out of nearly 14,000 cases examined more than 96 per cent. were upheld by the Deputy Commissioner. As revenue officials, the work of headmen was generally satisfactory.) There were cases of delay and dishonesty, and illiteracy is still common in the remoter parts of the province. With the exception of a few cases of apathy or active connivance with criminals, the relations of headmen with the Police were good, and on two occasions remarkable courage and tenacity were displayed by villagers in the pursuit of dacoits.) The enforcement of the excise and opium laws, however, received, as usual, little assistance from headmen. Connivance at breaches of the Excise law was the cause of several dismissals of headmen, which, for the rest, were less frequent than in 1903. Minor punishments increased in number. Rewards, on the other hand, were more freely given, and the presentation of these in public Durbar had a good effect in the Irrawaddy Division. In this division, also, the power of deportation of relatives and friends of criminals was exercised very successfully. The number of cases in which villages were fined for apathy, cowardice or the suppression of evidence increased considerably, and the total of fines imposed rose by more than Rs. 15,000, while fines under the Track Law aggregated Rs. 14,453 in 106 cases. Recognition was accorded to cases of successful resistance to dacoits, which were more than usually numerous, by the grant of money rewards or by partial exemption from taxation.

Village ad-
ministration.

Rangoon Town Police.

53. An increase of ten men was made in the Police force of Rangoon town for duty in connection with plague. The strength of the force was maintained without difficulty, except in the case of Burmese constables, and its conduct was, on the whole, satisfactory. There was, however, both an increase in the volume of crime and a falling off in the detection of the more serious offences, especially robbery and house-breaking. The latter form of crime is said to be encouraged by the existence of Chinese clubs, and measures for their regulation are under consideration. The detection of murders was more satisfactory and much unostentatious work was done in the suppression of nuisances and the general regulation of the town, which includes the surveillance of criminals and the maintenance of patrols by land and water. The conduct of the European Police was exemplary, and the hearty co-operation of the Honorary Magistrates and ward headmen was of the greatest assistance. Thefts were rife during the year, but the police were more successful in dealing with them. The continued occurrence of cases of arson engaged the attention of the Commissioner of Police, and is attributed to the want of care shown by Insurance Companies.

Rangoon
Town Police.

Criminal Justice.

54. The machinery charged with the administration of Criminal Justice, which has since been considerably modified, remained practically unaltered during the

Courts.

III.—PROSECUTIONS.

year 1904. Such additions as were made during the year of report were mainly designed to relieve subordinate executive officers of the growing burden of their magisterial duties. The congestion of work in the Sessions Court of the Pegu Division necessitated the appointment of a temporary additional Judge on two occasions.

Cases instituted.

55. In the whole province 87,132 cases were reported, of which 85,542 were brought to trial and 78,335 finally returned as true. The proportion between true and reported crime was affected by the orders of the Chief Court regarding the classification of "mistaken" cases. The number of cases instituted was nearly 6,000 more than in the previous year, but a large part of this increase was contributed by municipal and other petty prosecutions in Rangoon and other towns and by cases under the revenue rules in Henzada. The most serious feature was the increase by nearly 300 cases of grievous hurt in Lower Burma, where the frequency with which knives are used on small provocation still demands magisterial severity. Of miscellaneous proceedings, those instituted under the preventive sections of the Criminal Procedure Code shewed an increase in Lower Burma, where action was taken against 304 more persons than in 1903, while the percentage of successful prosecutions declined from 77 to 74. In Upper Burma these sections were not utilised so freely as in the previous year.

Disposal of cases.

56. The percentage of convictions fell from 62.2 to 61.7 in Lower Burma owing to the failure of magistrates to enquire fully into complaints before issuing process. In Upper Burma the percentage was practically unchanged, 63.31. The average duration of cases was 10 days in Lower Burma and 8 days in Upper Burma. The large proportion of petty cases tried by Honorary Magistrates in Rangoon affected the figures, but there was a real improvement in the Upper Province.

The Chief Court and Sessions Courts.

57. The investiture of headquarters Assistants with powers under Section 30 of the Criminal Procedure Code afforded considerable relief to Sessions Courts in Lower Burma, which dealt with only 406 cases as against 490 in 1903. The proportion of convictions declined. In the Sessions Courts of Upper Burma, also, the number of cases decreased, but the percentage of convictions was higher than in the previous year. On the other hand, the volume of original criminal work in the Chief Court of Lower Burma was nearly double that of 1903, and the cases committed to it which ended in conviction formed 77 per cent. of the total as against 66 per cent. in the previous year. In all 112 capital sentences were referred to the Chief Court and to the Judicial Commissioner, Upper Burma, of which 81 were confirmed, 9 reduced or altered and 15 reversed.

Punishments.

58. Fines were imposed in nearly 9,000 more cases than in the previous year. The increase was largely due to the number of petty cases dealt with in Rangoon. Sentences of death declined from 93 to 85, but long terms of imprisonment were commuted to transportation in 68 more cases than in 1903, and sentences of imprisonment for terms between two and seven years were imposed in 996 cases as against 889 in that year. There was a tendency to substitute short terms of imprisonment for whipping, which was only inflicted in 2,863 cases or 22 per cent. of the cases in which its infliction was legal, and a general failure to enforce the provisions of the Code regarding the payment of compensation to complainants, but there was a satisfactory increase in the number of cases in which first offenders were released on security. Fourteen boys were sent to a Reformatory School.

Appeals.

59. The number of appeals preferred increased by 425, the increase in the Chief Court being over 100 cases and in the Sessions Court of Tenasserim, where there was serious congestion of work, nearly 200. In Upper Burma the increase was confined to Sessions and District Magistrates' Courts. The percentage of sentences confirmed was 68.3 in Lower Burma and 64.58 in Upper Burma. The proportion ranged from 77 per cent. in the Court of the Judicial Commissioner to under 30 per cent. in the District Courts of Amherst and Tavoy. The average duration of

appeals in the two parts of the Province was 16 and 12 days respectively, and in the Chief Court it rose from 23 to 29 days. Appeals by Government against orders of acquittal were successful in four out of seven cases decided. III.—PRO-
TECTION.

60. The revisional jurisdiction of the courts was more freely exercised than in the previous year. The cases examined involved 26,911 persons, of whom 1,394 obtained a reversal, reduction or alteration of their sentences. A new trial or further enquiry was ordered in the cases of 237 persons and the sentences of 63 were enhanced. The average duration of the cases was 22 to 23 days. Revision.

61. Eighty-six cases were tried by jury and the verdict was approved by the Judge in every case, but out of 678 cases tried with the aid of assessors, the Sessions Judge differed from one or more in 60 cases and from all in 251 cases. Three hundred and nine thousand and twenty-six witnesses were examined, and a sum of Rs. 6,54,579 was realised in fines. The number of persons pending trial at the close of the year was 5,124. The assistance afforded by Honorary Magistrates, especially in Rangoon, in the disposal of cases earned the acknowledgment of the Lieutenant-Governor. Miscellaneous.

Prisons.

62. The Jail population at the beginning of the year was 11,669, including 121 females, or 501 more than in 1903. At the end of the year it had risen to 12,177. The number of admissions increased from 30,773 in the previous year to 31,058, including 913 females. There was also an increase in the daily average number from 11,187 (113 females) to 11,703 (126 females). This was due to the fact that a large number of prisoners with sentences of more than one year remained in jail at the end of 1903. There was a satisfactory decrease in the admission of juvenile offenders. Releases under the ordinary remission rules were more numerous than in 1903, but comparison of totals is affected by the special circumstances of 1903, when 1,167 prisoners were released in celebration of His Majesty's Coronation. Jail population.

63. Of the 15,792 male and 541 female prisoners admitted direct during the year, 1,812 males and 20 females had been convicted once, 821 males and 9 females twice and 781 males and 10 females more than twice. The percentage of admissions of prisoners shown as reconvicted varied from 32.03 in Bassein to 6.56 in Bhamo, the average provincial ratio being 21.14 against 22.06 in 1903. All of the habituals admitted during the year, except 26, were identified before conviction. Twenty-four were identified by jail officials after conviction and the remaining two confessed. Habituals.

64. In spite of the increase in the daily average population, the number of prison offences committed and the punishments awarded decreased from 42,913 to 41,282. Forty-one cases out of the total were dealt with by Criminal Courts and the rest by Superintendents. In the Mergui Jail a prisoner was assaulted by other convicts, but the injuries received were not severe. In a similar case in the Insein Central Jail, a convict warder received injuries which resulted in his death. In the Mandalay Central Jail the Deputy Jailer was attacked by several prisoners and was severely injured. In the last case what might have developed into a serious outbreak was effectively quelled, and the Jailer rescued by the prompt interference of the Superintendent, Captain Dee, I.M.S., who received the thanks of the Local Government for his conduct. The ringleader in this affair was sentenced by the Court of Session to transportation for life, and his companions to shorter terms. The number of punishments inflicted on convict officers, who averaged 2,522 during the year, was 10,439 or 413.92 per cent. as compared with 9,783 or 494.09 per cent. in 1903. They are, however, reported to have discharged their duties satisfactorily, although there was room for improvement as regards efficiency and trustworthiness. The percentage of the daily average of prisoners on whom fetters were imposed as a punishment and for safe custody was the same as in 1903. It is observed that prison offences are most Discipline.

III.—PROTECTION.

common among the habituals, who committed more than half of the major offences and earned 60 per cent. of the whippings inflicted.

Seven prisoners escaped during the year and five were recaptured. On three occasions the escapes were effected from within the jail walls.

Financial.

65. The gross cost of upkeep of the jails increased from Rs. 6,84,233 to Rs. 7,05,468 while the net cost decreased from Rs. 4,97,333 to Rs. 4,83,364. The increase was partly due to the purchase of food stuffs beyond immediate requirements, and partly to the payment of a special allowance to Hospital Assistants in whole-time charge of Jail Hospitals, and to the grant of Burma allowances to the Superintendents of the Jails at Rangoon, Insein and Mandalay. The profits from manufactures rose from Rs. 1,86,900 to Rs. 2,22,104, which is the highest on record. The average net cost per prisoner decreased from Rs. 44-8-0 to Rs. 41-5-0 owing to the exercise of a stricter check over expenditure by the head office, and also to the economy effected by the purchase of articles by the Inspector-General of Prisons, which resulted in a great saving to Government. The value of convict labour supplied to other public departments and the profits of the Jail Branch of the Government Printing Press, which increased from Rs. 1,28,584 to Rs. 1,73,474, are not included in the total earnings.

Gardens.

66. The Jail gardens practically supplied all the vegetables required for the consumption of the prisoners, and sales to the public realised a profit of Rs. 9,199 as against Rs. 8,724 in 1903. Besides vegetables, paddy, dhal, condiments and tamarind to the value of Rs. 18,608 were grown on jail land.

Health of prisoners.

67. The health of the prisoners was generally good. The number of admissions to Hospital and the proportion of daily sick per thousand decreased from 474 and 21 to 387 and 20 respectively, and were the lowest on record, but the death-rate rose from 17.07 to 18.63, which, though less than the average of the previous ten years, was higher than that of the three years 1901—1903. This was chiefly due to epidemics of cholera and dysentery in the Mandalay Jail attributable to a bad water-supply and to the water-logged nature of the jail site. Measures have been taken to remedy these defects by sinking a tube well inside the Jail and by draining the Jail site thoroughly and efficiently. Two thousand and fifteen prisoners or 12.34 per cent. of the total admissions confessed to being habitual consumers of opium. In the Bhamo Jail the proportion was as high as 52 per cent.

Civil Justice.

Courts.

68. Pending the inauguration of the new judicial services, the constitution of the courts remained unaltered, but a new subdivisional court was established at Kyaukpyu and further relief was afforded to the Township Courts of Tavoy and Mergui, Okpo and Lemyetna in Lower Burma, and to several Township Courts in the Upper Province. Many Township Officers in Lower Burma were divested of their civil jurisdiction.

Volume and classification of litigation.

69. The growth of trade and population in Burma was reflected in an increase in the number of suits instituted from 68,656 to 72,424. The increase was practically confined to the Lower Province and was most marked in the delta districts. Small local decreases, probably attributable to temporary causes, were reported from Toungoo and Bassein. The growth of business was shared by courts of all grades, but was most remarkable in the Township Courts (increase, 2,386 cases) and in the Small Cause Courts, especially in Rangoon. Almost the whole of this increase in litigation was due to claims for money or moveable property, and in Lower Burma claims to immoveable property would have declined in number but for the institution of a large number of such cases in the Chief Court. The number of mortgage suits instituted in the Lower Burma Courts has more than doubled in three years. The total value of suits was Rs. 1,52,37,608 or nearly 23 lakhs more than in 1903. The Chief Court of Lower Burma contributed 8½ lakhs of this increase, and district courts not much less.

70. In all, 78,009 suits were before the courts as against 74,240 in the previous year, and 6,109 were pending at the close of the year. Of the total, 34,186 were settled out of court, compromised or decreed on confession and 16,402 were disposed of *ex parte*. Of contested suits, which numbered only 27 per cent. of the total, rather more than two-thirds were decided in favour of the plaintiff. There were 82 references to arbitration, in 65 of which the plaintiff was successful. The average duration of contested cases was 47 days in Lower Burma and 36 days in Upper Burma. Contentious business was, on the whole, more quickly disposed of than in the previous year, but the duration rose from 33 to 38 days in the Rangoon Court of Small Causes.

The number of miscellaneous cases fell from 10,446 to 9,707. This was due partly to a more correct classification of business.

71. Although the number of applications for execution of decrees rose from 36,445 to 38,688, and the percentage of wholly infructuous proceedings fell from 37 to 36, the amount realised fell below the figure of the previous year by a lakh of rupees. Five thousand one hundred and eighty applications were pending at the close of the year, as against 3,761 at the end of 1903. Decrees were more freely enforced by the arrest of judgment-debtors, who in 764 cases were imprisoned.

72. Applications for declarations of insolvency numbered 340, as compared with 264 in the previous year. The amount of creditors' claims admitted was comparatively insignificant, but a far larger proportion was satisfied. Forty-seven per cent. of the applications were rejected and 28 per cent. granted. Fifty-three insolvents were discharged during the year and 55 cases remained pending.

73. In Lower Burma the number of appeals before the courts (3,376) was nearly the same as in 1903, the increase of work in the Chief Court counterbalancing the decrease in the lower appellate courts. In Upper Burma there was an increase of 122 cases, most of which were appeals to district courts. Of the 4,638 appeals disposed of, 57 were dismissed for default or not prosecuted. The percentage of confirmation in the remainder was almost the same (64.5) as in the previous year, the proportion varying from 62 per cent. in the district courts of Upper Burma to 75.1 per cent. in the divisional courts of the Lower Province. Decrees of lower courts were modified in 7 per cent. and reversed in 26.5 per cent. of the cases dealt with. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 7.6 and 25.2. The duration of cases, though adversely affected by the congestion of work in some of the district courts in Lower Burma, was on the whole lower than in 1903.

74. The Chief Judge inspected two district courts, four subdivisional courts, and 16 Township courts and the Court of Small Causes in Rangoon was inspected by Mr. Justice Chitty. Judges of Divisional Courts inspected 18 more courts than in 1903, and Judges and additional Judges of the district courts continued to exercise their duties of supervision with satisfactory results.

75. Constant attention has effected an improvement in the condition of the libraries of subordinate courts and in the disposition of old records in the record-rooms. Further progress was made with the provision of suitable accommodation for the various courts. In Lower Burma, the whole question was examined by the Chief Court and a statement of requirements was submitted to the Local Government. The position of clerks in the mofussil has been ameliorated since the close of the year. Two important measures affecting the administration of civil justice, namely, the conferment of testamentary powers on Burmese Buddhists, and the extension to Upper Burma of certain sections of the Transfer of Property Act, 1882, are under consideration.

Registration.

76. There was no alteration of the law during the year, but certain sections of the Transfer of Property Act have been extended to the whole of Lower Burma from the 1st January 1905, the effect of which is to require the registration in

III.—PRO-
TECTION.
Disposal of
cases.

Execution
of decrees.

Insolvency
proceedings.

Appeals.

Inspections.

Miscellaneous.

Changes in
the Registration
Law and
Rules.

III.—PRO-
TATION.

common among the habituals, who committed more than half of the major offences and earned 60 per cent. of the whippings inflicted.

Seven prisoners escaped during the year and five were recaptured. On three occasions the escapes were effected from within the jail walls.

Financial.

65. The gross cost of upkeep of the jails increased from Rs. 6,84,233 to Rs. 7,05,468 while the net cost decreased from Rs. 4,97,333 to Rs. 4,83,364. The increase was partly due to the purchase of food stuffs beyond immediate requirements, and partly to the payment of a special allowance to Hospital Assistants in whole-time charge of Jail Hospitals, and to the grant of Burma allowances to the Superintendents of the Jails at Rangoon, Insein and Mandalay. The profits from manufactures rose from Rs. 1,86,900 to Rs. 2,22,104, which is the highest on record. The average net cost per prisoner decreased from Rs. 44-8-0 to Rs. 41-5-0 owing to the exercise of a stricter check over expenditure by the head office, and also to the economy effected by the purchase of articles by the Inspector-General of Prisons, which resulted in a great saving to Government. The value of convict labour supplied to other public departments and the profits of the Jail Branch of the Government Printing Press, which increased from Rs. 1,28,584 to Rs. 1,73,474, are not included in the total earnings.

Gardens.

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Registration.

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III.—Pro-
cedure.

Lower Burma of certain documents affecting property below Rs. 100 in value, the registration of which has hitherto been compulsory only in the Upper Province. The question of the complete assimilation of the Law is still under consideration. Four new rules were framed to expedite the registration of certain bilingual leases executed in large numbers and in identical forms by the lessee of a large grant and his tenants. The forms of endorsement were simplified and a new register of fees was brought into use during the year. The forms of index were also improved

Number of
offices.

77. The subregistrar's office at Natmauk in the Magwe district was closed owing to the insignificant number of transactions. At the end of the year there were 145 registration offices, of which 97 were in Lower Burma.

Documents
registered.

78. There was an increase of nearly 9 per cent. in the number of documents registered and of close on 24 per cent. in their value, the number of transactions reaching 44,381 and the value of property concerned Rs. 8,21,05,739. Of the 36,354 documents registered in Lower Burma, 13,092 were deeds of sale and 17,641 mortgage deeds affecting immoveable property. The average value of the former was Rs. 2,623 as compared with Rs. 2,250 in 1903. The increase was mainly due to the rise in the value of land in and around Rangoon, where 1,653 documents of an average value of Rs. 11,742 were registered during the year. Increased wealth among the trading classes, combined with years of good crops and high prices, has tended to raise the value of investments in landed property elsewhere. In some districts of Upper Burma the excess of mortgages over sales of immoveable property tends to disappear, and the figures indicate a growth in the permanent alienation of agricultural land.

The number of optional registrations relating to immoveable property in Lower Burma fell from 637 to 447 and the value of property concerned decreased by 1½ lakhs. The more frequent resort to registration in the case of transactions in moveable property is ascribed to the growing numbers of natives of India, especially of the money-lending class, who are quick to appreciate an advantage over a potential opponent. The number and value of such transactions registered was 4,547 and Rs. 61,60,086, as against Rs. 4,104 and Rs. 44,17,356 in the previous year. The same class was mainly responsible for the growth in the number of powers-of-attorney authenticated from 1,586 to 1,867. Searches and applications for copies were considerably more numerous than in the previous year, but intending purchasers made little use of the offices outside Rangoon and its environs.

Receipts and
Expenditure.

79. As compared with the previous year, the aggregate income, which amounted to Rs. 1,79,609, increased by nearly Rs. 20,000 and the expenditure (Rs. 56,378) by nearly half that amount. More than 80 per cent. of the total income was derived from fees for registration. The rise in expenditure was mainly due to the fact that the salary of Registration clerks in Lower Burma was raised from Rs. 25 to Rs. 30 and to the strengthening of the staff of the Rangoon office.

General re-
marks.

80. Registration offices were frequently inspected and were found, for the most part, to be in good working order. The appointment of an additional officer at Rangoon and the increase of the staff were found necessary owing to complaints of delay in the disposal of business.

Municipal Administration.

Rangoon.

81. A general election was held in Rangoon in November 1904. Except in the case of candidates for the representation of the European community, there was no contest, but in that case it was keen. The incidences of taxation and income per head of population were Rs. 6-15-7 and Rs. 18-11-3 as against Rs. 6-8-4 and Rs. 21-2-5, respectively, in the previous year. The ordinary income of the Municipality for the year rose by nearly a lakh of rupees to Rs. 25,01,565, the greater part of the increase being due to the assessment of newly erected buildings, and the growth of the revenue from slaughter houses and bazaars. A sum of Rs. 13,20,500 was borrowed during the year, and Rs. 57,500 paid towards the extinction of old loans without recourse to the Sinking Fund, which was increased by Rs. 62,839. Excluding suspense accounts, the ordinary expenditure amounted to Rs. 25,20,892, an increase of nearly five lakhs in the charges on account of

public health and convenience, which included the cost of combating the outbreak of plague, being only partially counterbalanced by the savings effected in the cost of General Administration and Collection and in the Loan account.

III—Pro-
vision.

A separate banking account was opened for the Town Lands Reclamation Fund, on account of which a loan of two lakhs was raised during the year, while the expenditure increased by nearly 2½ lakhs, a large share of which was spent on the equipment of reclaimed blocks.

The most important event of the year was the inauguration of the Hlawga water-works by the Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Hugh Barnes, when the connection of the reservoir with the pumping station was opened. The expenditure on this work, which was in the hands of the Public Works Department, was Rs. 12,26,736, the expenditure since the commencement of operations amounting to Rs. 44,74,451, and the revised estimate for the complete work to Rs. 46,33,102. The reservoir is contained by nine dams and is connected with the pumping station by a 42" cast iron main 15 miles in length, which was laid down in eight months. A scheme for the distribution of water within the town, involving an expenditure of Rs. 13,20,324, was submitted to Government.

All Municipal Hospitals have been transferred to Government control, the Municipality surrendering the annual grant of Rs. 2,02,300 which was formerly given in lieu of Excise receipts.

The debt of the Municipality on the 31st March 1905 amounted to Rs. 1,06,85,500. The new loans of the year, which aggregated Rs. 13,20,500, were raised at 4½ per cent, and were taken up at an average of Rs. 106-5-1. A sum of Rs. 4,45,606 was paid towards interest on old loans and the Sinking Fund amounted to Rs. 3,71,000, which was invested in 3½ per cent. Government securities.

82. There were 40 minor Municipalities with an aggregate population of 664,914 and an income, exclusive of debt accounts, of Rs. 26,20,502, which was nearly a lakh in excess of the previous year. Eight of the Municipalities were administered under the Upper Burma Municipal Regulation, but the Burma Municipal Act has since been extended to all except Bhamo.

Minor Mu-
nicipalities.

83. The total number of members of Municipal Committees was 512 of whom 261 were nominated, 92 elected and 159 *ex-officio* members. The attendance at meetings varied from just over half the Committee to 85·81 per cent. Elections were held in six towns and were keenly contested in four.

Constitution
of Commit-
tees.

84. The average incidence of Municipal taxation declined from Rs. 1-10-3 to Rs. 1-10-0 per head of the population. The most noticeable decrease was in the case of Moulmein, where, owing to a reduction of the water-rate, the average sank from Rs. 4 to Rs. 3-10-7. The incidence was less than Re. 1 in 18 Municipalities and exceeded Rs. 2 in only four towns. Calculated on the total income the average incidence per head of the population declined from Rs. 5-14-6 to Rs. 4-6-11, but it was largely affected by the smaller amount received in grants and loans. Scavenging taxes were imposed for the first time at Ngathainggyaung-Daunggyi and Sagaing, and sampans came under taxation in Henzada and Ma-ubin; an additional tax on land was levied in Kyangin, and the scavenging tax was extended and the rates enhanced in Bassein. Revision of assessment was effected or in progress in fourteen Municipalities and is still needed in others. With few exceptions outstandings were not considerable and collections were promptly made.

Incidence of
taxation and
income.

85. To an opening balance of Rs. 9,99,222 and ordinary receipts amounting to Rs. 26,20,502 the debt account added a sum of Rs. 3,27,211. The ordinary expenditure was Rs. 29,94,161 as compared with Rs. 33,31,867 in 1903-04 and the aggregate closing balance was Rs. 6,07,501.

Income and
expenditure.

86. Municipal rates and taxes produced Rs. 10,78,876 as compared with Rs. 10,87,382 in the previous year. The slight decrease was due to a reduction in the rate of water-tax at Moulmein.

Rates and
taxes.

87. The total revenue derived from Municipal property, apart from taxation, amounted to Rs. 13,36,710 as compared with Rs. 12,58,914 in 1903-04. Of the

Other
sources of
revenue.

III—Production.

whole amount, receipts on account of markets and slaughter-houses accounted for Rs. 11,41,959. The increase in the revenue from Municipal markets was most noticeable at Mandalay, Toungoo and Pegu. At Prome, fees for the slaughter of cattle and pigs were doubled, while at Moulmein a decline in the receipts was due to the fact that the right to collect fees were not sold in advance as hitherto. Rinderpest in the Thayetmyo district resulted in diminished returns from the Allanmyo cattle market and a decrease at Ngathainggyaung is attributed to the general decline of the town consequent on the opening of the railway.

Grants and contributions.

88. The amount contributed to Municipalities from Government, Local Funds and other sources shewed a considerable increase. Mergui, Bassein and Ma-ubin received grants from Government for hospitals, Ma-ubin for education, Bhamo and Minbu for general purposes. The Sandoway Municipality received Rs. 11,000 from Provincial Funds for the construction of a new hospital, and Letpadan drew Rs. 1,000 from the District Cess Fund in aid of the Town dispensary.

General Administration and collection charges.

89. Charges on account of administration and collection remained almost stationary. At Thônzè, a new Municipal Office involved an increase from Rs. 2,636 to Rs. 10,779, and similar charges of an exceptional nature in the previous year or in the year under review caused variations elsewhere. A survey at Pegu was carried out at an expenditure of Rs. 6,975.

Expenditure on Public Safety.

90. The expenditure on public safety, which included the purchase of five fire engines, amounted to Rs. 2,24,366 as against Rs. 2,17,949 in the previous year. Street lighting was introduced at Allanmyo and Minbu and the system was extended in six other towns. With the extension of the Burma Municipal Act to Upper Burma Towns, charges on account of police disappear from the Municipal accounts.

Water-supply.

91. One lakh and seventy-one thousand rupees were spent on the new water-works at Moulmein, which have now been completed at an estimated cost of Rs. 9,36,123. A pipe water-supply was distributed throughout the hot weath r, but, owing to the default of the Committee, the Deputy Commissioner was obliged to exercise the power conferred on him by Section 184 of the Burma Municipal Act, 1898, and to appoint a Municipal Engineer to take charge of the water-works when they were handed over by the Public Works Department. The new works at Prome were taken over by the Municipal Committee in May 1904 and are reported to be satisfactory. Fifty thousand gallons of water per hour are delivered. A scheme for a water-supply at Akyab has been completed and the works are now in process of construction, one lakh of the money required having been borrowed. Experimental operations at Pegu and Bassein were failures. At Thônzè an air-compressor pump was purchased for use in connection with a tube well, but the suitability of the water from similar wells at Gyobingauk and Letpadan has not been determined. At Mandalay the combined scheme for the supply of the Cantonment and the Municipality has been abandoned, and experiments are being made with wells and patent elevators for the supply of the town alone.

Sanitation.

92. At Mandalay an instalment of an extensive drainage scheme was executed by the construction of masonry drains at an expenditure of Rs. 12,935. At Prome 4,828 running feet were added to the system, and surface drainage made progress at Akyab, Pegu, Kyaukpyu and Toungoo, while complete drainage schemes were in several cases referred to the Sanitary Board for advice.

Conservancy.

93. Expenditure on conservancy rose from Rs. 4,87,502 to Rs. 5,16,256. There were considerable increases at Ma-ubin and Akyab and the system at Mergui is being reorganised. Improvements were contemplated at Pegu and Toungoo, and the Mandalay Municipal Committee is raising a loan of Rs. 50,000 for the r form of its conservancy system.

Hospitals and dispensaries.

94. The expenditure on hospitals and dispensaries slightly exceeded that of previous years. A branch dispensary was opened at Moulmein, and additions and

improvements were made to the Hospitals at Toungoo, Pegu, Bassein and Ma-ubin. At Bassein a Government grant of Rs. 6,000 assisted the Municipality to build a European ward and an operating theatre. (At Thaton the hospital built in the previous year has been much appreciated and the attendance of patients largely increased. A number of Municipalities reserved sites for camps or erected temporary hospitals with a view to dealing with plague or other epidemic disease.)

III—Pro-
tection.

95. The expenditure on markets amounted to Rs. 4,84,105. At Mandalay the new Zegyo bazaar was completed but was not opened till after the close of the year. Markets.

96. The total expenditure on public works decreased by Rs. 16,000, but was not abnormally low. Besides the works already mentioned, the Electric Tramways at Mandalay were opened in July 1904, and achieved immediate success. Important bridges were built at Prome and Akyab, and Rs. 11,460 were spent on roads at Pegu. Public works.

97. The expenditure on Public Instruction rose from Rs. 1,39,835 to Rs. 1,44,108. A Municipal school was opened at Zalun and schools at Kyaikto and Ma-ubin were taken over by the Municipal Committees. At Ma-ubin, Prome, Myaungmya, Thaton and Tavoy results were good and the attendance increased. Subject to the consent of the Committees concerned, the Municipal schools at Sandoway and Kyaukpyu are to be taken over by Government and maintained as model institutions. Public Instruction.

98. The liabilities on account of interest on loans during the year amounted to Rs. 98,764 as compared with Rs. 88,353 in 1903-04. Two small loans only were made by Government, namely, Rs. 7,000 to Toungoo and Rs. 12,000 to Ma-ubin. Loans.

99. The accounts of nine Municipalities were not audited during the year. Steps have since been taken to ensure an annual scrutiny. One small defalcation came to light at Akyab, but laxity in account matters was reported from Bhamo, Gyobingauk and Shwebo, while a special auditor had to be detailed to reduce the accounts at Moulmein to order. Audit.

100. Lashio, in the Northern Shan States, was declared a notified area with effect from the 1st April 1904 and Meiktila from the 22nd December. The receipts of Town Funds amounted to Rs. 4,09,292 and the expenditure to Rs. 3,93,164, of which Rs. 3,03,153 were devoted to Public Health and Convenience. Town funds.

Military.

101. The total strength of the troops in Burma, which were under the command of Lieutenant-General D. J. S. McLeod, C.B., D.S.O., throughout the year, was on the 31st March 1905, 9,311 officers and men, of whom 4,131 were Europeans. Strength of the garrison.

102. A house for the Lieutenant-General Commanding was built at Maymyo. At the same station a pipe water-supply was provided for a native regiment, and three half-company barracks and a rifle range constructed. A septic tank installation for the British troops was also begun, and a second permanent ration godown completed for the Supply and Transport Corps. In Rangoon, quarters were built for a Colonel and a Captain under the new Cantonment Scheme, and a new Artillery mess-house with quarters for two subalterns was completed. The old barracks in the Native Infantry lines were overhauled, and plank walls provided. New semi-permanent barracks were constructed for a native regiment and permanent quarters built for four hospital assistants. Minor sanitary improvements were effected in the British Infantry lines. A small laboratory was added to the Station Hospital and a gymnasium built. The barracks of the regular troops in the Southern Shan States were handed over to the Military Police who replaced them. At Shwebo the sinking of two experimental wells for the supply of water to the Cantonment was successfully completed. The garrison at Mandalay was supplied with piped water, and various minor improvements were effected in the officers' quarters and the native officers' mess in the same station. Military works.

Military (Volunteering).

III.—PRO-
TECTION.
Volunteers.

103. There was no change in the constitution of the volunteer forces during the year. They consist of the Rangoon Port Defence (Artillery, Naval and Engineer Corps), the Moulmein Volunteer Artillery and Rifles, the Rangoon Volunteer Rifles, the Burma Railways Volunteer Corps and the Upper Burma Volunteer Rifles. The enrolled strength of the force on the 31st March 1905 was 2,573 active and 157 reservists against 2,750 active and 89 reservists on the same date in the previous year. Of the active volunteers, 2,294 were adults and 279 cadets. The amount of capitation and other grants earned was Rs. 93,515 as against Rs. 91,696 in the previous year. An armoury with quarters for the Sergeant Instructor was nearly finished at Maymyo for the Upper Burma Volunteers.

Marine.

Surveys.

104. A number of surveys were carried out in the Rangoon river by the Port authorities. New tide gauges were erected between Elephant and Grove Points and at Choki Point and King's Point, and leading marks were placed at the Hastings and Monkey Point channels.

Light-houses
and light
vessels.

105. Monthly visits to the light-houses and light-vessels off the coast of the province were carried out by the R.I.M. Steamers *Minto* and *Mayo*. At the annual inspection it was found that extensive repairs were necessary in some cases. There were 13 cases of beri-beri amongst the crews, of which two were fatal. Receipts from light dues amounted to Rs. 4,87,470 and the cost of maintenance to Rs. 1,38,240. Alternative estimates were prepared for iron and concrete towers in connection with the proposed light house at Beacon Island, and detailed drawings were made of all the light houses of the province for transmission to the Trinity House Board for criticism.

Government
steamers
and launch-
es.

106. Eight new vessels were added to the Government flotilla during the year. Two of these were house boats for service in the Delta and one, the *Samson*, a barge designed for the work of river conservancy on the Chindwin. One launch was sold and two vessels foundered during the year, leaving the strength of the fleet at 87 vessels of all kinds. The three Royal Indian Marine Service steamers, *Irrawaddy*, *Sladen* and *Bhamo* carried by river 10,335 troops and followers, with ammunition, horses and cattle, besides 8,000 tons of stores and nearly 80 lakhs of specie. The amount of work performed by these vessels was considerably in excess of the previous year, and their earnings were calculated at Rs. 2,46,517. The total outlay on the provincial flotilla was Rs. 5,69,639 and its earnings Rs. 3,65,917. The net cost to Government was slightly higher than in 1903, but 18 launches earned more than the cost of their upkeep, the profit on the working of two paddlers in Upper Burma amounting to Rs. 29,000, and the expenditure on repairs to the buoy vessel *Retriever* was abnormally heavy. Five new launches and two new hulls are under construction.

Marine
Works.

107. A beacon light was erected to facilitate the navigation of Mergui harbour. Progress was made with the reconstruction of the wharf at Victoria Point. The iron piles were received for the renewal of the main wharf at Pwapon, where the bazaar wharf was extended 60 feet into deep water. Screw pile wharves were erected opposite the bazaar and Court house at Bogale. A fixed timber landing stage was provided at Kungyangon and a laterite jetty at Kyauktan.

Port Administration and Pilot Services.

Port Ad-
ministration,
Rangoon.

108. The income of the Rangoon Port Trust was Rs. 23,88,990 and its expenditure Rs. 17,93,183. The increase in receipts by over six lakhs included the payment of a large sum of arrears by the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company, but there was a general growth of income from fees. The premium on the loan of 1904 produced over 1½ lakhs, and godown rents were revised in favour of the Trust. The expenditure from revenue, which amounted to Rs. 15,84,759, was swollen by the growing cost of precautions against plague and by the payment of interest and provision towards a sinking fund on the ten lakhs loan of 1903. A debenture

loan of 20 lakhs was raised during the year. Proposals for the expenditure of Rs. 4,33,606 in connection with the substitution of fixed for swinging moorings and of Rs. 2,50,000 on a steam buoy-vessel were submitted to Government. Progress was made with the construction of a river wall and of new pontoons and with the reclamation of the foreshore, but the last mentioned work was suspended owing to a dispute with the Rangoon Municipality regarding the rights to the foreshore in front of the Municipal market. The bulk of the material for the extension of Latter Street Wharf was collected and 24 per cent. of the work completed. The erosion of the river bank was retarded by the sinking of cargo boats and the pitching of laterite. A dredger was ordered from the Clyde. Further extensive improvements, estimated to cost Rs. 15,51,755, were sanctioned by Government and the Commissioners have taken expert advice as to the means to be adopted to control the action of the river. The new Rangoon Port Bill was passed by the Lieutenant-Governor's Council in February 1905 and confers upon the Commissioners greater independence in finance and administration. At the same time revised scales of charges have been framed which will enable the Board to meet its obligations.

The credit balance of the Pilot fund increased from Rs. 78,820 to Rs. 93,252. The gross receipts for pilotage amounted to Rs. 2,55,720 and Rs. 1,73,343 were disbursed to the 21 pilots of the Port. The corresponding figures in the previous year were Rs. 2,33,325 and Rs. 1,47,311 respectively.

The Port Health Department was strengthened and stringent precautions were taken against the introduction of plague. These measures, which have unfortunately proved unsuccessful, entailed an expenditure of Rs. 1,87,691, of which Government contributed two-thirds.

109. The smaller ports of the province are administered by Government. There are Port Officers at Moulmein, Akyab and Bassein, where there are ten, three and five pilots, respectively. At Tavoy, Mergui, Kyaukpyu and Sandoway the affairs of the port are in the hands of the Deputy Commissioner. The total income of the minor port funds (excluding Debt Accounts) was Rs. 3,36,562 or Rs. 30,874 more than in the previous year, and the expenditure aggregated Rs. 3,49,868 as against Rs. 3,70,415.

Commercial Marine.

110. In spite of a falling off in the total number of vessels visiting the ports of the province from 9,392 to 8,032, the growing importance of Rangoon was clearly manifested by the shipping returns. Three thousand and eleven vessels entered and cleared from the port as against 2,961 in 1903-04, and the net tonnage increased from 4,149,409 to 4,701,129, the increase of 84 in the number of steamers of over 4,000 tons burden being remarkable. The number and tonnage of sailing vessels fell off considerably. The increase of shipping was largely due to the heavy demand for rice to be sent to Japan. Of the aggregate tonnage in the ports of the Province 2,355,356 out of 6,494,358 represented vessels entering from or clearing to Foreign ports, and 159 vessels sailed under a Foreign flag, those of Norway, Germany and Austria-Hungary preponderating. Six thousand eight hundred and four vessels with a tonnage of 4,139,002 were employed on the coasting trade; the figures indicate a large increase in the size of the vessels employed and an extensive substitution of steamers for sailing ships.

111. The British India Navigation Company's steamship "Ava" went aground in January 1905 below Moulmein, broke her back and became a total wreck. The pilot was held guilty of misconduct and his license was cancelled. In July 1904 the "Mergui" sank in the Ye river and two lives were lost. The Captain was exonerated from blame. The "Pachumba" lost her propeller blades on the Research shoal off Kyaukpyu in August and lay in a perilous position till she was towed to port. The result of the Court of Enquiry is not yet known. In Rangoon Harbour there were seventeen minor casualties to vessels in charge of Harbour Masters and five accidents under pilotage charge. Courts of Enquiry were not considered necessary, but one Harbour Master was warned.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

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Thirty-ninth issue of the Annual Statement of the Coasting Trade and Navigation of British India in the year ending the 31st March 1905, Tables 3 to 15.
Tenth issue of the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1904-05 and preceding years—Table XIX.

Agriculture.

Agricultural stock.

112. The number of plough cattle of all kinds in the province was reduced by the ravages of disease and the flooding of grazing grounds by over 100,000. Heavy losses of cattle occurred in every district of the Pegu and Irrawaddy divisions except Pegu, where the casualties (9,000) were more than replaced. There were 15,678 deaths reported from Hanthawaddy district and the cattle of Henzada were decimated by rinderpest, while Thayetmyo lost nearly one-sixth of its stock. Disease extended to the dry zone, the chief source of the supply of cattle to Lower Burma, and the stock of young animals in Magwe and Yamèthin was considerably reduced. In Amherst, where numbers of cattle were imported from Siam, some 3,000 buffalo calves succumbed to scarcity of fodder during the floods. Notable increases in Upper Burma occurred in Mandalay and Katha, Shwebo and Sagaing.

Cattle disease.

113. Cattle disease ravaged large areas of the province and was of a particularly virulent type. The mortality from disease is returned at 69,344 cattle, of which 51,977 succumbed to rinderpest. The loss to agriculturists was far greater than the sum of the two previous years and was more than 20,000 in excess of the disastrous year of 1901-02. Foot-and-mouth disease was responsible for 9,065 and anthrax for 8,302 deaths. Steps have been taken to mitigate the calamity to cultivators by the more liberal grant of loans for the purchase of new stock and by the provision of additional facilities for obtaining the concession of fallow rates, and the question of the reorganization of the subordinate and inspecting staff of the Veterinary Department is under consideration. Inoculation against disease was successfully practised, 2,727 cattle being treated with the serum, of which only 41 died after inoculation. The method grows in favour with the people and in several districts the Veterinary staff received effective co-operation from the villagers in their efforts to segregate diseased animals, but the number of expert assistants was only 82 out of a sanctioned strength of 100. It is proposed to increase the number and to provide for more effective supervision, besides

enlarging and improving the Veterinary school, which forms the sole and inadequate source of recruitment. The abnormal prevalence of disease was most marked in the Tharrawaddy, Prome, Henzada, Thayetmyo, Magwe and Kindat districts, but an increase of rinderpest was observed in most districts. The connection between the spread of contagion and the movements of cattle from district to district was clearly traceable. The system of registration of cattle deaths was extended to the Minhla subdivision of Thayetmyo district during the year.

IV.—Pro-
duction
and Distri-
bution.

114. Only 56 mares were served by the four Government stallions during the year. The results are in many cases unknown, but, though the experiment has proved a failure hitherto, it is proposed to give it a further trial under the more efficient supervision which it is hoped the appointment of Inspectors will afford.

Pony and
cattle breed-
ing.

Cattle shows were held at five stations, one being abandoned owing to the prevalence of disease. The exhibits were somewhat disappointing in quality, except the buffaloes, of which some very fine specimens were shewn, but there is no lack of interest on the part of local officers and it is hoped that a careful selection of dates for the shows and a better appreciation on the part of exhibitors as to what is required will lead to more satisfactory results.

115. Though the total rice crop of the Province bore a higher percentage to the normal crop than that of 1903-04, it was only 93 per cent. in the 15 chief rice-producing districts as against the bumper crop of the previous year, and the surplus cargo rice calculated to be available for export fell by 318,000 tons. As a result the price of paddy in Lower Burma was, in general, much higher than in the year before and considerably lower in Upper Burma, where the crop was comparatively abundant. The shortage of the crop in the delta encouraged speculation and it is estimated that brokers held large stocks in June 1905. Whereas the highest price in Rangoon in 1903-04 was Rs. 105, which was reached in May, this figure represented the harvest price in the adjoining district of Hanthawaddy during the year under report, while cultivators obtained as much as Rs. 108 in Moulmein, Rs. 110 in Wakema and Rs. 115 in Thaton. The strong demand for rice from Japan operated to maintain prices in Lower Burma at a high level, but it is doubtful whether cultivators derived any benefit from the later movements of the market. In Rangoon the first boatloads of the new crop sold at Rs. 97 to Rs. 100 and the price rose to Rs. 104 by the third week in January. Supplies were not affected by the operations of speculators till March, when the rate was as low as Rs. 94. From that point the price was forced up to Rs. 110 in the third week in May, but had receded to Rs. 101 by the end of June, the brokers evidently fearing with reason that the market had reached its limit. In Upper Burma the fall of prices as compared with the previous year was almost universal. The year, even in the dry zone, was favourable to paddy cultivation. Prices were remarkably low in Shwebo, where late wet-weather paddy sold for Rs. 58 per 100 baskets at the threshing floor as against Rs. 100 in the previous year. In the absence of the usual demand from the dryer districts prices in Katha were Rs. 20 lower than in 1903-04, and practically the only exceptions to the general cheapening of paddy were the districts of Bhamo and Myitkyina and the interior of the Ruby Mines district.

There was a considerable decline in the price of wheat except at Salin, owing, apparently, to a smaller demand. Local failures of the crop raised the price of sessamum in some districts, and in Thaton as much as Rs. 500 was obtained for a basket of 64 lbs in March and April. The price of tobacco was on the whole well maintained and increased remarkably in Toungoo. In Myingyan cotton was the subject of commercial manipulation. The price obtained in November and December was Rs. 25 per 100 viss and was reduced by a combination amongst the millers. The subsequent attempt of the brokers to force up the price was disastrous to themselves but did not affect the cultivators.

116. A sum of Rs. 4,54,285 was disbursed in agricultural advances as against Rs. 3,61,056 in the previous year. In Tharrawaddy and Prome, Myaungmya and

Agricultural
loans.

IV.—PRO-
DUCTION
AND DIS-
TRIBUTION.

Pyapòn, the eagerness of the people to secure advances was remarkable and large sums were taken up in several districts in Upper Burma, notably in the Kyauksè, Yamèthin and Lower Chindwin districts, in each of which Rs. 50,000 or more were disbursed as loans. The failure of Township Officers to devote sufficient attention to the subject was responsible for a falling off in some districts, and the experiment of local disbursements by these offices in the villages concerned is now being tried.

Co-operative
Credit
Societies.

117. Under the Co-operative Credit Societies Act of 1904 a Registrar was appointed in December 1904. The proposal was at first regarded by the people with distrust, but with a better understanding of the intentions of Government interest in the scheme was awakened and at the end of March 1905 four rural societies had been formed with 188 members, a subscribed capital of Rs. 5,600 and Government loans amounting to Rs. 5,000. Other Societies have since been formed and the outlook is promising.

Protection
from
floods.

118. The total area of cultivated land protected by embankments was 612,396 acres, or 3,765 acres less than in the previous year.

The Myanaung embankment breached below Gyogyang, and its sphere of protection was curtailed by 20,000 acres. Elsewhere cultivation extended readily behind the embankments of the Irrawaddy and the Sittang. The cost of upkeep declined by 1½ lakhs of rupees and the net revenue earned by these protective works rose from Rs. 11,27,000 to Rs. 12,68,000.

Area
irrigated.

119. The total area under irrigation increased from 685,658 to 797,342 acres. This result was achieved partly by the improvement and extension of the Government canal systems in Mandalay, Minbu and Kyauksè, and partly by the abundant rainfall, which more than doubled the area commanded by tanks and added 73,000 acres to the area served by private canals. The canal system in Mandalay district was in full operation and irrigated about 11,000 more acres than in the previous year. The Government system, however, taps the supply of the old Shwetachaung canal, which could not obtain water in the hot weather. An increase of over 1,000 acres in Kyauksè was the result of improvements effected in the Sama and Myaungzôn canals, and 2,196 more acres were served by tanks. In Minbu the distributaries were remodelled and the abundant rainfall provided a constant flow of water, with the result that the irrigated area increased by 6,913 acres, and an increase of 8,740 acres in Magwe was due to the efforts of the people to take advantage of a favourable monsoon by repairing their canals. Irrigation expanded by 3,643 acres in Shwebo in spite of the fact that the rainfall was insufficient to fill the Mu canal till late in the season, and the tanks of the adjoining district of Sagaing were enabled to irrigate 3,461 acres more than in 1903-04. In Yamèthin, the area served by private canals increased from 23,779 to 48,033 acres, though Government irrigation reached only three-eighths of the area nominally commanded by its operations.

In Lower Burma irrigation is mainly confined to the baling of water into "mayin" paddy-fields and betel-vine plantations, but above the delta in Prome and Thayetmyo irrigation from small tanks and bunded streams is practised, and private enterprise was slightly more active in this direction than in the previous year.

Weather and Crops.

The mon-
soon.

120. The general character of the monsoon in the early and middle periods was good, but with a tendency to excess. The later rains, however, on which the quality of the paddy crop largely depends, were capricious, with considerable periods of drought, which injuriously affected the weight of the grain. In Akyab drought in October was followed by excessive rain in November, and a crop which had promised exceptionally well was spoiled. In Sandoway the autumn break extended into November and serious damage was only averted by timely showers in December. In Northern Arakan the rainfall was throughout timely and agriculture prospered. The crops of Hanthawaddy and Prome threshed out light for

want of rain in October, and those of Pegu were further reduced by the heavy floods of July and August. In the delta districts the general characteristics ascribed above to the monsoon were predominant, but in Myaungmya the defect occurred in the middle rains. (On the other hand, Thaton and Amherst suffered from floods in the middle period and the hopes of the cultivators, some of whom had sown three times, were dashed by the early and abrupt close of the rains. Floods also did damage in Tavoy and Mergui, but in the Toungoo and Salween districts the rainfall was abundant and well distributed.)

IV. PRO-
DUCTION
AND DIS-
TRIBUTION.

In parts of Upper Burma the general meteorological conditions of the Lower Province were reproduced, but on the whole they were more favourable. It is unusual for the rainfall to suit, in respect of abundance and distribution, both dry and wet crops, yet this result was attained in Meiktila.

Shwebo and Katha enjoyed a very favourable season. The Mandalay canal tract and Kyaukse owed a light crop to the autumn floods, and Bhamo and Myitkyina were similarly affected. The later rains failed partially in Sagaing and entirely in Yamethin, reducing the sessamum crop in the former case and paddy and jowar in the latter. Excessive rain also damaged the sessamum crop in the Lower Chindwin and parts of the Ruby Mines districts, where the season was otherwise favourable.

121. The area under crops in the season 1903-04 was 11,963,594 acres. The figures given in paragraph 90 of the Administration Report of that year have been revised in the light of later information. In 1904-05 there was an increase of 592,181 acres in the cropped area. The most notable extensions were, in round numbers 82,000 acres in Shwebo, 39,000 acres in Meiktila, 33,000 in Yamethin, and 31,000 in Pegu. The abnormal increase of 140,000 acres in the Lower Chindwin was partly illusory, the extension of supplementary survey demonstrating the inaccuracy of previous figures. The favourable conditions of the early monsoon stimulated paddy cultivation everywhere and the hopes raised at the commencement of the season were to a great extent realised in Upper Burma. (In Thaton, however, heavy floods reduced the cropped area. In Katha, the fertile Mohnyin valley, immune at length from Kachin raids, is rapidly coming under the plough.) The expansion of cultivation in Myingyan and Mandalay was largely the result of improved methods of irrigation. The crops failed to mature on rather more than 5 per cent. of the area under cultivation. The failures, which were proportionately more frequent than in the previous year, were due to early floods or the failure of the later rains, though the latter in Mandalay were too heavy for the dry crops. In Shwebo, where the rainfall is seldom abundant, it was unusually timely, and the proportion of failures, which in 1903-04 was one-half, fell to one in thirteen.

Cropped
area.

122. The climatic conditions of the commencement of the agricultural season were such as to favour the substitution of paddy for other crops, and the area under rice was 9,265,464 acres, or 589,548 acres more than in the preceding year. In Mandalay, under the influence of canal irrigation, three-quarters of the wheat cultivation was replaced by paddy, and in the five districts of Sagaing, Kyaukse, Meiktila, Yamethin and Myingyan an extension of rice cultivation by 173,825 acres coincided with a reduction of 75,255 acres in the area under millet. The latter crop shared with paddy the extensions in Magwe, Mergui and the Lower Chindwin. The acreage under sessamum was 1,036,696 as against 993,679 in 1903-04, though there were large decreases in Magwe, Sagaing and Yamethin, attributable to an unsuitable rainfall and the growing popularity of groundnuts. The cultivation of cotton responded to the good prices obtainable and to the encouragement afforded by the distribution by Government of selected seed. The crop, which occupied 188,415 acres, or 28,531 acres more than in the previous year, is readily absorbed by local ginning mills. Tobacco also commanded a ready market and, under favourable conditions as regards the formation of the alluvial islands on which it is grown, and on many of which it is gradually replacing less remunerative crops, such as peas, onions, chillies, etc., an area of 76,390 acres, or 12,571 more than the year before, was devoted to its cultivation. Sugarcane tends to be displaced by garden produce,

Area under
various
crops.

IV.- PRO-
DUCTION
AND DIS-
POSITION.

and the once flourishing orange gardens of the Amherst district are rapidly disappearing owing to the impoverishment of the soil and the neglect of the cultivators.

Horticulture.

Agri-Horti-
cultural
Societies.

123. The long contemplated removal of the gardens of the Agri-Horticultural Society of Burma to a site adjoining the Victoria Memorial Park was carried out during the year and a sum of Rs. 40,890 was expended on laying out and equipping the grounds. A balance of Rs. 1,08,421 was at the credit of the Society at the end of the year for the completion of the work, which aims at making the Gardens a centre of experimental cultivation as well as a botanical collection.

Horticulture.

124. Experimental gardens were maintained, as in previous years, at Taunggyi (Southern Shan States), Sinlunkaba (Bhamo), Falam (Chin Hills), Katha, Myitkyina and Sima. The expenditure, which was increased by the appointment of an additional gardener at Taunggyi, amounted to Rs. 10,547 and receipts from the sale of produce aggregated Rs. 2,615. At Sinlunkaba the vegetables and flower gardens gave excellent results and neighbouring headmen started market gardens with profit to themselves. Additions were made to the orchard by grafts and cuttings, but the cultivation of the more delicate species of stone fruits has been abandoned as unsuited to the climate. On the other hand, ripe plums and greengages of good flavour were obtained for the first time from the Falam garden and the cultivation of these and of peaches and apples was extended. Peaches were produced at Tiddim in the Chin Hills but were of poor quality. Experiments with potatoes were successful, but wheat and oats failed. The strawberry crop was indifferent. Experiments were made with the *Radical bacteria* or nitrogen-absorbing bacteria on successive crops of peas. The characteristic nodules were found on the fourth crop and a clear culture was obtained in which after four days the bacteria appeared. It is proposed to adapt the bacteria to other crops. Birds and insects destroyed the peach crop at Katha, but vegetables thrived and the Taunggyi strawberry plants are doing well. Promising experiments were made with Manila hemp and cotton seed from Myingyan. In the Myitkyina gardens many of the trees fruited and potatoes and other vegetables were successful, but only two of the ten coffee trees planted at Sima have survived. At Taunggyi, however, the cultivation of Arabian coffee shews promise, and gratifying results have attended the introduction of oats and sweet potatoes. The fruit trees did well, but nectarines were spoiled by the early rains.

Experiments with sericulture were confined to the Southern Shan States, where it was hoped that the success attained in the similar climate of Kashmir would be repeated. These hopes were, however, disappointed. Only a few of the eggs, which were imported from France, hatched and the worms died for lack of suitable food. Partial successes were obtained with the cultivation of Virginia and Havana tobacco in Henzada, Minbu, Mandalay, Kyaukse and Ma-ubin. In the last named district the Havana variety continued to be popular and the cultivation extended by 1,129 acres. The outturns varied from 111 lbs. to 1,000 lbs. per acre and good prices were obtained, the exports of Havana leaf from Ma-ubin realising as much as the best Indian tobacco. Samples of it shewn at an exhibition at Ma-ubin were pronounced to be of good quality, though badly cured.

Experiments with tea in eight districts proved very discouraging, but coffee has been grown successfully in the Upper Chindwin as well as in the Southern Shan States. The introduction of Chinese cotton met with very limited success, but experiments continue and the distribution of selected seed of the indigenous varieties was undertaken.

Forests.

Reserves.

125. The net addition to the area of reserved forest during the year was 373 square miles and the total reached 20,411 square miles. Thirty-eight reserves with an aggregate area of 790 square miles were finally notified during the year. Of this area 396 square miles were in the Pegu Circle, where the settlement of 708

square miles awaited the orders of Government. An area of 374 square miles was disafforested in the Chin Hills in deference to the claims of villagers. The progress of settlement was considerably hampered by the dearth of officers. IV.—PROMOTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

126. Four hundred and seventy-nine miles of forest boundaries were demarcated during the year at a cost of Rs. 3,519. In the Pegu Circle 119 square miles of reserves were surveyed by No. 20 Party, Survey of India, operating in the Thayetmyo Division, and a number of boundary surveys were executed by local agency. In the Tenasserim Circle local parties covered a large area, but the work of the Survey of India was confined to traverse preliminary to survey. Two parties were at work in the Upper Chindwin, Myittha, Mu and Katha Divisions and surveyed 845 square miles of forest reserves, besides 200 square miles in the Southern Circle. The entire estimated cost of survey during the year was Rs. 2,31,515. Survey

127. A working-plan for the forests in the plains of the Rangoon Division, comprising 83 square miles, was sanctioned with effect from the 1st January 1905, the cost being Rs. 92 per square mile, and proposals for dealing with a further area of 437 square miles have been submitted. The field work in three reserves, comprising 133 square miles, in the Thayetmyo Division was completed. The progress of working-plans in the Tenasserim Circle was delayed by sickness, and the field party only covered 50 square miles. Good progress was made with the operations in the Upper Chindwin and Myittha Divisions, though they were hampered by difficulties of transport. A working-plan for 39 square miles of reserve in the Pyinmana Division was sanctioned during the year and another was submitted which dealt with 248 square miles in the Ruby Mines Division, where new operations were commenced in the Nahan reserves. Preliminary reports on working plans were prepared and approved in the Southern Circle (614 square miles) and for seven small fuel reserves in the Tharrawaddy Division. Out of a total forest area of 123,614 square miles only 3,266 square miles have been scientifically prepared for exploitation, and the strength of the staff has not permitted an adherence to the programme of operations. Working-plan

128. The number of prosecutions instituted for forest offences increased from 2,647 to 3,393. In the Pegu Division the appointment of a Ranger to supervise a large fuel reserve was responsible for a large number of prosecutions for petty offences. Forest prosecutions were nearly twice as frequent in the Tenasserim Circle as in the previous year and were the result of better supervision. The wholesale cutting of green teak for cart-wheels in the Thayetmyo Division was punished by the imprisonment of one man for six months and the fining of the village concerned, and a similar case was dealt with by the Thaugthut *Sambwa* in the Upper Chindwin. Forest subordinates were implicated or suspected in serious cases in the Mu and Shwegyin Divisions. Forest offences

129. Protective operations were carried out over an area of 5,291,712 acres, of which 92 per cent. was successfully protected, the extension of the system being more than counterbalanced by the larger area in which the work was unsuccessful. Although one fire in the Thayetmyo Division was in progress for eight days and four outbreaks burned 77,227 acres in the East Yoma reserve, protection was on the whole more efficacious in the Pegu Circle, but serious damage was done to plantations. The fire season was exceptionally dry and protracted in the Tenasserim Circle, and in two divisions alone 71 outbreaks, in several of which incendiarism was suspected, covered an area of nearly 28,000 acres. In the Shwegyin Division two large fires were attributed to the attempts of cattle-thieves to obliterate their tracks. The work of protection in Upper Burma was facilitated by the fall of rain in March and results were better than in the previous year, but two large fires in Pyinmana, one of which involved a valuable teak plantation, were attributed to incendiaries, who were not brought to justice. The cost of fire-protection during the year was Rs. 2,73,334. Fire-protection.

IV.—Pro-
duction
and Distri-
bution.

Plantations
and experi-
mental
cultivation.

130. The area of plantations was 44,255 acres. More than half of this area was in the Pegu Circle where the plantation of teak on *taungyas* was widely extended, though for want of supervision the results were indifferent. In the Tenasserim Circle, where *taungya* plantations were extended by 1,112 acres, failures are attributable mainly to the early arrival of the rains.

The rubber trees in the experimental garden numbered 7,636. Tapping was in progress from October till the end of April and was found to be most productive in the dry weather. One thousand four hundred and fifty pounds of rubber were collected and sent to London. The price obtained for the produce of the previous year varied from 3s. 8d. to 5s. 3½d. per lb. The Mergui rubber plantation was further extended and protected by fencing against the depredations of wild animals, by which from 50 to 75 per cent. of the *Hevea* plants had been destroyed. The whole of the seed-crop of *Hevea* rubber was destroyed by a fungus, but other species of rubber are doing well. The expenditure on the plantation since its formation has been Rs. 1,64,942. In the Pegu Circle, *Hevea* rubber was successfully grown and Mahogany made slow progress. In Upper Burma, successful experiments were made with camphor and *Ficus elastica*, and yews and deodars did well at Bernardmyo, where, however, walnuts, eucalyptus and acacia were destroyed by crickets.

Extraction
and sale of
timber.

131. The total outturn of timber and fuel in Burma was 54,930,855 cubic feet as against 48,547,381 in the previous year. Of this total more than 56 per cent. represented rough logs of mature timber, but the proportion of unreserved woods was considerably higher than in the previous year and the extraction of teak in the rough declined by 887,905 cubic feet. In the Pegu Circle only 11 per cent. of the produce was extracted by Government agency, the outturn of timber in the previous year having been swollen by a favourable floating season. The Rangoon depôt suspended operations on account of anthrax amongst the elephants. The timber which should have been sent down was sold locally before the usual time, with the result that the receipts during the year were abnormally large. The smaller outturn of teak in the Tenasserim Circle was mainly due to the difficulties of extraction experienced by the lessees of the Toungoo forests. The system of purchase contracts partially superseded extraction by Government agency in the Northern Circle, where the amount of unreserved timber extracted by purchasers was nearly three times as large as in the previous year. Heavy fellings of *pyingado* for the Burma Railways were carried out in the Pinyinana Division by Government agency and the extractions of timber by purchasers in the Southern Circle were 18,480 tons in excess of the previous year. The outturn of fuel throughout the Province was more than 2½ millions of cubic feet above that of 1903-04, and the value of minor forest produce showed an advance of 1½ lakhs of rupees.

Financial
results.

132. While the expenditure of the Forest Department remained practicaly unchanged, the total receipts rose from Rs. 85,19,404 to Rs. 1,09,61,494, and the surplus from 50 to nearly 74½ lakhs. This result was partly due to the early sales of timber in the Pegu Circle referred to in the preceding par graph.

Mines and Quarries.

Concessions.

133. The chief mining industries continue to attract enterprise and capital, the number of applications for mining concessions of all kinds presented during the last ten months of 1904 and the first two months of 1905 being 81, of which 41 were granted. Several new syndicates and companies have been formed to develop concessions and one or two firms of good standing not hitherto interested in mining have now entered the field. The grant of concessions is regulated by the Mining Rules framed by the Government of India, except concessions relating to the commoner minerals, for which rules have been framed under the Lower Burma Land and Revenue Act, 1876, and the Upper Burma Land Revenue Regulation, 1889, and to precious stones in certain tracts in Upper Burma, to which the Upper Burma Ruby Regulation, 1887, applies. The rules have worked satisfactorily and no occasion has arisen for altering them, except in respect of the new industry of gold-dredging, for which special regulations are under consideration.

134. In the petroleum industry no effective competitor appeared in the field against the Burma Oil Company which again largely increased its output. Negotiations were in progress regarding arrangements for the construction by the Company of a pipe-line to connect the Yenangyaung and Yenangyat oil fields with the refineries at Rangoon for the purpose of reducing the cost of carriage. The total production of oil in 1904 was 115,903,804 gallons, or 30,575,313 gallons in excess of the previous year. The Yenangyaung field, which has now been extended northwards to Singu in the Myingyan district, and the Yenangyat (Pakökku) field were still the only oil-fields which produced oil in large quantities. Efforts were made by prospectors to follow up the course of the rich oil-bearing seams of these fields, but concessions granted in the Lower Chindwin, Shwebo and Upper Chindwin districts, and in Thayetmyo and Prome, proved unprofitable. The Arakan oil-fields in the Kyaukpyu and Akyab districts continued to produce oil but the output was small. The provisions of the rules, which require that effective operations shall be begun within two years of the execution of a lease, have not hitherto been strictly enforced as regards mining leases for oil, and the time allowed has generally been extended where there were indications of a *bond fide* intention to work the concession. A considerable proportion of the concessions granted have consequently not yet been thoroughly tested. New conditions have been prescribed in licenses to prospect for oil, providing for the supply of oil for the requirements of the Admiralty and for the refining of the oil in British India. The Government of India is also considering the revision of the conditions on which leases are granted.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.
Petroleum.

135. The production of rubies during 1904 was practically confined to the Ruby Mines district. Stones valued at Rs. 13,92,514 were won by the Ruby Mines Company during the year 1904 as against Rs. 14,68,636 in 1903, though 400,000 more truck-loads of earth were treated than in the previous year. The royalties paid by native miners fell from Rs. 3,51,910 in 1903-04 to Rs. 2,23,372 in 1904-05. The decrease is attributed to the exhaustion of the more accessible ground. The construction of an important drainage tunnel was undertaken to prevent the flooding of the mines.

Rubies.

136. The total output of gold during 1904 was 215.76 ounces. The Kyaukpazat mine, which produced 1,396 ounces of gold in 1903, was closed during that year, the reef being worked out, and the output of 1904 was almost entirely obtained by dredging. The Mining Rules contain no special provisions suitable for gold-dredging operations, for which several concessions have been granted. During the year a number of applications for exploring or prospecting licenses and for mining leases for gold were dealt with and an expert examination of the gold-bearing rivers of Upper Burma is to be made with a view to the framing of suitable regulations.

Gold.

137. No coal of good quality has yet been produced: and owing to the closing of the Letkôkpin mine in February 1904 the output for the year fell to 1,105 tons. Although the results hitherto achieved have not been great, the commercial value of a local field continued to attract enterprise, and eleven fresh applications were made during the year for exploring and prospecting licenses. These applications related to many different localities, and included areas in Upper Burma and the Northern Shan States Thayetmyo and the Tenasserim coast districts.

Coal.

138. Tin-mining was confined to the districts of Mergui and Tavoy. The tin output in 1904 amounted to 1,388 cwt., valued at Rs. 1,23,631, an outbreak of beri-beri at the principal mine in the Mergui district having interfered with the work.

Tin.

139. There was an increase in the quantity of jade extracted from the mines in the Myitkyina district from 1,169 cwt., valued at Rs. 77,691, to 2,244 cwt., valued at Rs. 1,50,087, and during the year 1904-05 the value of the exports of the stone to China, which absorbs the whole of the output, exceeded by Rs. 80,000 the figures of the previous year. Dynamite was freely used in the working of the mines.

Jade.

IV.—PRO-
DUCTION
AND DISTRI-
BUTION.Other mine-
rals.

140. The old silver mines at Punshi in the Bhamo district were examined by an expert and found to be valueless. The fecs realised from the tourmaline industry at Mogók fell from Rs. 1,058 to Rs. 726. One hundred and forty-five cwt. of steatite were extracted in the Minbu district and a few men were engaged in the corundum mines in the Hill Tracts of Myitkyina. A mining lease for plumbago was issued in the Ruby Mines district, and the working of marble in the Sagyin Hill Tract, Mandalay, was resumed by local miners. Gravel, laterite, stone metal and limestone were extracted in many districts to meet local requirements.

Principal
Industries.

141. There is no indication that the staple home industries of the people are being displaced by the introduction of machinery or organised into large commercial enterprises. Factories have absorbed the rice, timber, oil and cotton industries and to a certain extent the manufacture of salt, but the simple domestic requirements of the bulk of the population and their love of ornament are for the most part satisfied by the products of local industry, which in many cases is merely supplementary to the great business of agriculture. In rural tracts nearly every Burmese woman can provide the every-day clothing of the household, while in many places the local silk weaver provides gala garments. Potters, carpenters and blacksmiths and makers of shoes, mats and cheroots are to be found wherever there is raw material and a demand for their wares, and gold and silver-smiths and lacquer-workers cater for the artistic instincts of the people. Oil and *ngapi* are frequently home products and the latter, as manufactured in some of the delta districts, has attained a more than local celebrity. Excellence of workmanship has also secured for the silks of Amarapura, the mats of Ma-ubin, the lacquerwork of Pagan and the umbrellas of Bassein a wider, though still restricted, market, but enterprise and advertisement are lacking and it may be said of most of the home industries of Burma that they are rather the inevitable outcome of a pressing local demand than the result of reasoned commercial activity.

The numbers engaged on each industry are recorded in the census of 1901, but except in the case of skilled artizans are probably far below the actual numbers.

Factories.

142. Twelve more factories came under the operation of the Factories Act, 1881. The total number of factories at the end of the year was 202, of which more than half are situated in Rangoon. Nine new rice-mills were built, four in Rangoon and the rest in Lower Burma districts. The total number of operatives showed a corresponding increase from 32,345 to 34,970, of whom 21,034 were employed in Rangoon town.

The health and treatment of factory operatives were generally reported to be satisfactory, but the conditions of work in the Government Press and the sanitary state of the cooly lines in Bassein were unfavourably criticised. Steps are being taken to remedy the defects. Orders have also been issued to enforce the greater regularity of inspections. The rate of wages, already high, showed a further tendency to increase in spite of the steady flow of imported labour. The average remuneration of a cooly in a rice-mill is now Rs. 15. Hitherto, in Bassein it was only Rs. 13, and it is said still to be as low as Rs. 8 in Hanthawaddy. The wages earned by fitters and carpenters declined in some factories, but engine drivers in Bassein received Rs. 75 and Rs. 40 in saw-mills and rice-mills respectively as against Rs. 30 and Rs. 35 in the previous year.

The number of women employed in factories decreased slightly, but a new rope factory in Rangoon found employment for 100 more children.

There were 161 accidents in the year as against 163 in the previous year. Only seven were fatal, but the number of serious accidents increased from 76 to 80. The character of the accidents did not disclose the necessity for any further precautions. There were no convictions under section 15 of the Factories Act.

It has been decided that for the present the Act should not be extended to Upper Burma. In the case of certain classes of factories the minimum number of inspections was reduced. No other rules or general instructions were issued during the year.

Trade.

143. The total value of the sea-borne trade of the Province in 1904-05 was Rs. 42,18,00,740 as against Rs. 39,46,70,251 in the previous year. The latter figure was itself unprecedented, and a further increase of 6·8 per cent. is a striking indication of the expansion of trade. Foreign trade, of which, in the case of the chief Port, the United Kingdom absorbed 33·84 per cent., bore a smaller proportion to the aggregate volume than in 1903-04, though its value increased by more than a crore of rupees, and the most remarkable feature was the growth the export trade to India.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.
Marketing trade. Total value.

144. Ninety-eight per cent. of the foreign imports came to Rangoon, where their total value was Rs. 8,94,45,014. This figure is exclusive of Government transactions, the volume of which, owing chiefly to the import of locomotives and railway materials for the Burma Railways, was nearly twice as great as in the previous year, and it represents an advance of 8·23 per cent. in the inward trade of the Port. Cotton goods constituted 28 per cent. of the foreign imports at the chief Port and their value rose by more than 40 lakhs. The increase took place in spite of a smaller demand for twist and yarn, of which large stocks were in hand, and in face of the high price of the raw material which affected the competition of European with Indian piece-goods. Woollen goods were also imported in much larger quantities, but a considerable portion of the increase, which amounted to over 15 lakhs in value, remained in stock at the end of the year. The consignments of raw silk, especially from Hongkong, showed a large increase. Pure silk piece-goods declined from 9,390,917 yards to 8,104,709 yards; the imports from Japan decreased by five million yards in quantity and 29 lakhs of rupees in value, while the receipts from the Straits (largely of Chinese manufacture) were three and half million yards in excess of the previous year. The total value of silk imported fell from Rs. 63,01,140 to Rs. 56,72,030. There was a decline in the importation of wine for European consumption, but the cheaper forms of spirits were in great demand and the import of French brandy rose by 10,000 gallons. Over-trading with Japan in the previous year, in anticipation of the war, had outstripped the demand for matches, and the shortage of over two lakhs of rupees indicated the return of the trade to its normal dimensions. The imports of metals declined from 1,197,143 cwt. to 1,104,396 cwt. Bar steel continues to replace bar iron, and tinned iron sheets were in strong demand for the oil trade, but the iron trade was overstocked in the previous year and the importations of galvanized iron sheets in 1904-05, which rose by 57,000 cwt. were again beyond the requirements of the market. The construction of new rice and timber mills and steamers was responsible for a rise of over four lakhs in the value of consignments of machinery and mill work, and an increase of Rs. 84,000 under railway plant and rolling stock represents part of the outlay on the electrification of tramways. Cutlery and hardware maintained their position, in spite of a 40 per cent. increase in the previous year, the value of the imports being Rs. 32,46,308 as against Rs. 32,52,734 in 1903-04. In spite of the growing popularity of the locally refined oil and the failure of the cargo of Russian oil received at the end of the previous year to find a ready market, the importations of kerosene from the United States reached over two million gallons, or 700,000 gallons more than in 1903-04. Heavy stocks of foreign oil remained unsold. The value of imported oil rose from Rs. 13,31,600 to Rs. 17,27,626. The prosperity consequent on a good harvest increased the demand for imported provisions, which rose from Rs. 53,47,812 to Rs. 56,70,400, and included not only *ngapi* and salted fish but also large quantities of British groceries. Salt, also, was imported in larger quantities, the value being Rs. 10,60,148 as against Rs. 8,26,182 in the previous year; but part of this difference was due to a rise of 50 per cent. in the price of the German article, which successfully withstood the competition of the cheaper English and Aden products. The total quantity imported increased by nearly 3,000 tons. The quantity of refined sugar imported fell from 328,299 to 327,122 cwt., but prices were considerably higher than in the previous year, partly owing to the poverty of the beet crop. Only 5 per cent. of the imports were bounty-fed. Arrivals from the United Kingdom declined by 48,000 cwt., while the imports from Java were double those of the previous year.

Foreign imports. Rangoon.

IV.—PRO-
DUCTION
AND DISTRI-
BUTION
—
Foreign im-
ports. Minor
ports.

145. The total value of foreign imports at the minor ports was Rs. 19,05,398, or about a lakh less than in the previous year. Moulmein absorbed 71 per cent. of the total trade. The growth of the trade in kerosene oil was remarkable, the value rising from Rs. 77,734 to Rs. 2,07,280. The imports of betelnut increased in value by Rs. 50,000, of which a large proportion went to Tavoy and Mergui. Salt and sugar were amongst the articles less freely imported. Bassein tends to draw its supplies from Rangoon, and its inward foreign trade shows a steady decline.

Foreign ex-
ports. Ran-
goon.

146. While the percentage of increase on the foreign import trade of the chief port was 8.23, exports, though of far greater value, shewed an increase of only 1.23 per cent. The decline of the teak, cotton and cutch trades explains this comparative stagnation. The shipments of teak from Rangoon were lower than they have been for some years, though the price has risen considerably. Exports to the United Kingdom fell in quantity from 36,164 to 21,328 tons and in value from Rs. 47,42,687 to Rs. 28,54,563, and Ceylon, which is the only other considerable purchaser, took 6,000 fewer tons than in the previous year. The decrease may be attributed partly to the competition of Java and Siam timber and partly to the existence of large stocks at the end of the previous year. The cutch trade exhibited a heavy falling off from the figures of 1903-04, which were, however, abnormal. The decrease from 109,850 cwt. to 60,362 cwt., representing a loss to trade of not much less than 10 lakhs, was the natural result of the discovery of a substitute by chemical science, but was probably assisted by the exhaustive workings of previous years. The exports of raw cotton fell from 97,181 cwt., worth Rs. 26,38,785 to 50,345 cwt., valued at Rs. 13,90,679. The crop, though more extensively grown, was not abundant, being spoiled by the October rains.

Rice constituted 81 per cent. of the total exports. The increase in the trade is not fairly represented by the value of the transactions, which rose from Rs. 10,25,94,489 to Rs. 10,42,57,383, for prices ruled generally lower and the shipments were more than 160,000 tons in excess of the previous year. Exports to the United Kingdom increased by 25,000 tons and Italy, Sweden and the Balkan States were larger buyers, while the most notable decrease in the European trade occurred in the shipments to Austria, Germany and Holland. There was a heavy decline in the rice trade with the Straits Settlements and the Philippines, but 9,147,269 cwt., or nearly $\frac{1}{3}$ of the whole quantity exported, went to Japan and the requirements of South America were 24,000 tons in excess of the previous year. The increasing demand for caoutchouc in the European and American markets and the high prices obtainable raised the export of this commodity from 566 cwt. to 1,871 cwt. There was a remarkable rise in the quantity and value of hides exported, especially to the United Kingdom, which contributed nearly 10½ lakhs towards a total of Rs. 32,19,755, the British share of the previous year's trade (Rs. 24,68,315) being Rs. 5,75,745. The quality of jade consigned by sea was inferior, and though shipments were large in bulk the value declined from Rs. 8,22,585 to Rs. 6,24,050. Mineral oils were exported to the value of Rs. 28,05,987 as against Rs. 10,04,660 in the previous year. The establishment of agencies in China and the Straits Settlements largely extended the trade in kerosene oil with those places and there was a stronger demand for paraffin wax, especially in the United Kingdom. There were also heavy home consignments of oil for use as fuel on the vessels of the Burma Oil Company.

Foreign ex-
ports. Minor
ports.

147. The value of the foreign export trade from the smaller ports aggregated Rs. 3,43,14,098 as against Rs. 3,23,06,923 in 1903-04. The enhanced shipments of rice from Moulmein, Tavoy and Bassein were the main factor in this result, the teak trade shewing a decline in value of 8½ lakhs. Moulmein absorbed 42 per cent. of the trade of the outports, Bassein, which during the year made its first shipment of rice to South America, coming next. The rice trade of Akyab with foreign ports declined by more than 5 lakhs.

Coasting
trade.

148. The total value of the coasting trade of the Province was Rs. 16,75,23,413 or Rs. 1,68,76,929 more than in the previous year. The increase was much more noticeable in exports than in imports, the former rising by 22.7 per cent. whereas

the percentage of increase in the latter was only 2.6 per cent. In Rangoon, gunny-bags, betel-nuts and piece-goods from Bengal were the principal items in an increase of nearly 31½ lakhs in the import trade, while the Indian demand for Burma rice and the phenomenal popularity of Burma oil were responsible for a rise of over one crore and 27½ lakhs in the value of exports.

The coasting trade of the subordinate ports shewed an advance of 6.4 per cent., the enhanced value of exports being nearly four times as great as that of imports.

149. The total volume of inland trade reached a value of Rs. 4,03,42,415, or 33½ lakhs more than in the previous year, but the increase was proportionately much greater in exports than in imports, the percentages of increase being 16 and 3.7 respectively. The statistics of trade were recorded at 38 stations, four of which were newly established during the year on the trade routes to the Southern Shan States, in order that the commercial value of the projected railway might be more accurately gauged. Double registration was prevented by the establishment of check stations, and the difficulty which traders had occasionally experienced in obtaining passes at the remoter posts was reduced to a minimum. The cost of the registering establishment was Rs. 17,412.

150. The disproportion between the export and import trades was most noticeable in the case of Western China. The value of exports was nearly five lakhs in excess of the previous year, while there was a decline of 2.56 per cent. in the imports, which are reduced by the restrictions placed on the introduction of Yunnan opium into Burma. On the other hand, the establishment of the imperial Chinese customs at Tengyueh, the improvement of communications, the grant of a rebate on the Rangoon import tariff and the respect paid to transit passes by the collectors of *likin*, have all tended to stimulate the export trade, the growth of which was most noticeable in the case of raw cotton (Rs. 2,44,000), jade (Rs. 88,000) and silver (Rs. 1,33,000).

151. The total value of trade with the Northern Shan States rose from Rs. 96,35,227 to Rs. 1,11,25,964, the percentage of increase being 11.9 for imports and 20.7 for exports. The commercial value of the railway is indicated by the growth of the inward tea trade and the enhanced demand for European cotton goods, which together added about Rs. 9,84,000 to the volume of trade.

Some portion of the apparently enormous expansion of trade with the Southern Shan States, which, as indicated by the returns, amounted to Rs. 27,36,000 more than in the previous year, must be attributed to the improvement of the system of registration. Almost every article, both of export and import, shared in this result, the whole volume of trade being valued at Rs. 1,14,56,224, out of which the movements of silver accounted for Rs. 24,83,733.

152. Both the inward and outward trade with Northern Siam responded to the more peaceful conditions obtaining on the border and to the development of communications with Burma, but the Rangoon route declined in popularity and the trade with Southern Siam was less than half that of the previous year, the establishment of a Kheridah in Burma having reduced the imports of elephants and the consequent export of silver. The total trade with Siam declined by rather more than 4½ lakhs, or from Rs. 81,97,951 to Rs. 77,69,991.

153. The bulk of the trade with Karenni consists of teak, of which a much smaller quantity was produced than in 1903-04, the remittances of silver in exchange being correspondingly restricted. The value of the whole trade declined from Rs. 41,45,097 to Rs. 32,70,240.

Public Works.

154. For the administration of Public Works, the Province was divided, as in 1903, into four Circles of Superintendence for works in the Roads and Buildings Branch with a fifth special Circle for irrigation works. A general revision of, and

IV.—**PRO-
VISION
AND IMPROVE-
MENT.**

increase in the establishment, which was sanctioned from the 15th February, was not carried into effect until after the close of the year. With the exception of a few minor changes, the divisional charges remained as in the preceding year, the Kengtong, Hlawga Water Works and Town Lands Reclamation Divisions being administered under the direct orders of the Chief Engineer.

The aggregate expenditure on public works during the year amounted to Rs. 1,25,93,934 out of a total grant of Rs. 1,31,48,413. Of the total outlay, Rs. 39,20,331 were spent on civil buildings and Rs. 36,72,282 on communications from provincial funds alone, and Rs. 21,79,275 on miscellaneous public improvements from all sources. Charges for establishment amounted to 17½ lakhs of rupees.

Civil Works—Imperial.

Burma
China
Frontier.

155. The demarcation of the Burma-China Frontier with permanent boundary pillars from the most northerly point to the junction of the Namting and Salween rivers was completed by the erection of permanent boundary pillars. The work was carried out by the Burma Company of the Queen's Own Sappers and Miners.

Wireless Telegraph stations were started at Slipper and Diamond Islands with a view to establishing communication between the Andamans and Burma. Materials were carried across, sites selected, and work started on both islands.

The outlay on Imperial works was Rs. 12,966.

Buildings—Provincial.

Customs.

156. The construction of a Bonded-Warehouse at Bhamo, with quarters for a Customs Officer, was completed.

Post Offices.

157. The necessity for increased accommodation at the Head Post Office in Rangoon and Mandalay has become pronounced and the provision of new and enlarged buildings is under consideration.

Post Offices were constructed at Kanyutkwin, Syriam, and Bassein, with quarters for the Postmaster at the latter place.

Offices, with quarters for Superintendents of Post Offices, were commenced at Akyab and Mōnywa, and quarters for Postal Clerks were completed at Mogok.

Combined Post and Telegraph Offices were completed at Dala, Kamaing, Saw and Pinyinana, and are under construction at Mōngnai, in the Southern Shan States. Accommodation was provided in the Post Office at Minbya for the Telegraph Office, and the circuit-house at Pegu is being converted into a combined Post and Telegraph Office.

Telegraphs.

158. The rapid erosion of the river bank at Elephant Point necessitated the removal and re-erection, further inland, of the Telegraph buildings and out-houses.

A new office was provided at Tavoy and one at Ye was under construction, and the battery room attached to the office at Akyab was extended. The Telegraph buildings in the civil station and Cantonments at Shwebo were extended. An engine shed was built to house machinery for electric plant at the Head Office, Mandalay.

At Maymyo an office and quarters for the Superintendent of Telegraphs, Upper Burma Division, and quarters for three clerks, were completed, and combined quarters and office were provided for the Subdivisional Officer at Myitkyina. The signallers' quarters at Akyab were improved and quarters for the Telegraph Master and signallers at Kalewa completed.

Administra-
tion.

159. Residential quarters at Maymyo for the Chief, General, Revenue, and Public Works Secretaries and the Inspector-General of Police were completed.

The piped water-supply to Government House, Mandalay, was completed and all the electric plant moved within the fort wall. Quarters were provided at Government House, Rangoon, for the Accountant, Hospital Assistant, and Steward, and a few minor improvements were effected.

A combined record-room and treasury strong-room was constructed for the new district of P apôn. An office and record-room for the Land Records Department at Kyaukpyu were practically completed, and materials collected for a similar work at Akyab. A building to accommodate the Land Records and Town Lands Offices and Survey School at Bassein was started, but work was stopped pending consideration of the advisability of converting the building into a court house for the Divisional and District Judges. The extension of the District record-room at Mogôk was in progress, and a record-room for the District offices at Katha completed.

IV.—**PRO-
SECRETES
AND DISTRI-
CTION.**

The treasury buildings at Kyaukpyu were improved, and a treasure-vault was completed at Sinbaungwè.

Eight new opium shops were built at various places and ten others were extended or improved, while two shops were dismantled and re-erected on more suitable sites.

The conversion of "Salween House," Moulmein, into quarters for the Commissioner, Tenasserim Division, was undertaken; quarters were built for Superintendents of Land Records at Thayetmyo, Pegu and Tavoy, and a residence was commenced at Falam for the Superintendent, Chin Hills.

Loilem having been selected as the headquarter of a division of the Southern Shan States, quarters for the Assistant Political Officer with a permanent office and court were commenced at that station. A record-room at Papun was started. Permanent quarters were begun for the Assistant Political Officer at Tangyan and progress was made with similar quarters at Sadôn and Sima.

160. A site was selected at Rangoon for the New Provincial Museum and the Museum at Pagan was completed. One of the buildings on the Palace platform at Mandalay was adapted as a museum for illustrating the dress and customs of the different tribes of Burma.

Minor De-
partments.

The *pyatthat* over the Lion Throne on the Palace platform (Mandalay) showed signs of collapsing and it became necessary to take it down: the work of re-erection is now in progress. A small masonry *pyatthat* was built at Amarapura over the spot where Shwebo Min's remains were incinerated.

161. A gymnasium was constructed at the Government College, Rangoon. An Anglo-Vernacular school-house at Maymyo for 300 pupils, which aims at the provision of facilities for the education of domiciled European and Eurasian children in a good climate, was nearly finished during the year; the boarding house for 30 pupils, with masters' quarters, which are part of the scheme, were completed in the preceding year. A piped water-supply has been made available.

Educational.

An Anglo-Vernacular school for 100 boys at Thazi, and a Normal school at Mandalay, with boarding accommodation for 40 pupils, were completed.

Quarters were built for the head-master of the School for the sons of Shan Chiefs at Taunggyi, and various additions and improvements were made to the school buildings.

The sanitary equipment of the Empress Victoria Buddhist Girls' School was improved. The enlargement of the Government High and Normal schools, and the construction of a school for drawing and Slöjd, and of a Buddhist Society's School at Moulmein were taken in hand.

162. The Mogôk cemetery was extended. New stables and a coach-house were built at Bishop's Court, Rangoon.

Ecclési-
astical.

163. The design and estimate for the new Chief Court at Rangoon were submitted to the Government of India for the sanction of the Secretary of State. The cost of the project is estimated at about 22½ lakhs of rupees.

Law and
Justice.

The roof of the building in which the Court of Small Causes, Rangoon, is located was altered in order to admit more light and air, and the sanitary connections were re-arranged.

IV.—PRO-
DUCTION
AND DESTRI-
BUTION.

Several buildings were undertaken during the year in anticipation of the requirements of the new Judicial Service. A new Sessions Court was under construction at Pegu: the District Judge's Court at Moulmein is being extended to provide a court house for the Additional Judge. The construction of a Court house for the Magistrate and Judge was started at Pyu and additional accommodation is also being provided for the Nyaunglebin courts. A combined Subdivisional and Township court house at Homalin, Upper Chindwin, was nearly completed; court houses for the Township Officer, Sathwa, and the Civil Judge at Pantanaw were finished, quarters and a court house for the Civil Officer at Sirlun, Bhamo, were half completed, and extensions were carried out to the Subdivisional court houses at Wuntho, Mawlu and Indaw. The court buildings at Mandalay, Thabaung, Kyaukpyu, Ma-ubin, Rangoon (Hanthawaddy), Dedayè and Danubyu were altered and extended. Accommodation was provided for the Civil Judges at Myohaung, Kyauktan and Maungdaw, by enlarging existing court houses; and provision was made in the Treasury Buildings for the office of the Subdivisional Officer, Kyaukpyu. The following buildings are also in course of erection: Subdivisional Officers' Court, Paungdè; Township Courts, Thègôn and Okpo; court and offices at Myaungmya; court and offices for township officer and Civil Judge at Einmè; court and offices at Wakèma for Subdivisional and Township Officers; combined courts for Township Officer and Township Judge at Maulmeingyun; district court house at Pyapôn, and Township office at Kyaiklat.

Quarters for the Deputy Commissioner were completed at Kyaukpyu, and certain additions and alterations were made to those at Prome, Pyapôn and Ma-ubin and to the Assistant Commissioners' and Subdivisional officers' quarters at Ma-ubin and Wakèma respectively. Materials were collected for the Assistant Commissioner's quarters at Paungdè and quarters for a Myoök were built at Maymyo.

Jails.

164. Good progress was made with the construction of the new Jail at Moulmein, which is nearing completion; the outer and inner walls, wards, dormitories, hospitals and work sheds were finished. Work on the Mogök jail progressed satisfactorily, considering the difficulty in securing labour.

The water-supply of the Mandalay Jail having been condemned, a tube well was sunk within the jail enclosure; but arrangements for lifting and distributing the water have still to be carried out.

Minor improvements were made to the Sandoway, Akyab and Kyaukpyu jails, and a steam-cooking apparatus was provided at Myaungmya.

Additions and improvements were made to the jail granary at Henzada and a new sale-room and quarters for the Deputy Jailor were erected at Prome.

Military
Police.

165. Permanent barracks are under construction at Taunggyi and Ngwelong, Southern Shan States, and work is well advanced. At Loikaw quarters for the Assistant Commandant were practically completed, and a rifle range provided. At Loilem two temporary barracks with quarters for Native officers were built to meet urgent requirements.

Permanent barracks for four companies were nearly completed at Magwe, and at Pyapôn construction was well advanced. Barracks to accommodate one company of Military Police were commenced at Pakökku. On the Shote at Mandalay lines for 100 men were completed, and progress was made with the provision of accommodation for the Military Police at Maymyo.

The block-house at Mindat-Sakan was converted into a barrack for the Chin Police, and a defensible barrack was built at Hilong Sakan. At Myanaung, Lemyethna, Okpo and Urittaung, barracks were constructed for small detachments. A guard-house was built at Tharrawaddy, and barrack accommodation provided for the guard at Tawa.

The temporary barracks at Paletwa (Northern Arakan Hill Tracts) were converted into permanent buildings and various improvements and additions were carried out in the lines and barracks at Rangoon, Minbu, Bhamo, Gwa and Pantanaw: barracks were completed at Tapun, Gyobingauk, Zigôn and Kungyangôn, and were under construction at Einmè and Mònyo. The extension of the hospital at

Mogaung and the provision of accommodation for the Hospital Assistant were half finished. The Military Police Hospital and married quarters at Pegu were improved and a hospital ward was under construction at Prome. IV.—PRO-
DUCTION
AND DISTRI-
BUTION.

Progress was made with the construction of a native officer's quarters at Rangoon and the native officers' quarters at Myitkyina were renovated and supplemented.

Rifle ranges were completed at Tharrawaddy, Shwebo and Myitkyina and half finished at Thatôn.

A block-house for 25 men was built at N'Pumbum, and the defences of the post at Warrabum were nearly completed. A semi-permanent outpost was built at Letmaseik; improvements were made to the outposts at Kamaing, Tauingyi and Kutkai. For similar work at Nalôn, a mule road $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles long was constructed to facilitate the transport of materials. Materials were collected for the construction of the Battalion Commandant's quarters at Falam, Chin Hills, and the permanent re-construction of the subsidiary buildings of the Commandant's quarters at Mandalay Shore was completed; quarters for Assistant Commandants were built at Mandalay Shore, Sinlun and Katha.

166. First-class police stations at Ngazun and Toungoo were completed, and work on the stations at Pyapôn and Papun were in progress. Civil Police

Police stations of the second class were completed at Gangaw, Natogyi and Myaung, and one with quarters for Civil and Military Police at Yedashe was nearly finished.

Third-class stations were completed at Kunzeik, Maliwun and Kyunpyathat, and those at Taukkyan and Shweli were nearing completion; additions and alterations were made to the stations at Pantanaw, and estimates were sanctioned for stations at Labutta, Kyaukkyi, Sathwa, Lamenu and Kindaunggyi.

Fourth-class stations were completed at Kumè, and under construction at Myomachaung and Lashio. Work was begun on the building of barracks, stables and stores for 14 mounted Indian constables at the Mogul Street (Rangoon) Guard, and a three storied brick barrack to accommodate married and single police and sergeants, and an European Inspector at the Pansodan Guard, Rangoon, was commenced. An additional water supply was provided for this Police station and for those at Alôn and Mingala, Rangoon.

Quarters were completed at Pyawbwè, Meiktila, Saw and Akyab, to provide accommodation at each station for the sanctioned strength. At Seikkyi, barracks were under construction for single and married men, the *thanna* being converted into quarters for a head constable. Quarters for 24 married men at Henzada were well forward. Work was in hand on semi-permanent quarters at Mogaung and Myitkyina, and on accommodation for the Town Police at Myingyan and Bassein.

Semi-permanent cottages for sergeants and men were built at Kawhmu, Thehthit, Thongwa, Tantabin, Tawiatè and Pyawbwè; permanent cottages at Labutta were nearly finished and were under construction at Pyapôn; the cottages at Tharrawaddy and Ma-ubin were improved; a veterinary hospital for eight transport animals was built at Mogôk; and an estimate was sanctioned for the dismantlement and re-erection of the Police Magazine at Ma-ubin.

Quarters for the Commissioner of Police, Rangoon, were provided by the purchase of a house in the Cantonment. Quarters for the District Superintendent of Police were completed at Tavoy; and additions and alterations were made to the quarters at Myaungmya, Ma-ubin and Sandoway. Progress was made on the District Superintendent's and Assistant Superintendent's quarters at Tharrawaddy, and the Subdivisional Officer's quarters at Mònywa were nearly completed. Quarters were built for a European Inspector at Maymyo and those at Kyaukpyu were improved; a house for a Burman Inspector was under construction at Kungyangôn.

A house was purchased at Meiktila as an office for the District Superintendent of Police, and record racks were provided for the office at Paletwa.

IV.—PRO-
DUCTION
AND DISTRI-
BUTION.
Medical

167. The estimate for the new General Hospital at Rangoon was sanctioned by the Secretary of State towards the close of the year. Materials were collected in large quantities at the site and the earthwork was started, nearly one and half lakhs of rupees being spent on the work up to the close of the year. The project provides a main building 700 feet long, and three storeys high, fitted with the latest modern improvements, to accommodate—in addition to operating theatres, anæsthetic and splint and bandage rooms, waiting and consulting rooms, and administrative offices—440 beds (103 for Europeans and 337 for natives): there will also be a pauper ward of 50 beds, a paying patients' block with accommodation for 28 beds, an out-patients' department, and residential quarters for the Superintendent, Resident Medical Officer, three Assistant Surgeons, ten Hospital Assistants, 44 nurses, six sisters, matron, steward, clerk and sergeant-in-charge, besides 127 menials. Other buildings will be the kitchen on the latest approved lines, the dairy, steam laundry and mortuary. The whole scheme, exclusive of Public Works Department charges for establishment and tools and plant, is estimated to cost about 27 lakhs of rupees.

The old hospital buildings, which were taken over from the Rangoon Municipality at the end of the year, were provided with new outhouses, and other minor improvements were effected. Two temporary sheds to accommodate ten plague patients were built on the site of the Contagious Diseases Hospital.

An infectious diseases' ward and a laundry were added to the Hospital at Maymyo.

The Civil Hospital at Kyaukpadaung was completed and certain improvements made to those at Tapun, Mogòk, Kindat, Paungbyin and Twante, which included, in the case of the last-named, the sinking of a six-inch tube well. Materials were collected and work started on third class hospitals with dispensaries at Taikkyi and Thóngwa. The erection of a Government ward for 40 lepers in St. John's Asylum, Mandalay, was begun, and a ward for 20 lepers with outhouses was sanctioned for Moulmein.

A contagious diseases ward for the Tharrawaddy Hospital was completed; also a vaccine depôt at Meiktila, and a dispensary as an addition to the Civil Hospital at Taunggyi. The mortuary for the General Hospital at Akyab was completed and materials collected for a moribund ward at Paletwa. A barrack to accommodate twelve female lunatics was built in the Asylum at Rangoon.

Quarters for the Civil Surgeon, Maymyo, were completed, the Civil Surgeon's quarters at Henzada re-roofed, and outbuildings provided for the Medical Officer at Paletwa.

Miscellaneous.

168. Work on the construction of the east and west wings of the New Public Offices was pushed forward vigorously through the year and the buildings are approaching completion; the expenditure during the year was about six lakhs of rupees.

Rangoon having been found to be unsuitable as a station for magnetic observation, a new observatory consisting of a self-recording house and an absolute house with quarters for observer, recorder and staff, was erected at Toungoo, and the instruments transferred to it.

Circuit-houses were under construction at Pegu, and completed at Kyaukpyu, and additions were made to the building at Meiktila. The cut-buildings of the circuit-house at Bhamo were removed and re-erected with extensions on a new site.

Five more blocks of semi-detached quarters for clerks at Rangoon were practically completed. Quarters and an office for the Public Works Department Officers at Victoria Point and Kyaukpyu were finished, and work on an office and quarters for the Subdivisional Officer in charge of light-houses at Rangoon was well in hand. Quarters were constructed for Lower Subordinates at Maungdaw, Tharrawaddy and Pyapón. Improvements were made in the clerks' quarters at Taunggyi and Maymyo. Quarters for the Public Works Office staff at Myitkima and Bhamo were nearly finished.

Work on the removal and re-construction of the Public Works Department Divisional Office at Bassein and on the construction of quarters for an Upper

Subordinate at Zigón, and for the Subdivisional Officer at Pyapón, progressed. The office of the Executive Engineer, Tharrawaddy Division, was extended and the store-godown enlarged to provide additional record space. Permanent servants' quarters were added to the Subdivisional Officer's quarters, and estimates sanctioned for new quarters for a Sub-Overseer and Accountant at Myaungmya. Materials were collected for the Executive Engineer's quarters at Ngwelong, which in future is to be called Loimwe, and work was commenced on the housing of the Assistant at Loilem.

Two godowns in the Public Works Department store-yard at Rangoon were begun and materials purchased. A store-godown was built at Pegu; those at Mogók were dismantled and new ones built on a new site. Work was commenced on godowns at Nyaunglebin and Zigón, and similar buildings at Loimwe were completed.

The light-house yard at Rangoon was removed from the Public Works Department store-yard and re-erected on another site.

Communications.

169. The following statement summarises the progress made in the improvement of communications in the province. :—

Roads.	Roads abandoned during the year.	New roads added during the year.	Total length in use at end of year.
1	2	3	4
	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.
Metalled roads	24'69	72'77	1,516'79
Unmetalled roads	54'94	226'75	3,170'47
Other roads	56'21	139'85	2,799'40
Total	135'84	439'37	7,486'66

170. *Thasi-Taunggyi-Takaw road.*—The section connecting Taunggyi, the headquarters of the Southern Shan States, with Thazi on the Rangoon-Mandalay Railway was greatly improved at an expenditure of approximately two and quarter lakhs of rupees; a large number of masonry culverts and aiseways were built and the road widened and improved. Good progress was made on the section from Taunggyi to Wampón; all the earthwork, 49 bridges and eight causeways were completed. Work on the Wampón-Takaw section was well advanced, many of the permanent bridges and culverts were built and others well in hand. The cart-road, which takes the place of the old mule-track, has been opened to traffic to within a few miles of Takaw on the Salween river.

Toungoo-Thandaung road.—With a view to the adaptation of this road to tonga and motor traffic the gradients on the first section have been eased, the road widened, bridges rebuilt and the road-surface metalled. On the hill section all the cutting and blasting work was done and the construction of stone masonry bridges approaches completion. The sanctioned estimate for this section, which has a maximum gradient of one in 20, was Rs. 7,44,199. With the exception of the bridge across the Sittang it is expected that the road will shortly be open to traffic. Plans and estimate for this bridge are under preparation; the design proposed will consist of four central spans of 114 feet each and two land spans of 95 feet each between centres of piers.

Thabeikkyin-Mogók road.—Extensive improvements to this road by re-alignment, regrading and metalling have been undertaken with a view to the development of the Ruby Mines district. The year's operations extended over three-fourths of the road. All water tables were replaced by culverts; new bridges

and alterations of old structures were pushed forward, and three miles of metal consolidation were completed.

The *Rangoon-Prome road* was equipped with new culverts and ~~truss~~ bridges, and the first 17½ miles of the first section of the Chinese Frontier Road were completed with metalling throughout.

Good progress was made on the minor lines of communication. So much of the Pegu-Tandawgyi road (16½ miles) as traverses waste land was completed and on the road connecting Hlègu and Paunggyi (17 miles) only a few bridges and the metalling of the last few miles remain to be done. At Hlègu, the Pazundaung creek on the road to Rangoon was bridged, and the erection of bridges on the tap road from that town to the railway at Dabein and on the road connecting Tawa with Banbwegôn made good progress.

The *Hmawbi-Shweli road* (length 6½ miles) was improved for cart traffic, the consolidation of half a mile of metalling only remaining to complete the work. The feeder road from *Ela Railway Station to Lêwe* was nearly completed; the rebridging and metalling of the *Minbu-Salin road* was commenced, and the *Yenan-gyaung-Twingôn road* was completed.

The roads connecting Singôn with Kawlin and Wuntho were metalled, and a road to link the civil station at Lashio with the railway approaches completed. At Maymyo 15,000 lineal feet of roads were provided to serve actual or potential house sites.

The bridge over the *Shwegu chaun* on the *Tavoy-Sinbyubin road* was completed and opened to traffic.

Several culverts were built on the *Kyaukpadaung-Thandaga* and the *Ywa-taung-Toungoo roads*, and the metalling of the *Tandaw-Yinmabin road* was nearly finished.

Work on the *Kadapana-Tada road* neared completion, the road having been banked and bridged and road metal collected; the road east of the railway at *Insein* was banked and bridged, consolidation only remaining to be done; the third and fourth sections of the *Henzada-Ngathaingyaung road* were re-metalled and two bridges on the *Naskban-Aingthabyi road* and five on the *Basseia-Shanywe road* were rebuilt; a new bridge over the *Tapun chaung* and new culverts on the *Zigôn-Pa ingdè road* were almost completed. The town roads of *Buthidaung, Minbya, Kyauktaw* and *Pauktaw* were metalled.

Unmetalled
roads.

171. *Kawkareik-Myawadi road*.—Trade communication between Moulmein and the Siamese frontier was established by the completion of this road, which is 54½ miles in length.

Tavoy-Pagayè-Siam Frontier road.—Twenty-five miles of mule track between Pagayè and the frontier were improved for cart traffic. From Tavoy to Pagayè there is already a metalled cart-road.

Takaw-Kēngtāng Mule road.—This road was much improved as far as Tongta, beyond which work was in progress over 22 miles, the erection of bridges being well advanced.

Kēngtāng-Ngwelong cart-road.—Work on the hill section was nearly completed and temporary bridges were being erected.

Chinese Frontier road.—The second section of this road, from the 30th to the 51st mile, was completed as an unmetalled road.

Frontier Lateral road.—The suspension bridge, 185 feet span, over the Taiping river was completed and communication opened between the Military Police outposts north and south of the river.

The *Sandoway-Kyeintali road*, forty miles in length, was completed, and the trunk road from *Kyaukpyu to Ramree* was commenced, most of the earthwork and some of the bridging being completed. Fair progress was made with the construction of a bridle-path from *Minhla to Mōnyo*. The first section of the *Saw-Seikpyu road* was practically completed and some work was done on the second section: improvements and reconstruction of bridges were carried out on the *Pakōkku-Kan road*, and improvements to the *Pakōkku-Yesagyo road* were commenced. The feeder road from *Kumè Road Railway Station to Ywawe* was completed: the railway feeder from *Meiktila to Yidaw* was practically completed,

and extra bridging on the *Nyaungyan-Pasobyu* railway feeder finished. Work was in progress on improvements to the *Monywa-Yè-u* and *Palè-Yinmabin* roads in the Lower Chindwin.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

The *Pa-an-Hlaingbwè* road and the first section of the *Tantabin-Bônmad* road were almost completed. The *Yenyin-Kyetwehaung* district road was in progress, metal for the pathway having been collected and bridging finished. Work was nearly complete on the *Pènwègôn-Thanbayagôn* road and the *Pyuntass-Kaddh* road was raised and equipped with new bridges. The construction of the Circular road at *Thandaung* was nearly completed.

Communication was established between the *Hensada-Ngathaingyeung* road and the railway at *Yegyì*. Work was advanced on a cart-road between *Kangyidaung* and *Bègayet* and on a fair-weather road from *Teinmyòkkyi* to *Sèywa*.

172. Bridle-paths now connect *Victoria Point with Champang village* and *Kyaukpyu* (north of *Mergui*) with *Palaw*, and a 12-foot path from *Bòkpyin* to *Yaung-gza* is practically completed. (The bridle-path from *Papun* to *Kamamaung* was completed and good progress was made on similar paths to *Bilin* and *Dagwin*; improvements to the *Karen-Chaung-Nancho* road, an important route between Lower Burma and the Karen Hills, were also satisfactorily carried out during the year.)

Other Roads

In the Chin Hills the road is practically through from *Falam* to the *Tyao* river and the diversion of the *Falam-Tiddim* road, to improve the gradient, is nearly finished. Work on the original estimate of the second section of the *Minbu-Salin-Sidòktaya* road was practically completed; a 4-foot track was made between *Mindat-Sakan* and *Hilong-Sakan*, and a survey was completed for a road from *Saw* to *Yawmyo*, along the foot of the Chin Hills, to connect existing roads.

The road from *Shwèbo* to *Tabayin* was completed during the year, and the temporary bridges on the *Kamaing-Nanyaseik* road were all replaced by permanent bridges.

A fair-weather road was constructed from *Tanmanaing* to *Wabalaukhauk*, and work was commenced on the first and second sections of the bridle-path from the *Kaladan* to the *Mayu* river.

173. Under agreement with the Chinese local authorities, 15½ miles of a mule road were constructed from the *Kulikha* on the frontier (mile 51 of the Chinese Frontier road) to *Man-lm* in the *Kangai* State. A permanent bridge over the *Nam-Sa-Ho* (mile 61) was built and the road opened throughout. At the instance of the Chinese officials the Local Government undertook to improve the caravan track between *Man-lm* and the important market town of *Lung Chang*, 11 miles further on: the work was satisfactorily finished within the year.

Undertakings in China and the Shan States.

The construction of an iron girder bridge across the *Myingè* river at *Hsipaw* was also undertaken for the *Hsipaw* State, which provides the money for the work. The bridge will consist of three spans of 150 feet. Foundations for both abutments and one pier were put in during the working season, and the superstructure carried to ten feet above low water level.

174. Inspection or district bungalows were completed at *Kawin*, *Alawpum*, *Warabum*, *Sima*, *N'Krang*, *Kazu*, *Nyaunggôn*, *Minza*, *Telin*, *Pyapôn*, *Syam*, *Thôngwa*, *Thethit*, *Sandoway*, *Minegwin*, *Kyaukkyi*, *Saukkôn*, *Kyeintali* and *Yegyì* railway station. Staging accommodation was also provided along the entire length of the *Thazi-Taunggyi* and *Taunggyi-Takaw* roads, on the *Yenyin-Kyetwehaung* and *Falam-Tyao* river roads and at the town of *Kengtung*.

Accommodation for Travellers.

Inspection Bungalows were also practically completed at *Ananbaw* and *Lemyethna*, and commenced at *Sinlun*, *Mohnyin*, *Yawthit*, and *Kawa*.

175. It has been decided to draw up regular programmes for the planting of trees along public roads, which has hitherto been done only partially and without system.

Arboreal Culture

Miscellaneous Public Improvements.

176. The work of completing and metalling the Circular road at Taunggyi was put in hand and good progress made. A bund was constructed round the civil station of Pyapôn to keep out floods and station roads were constructed. The laying out of Thédaw railway town was completed.

Jungle clearing progressed at Maymyo and Katha. Town roads, estimated to cost Rs. 8,000 and Rs. 10,000 respectively, were under construction at Thabyegan and Thóngwa. At Myitkyina, the construction of an embankment to protect the town from inundation by the Irrawaddy was completed, and materials were collected for the protection of the foreshore at Myinmu from erosion by the river.

Markets.

177. Permanent bazaars at Pyu and Kanyutkwin, on the Rangoon-Mandalay Railway line, were under construction at an estimated cost of Rs. 27,838 each. The site of the bazaar at Nyaunglebin was raised above flood level and masonry drains built round all the buildings, greatly improving its sanitary condition. A closed bazaar was built at Kyaunggôn and two bazaars at Pandaw were re-roofed with corrugated iron. Closed sheds were completed at Sagagyi and Dedayè and an open shed at Yelègale. Additions and improvements were made to the bazaar at Twante, an approach road constructed to the bazaar at Kyauktan and half-inch teak ceilings provided for the bazaars at Thóngwa and Kayan.

Water-supply.

178. Works connected with municipal improvement are excluded from this paragraph. They are described in Chapter III, and Cantonment schemes are referred to in paragraph 102 of the same chapter.

The water-supply of Maymyo called for special consideration in view of the rapid increase in population. An impounding dam in one of the two valleys from which the supply is drawn was approved and sanctioned: the reservoir, when full, will hold a year's supply: it was nearing completion at the end of the year. The distributary pipe system in the station was considerably extended. A masonry weir and a distributing reservoir in connection with a similar project at Mogòk were completed, and pipes for the main and distributary system were purchased.

The scheme for Lashio is designed with an impounding dam and suitable head-works across a small perennial stream. The head-works were nearly finished and the distributary pipes purchased during the year.

Most of the pipes for the Falam water-supply scheme have been received and carried to the site.

As a measure preliminary to the provision of a water-supply for Loimwe, the new headquarters of the Assistant Political Officer and of the Military Police hitherto stationed at Kéngtúng, an estimate was sanctioned to fence in the catchment area of the proposed reservoir to guard against contamination, and work was put in hand: work was also started on a puddle trench along the site of the proposed dam.

Railways.

Length of line.

179. The length of line open to all description of traffic on the 31st March 1905 was 1,340·15 as compared with 1,336·97 miles open at the end of the previous year. The increase is due to the opening of suburban lines at Bassein.

Lines projected or in progress.

180. The construction of a line of Railway from Pegu to Martaban opposite Moulmein, 121·27 miles in length, was started during the year. The line involves bridges over the Pegu and Sittang rivers, the materials for which are being obtained from England. A railway from Henzada to Kyangin (65·66 miles) was also begun during the year. Land was acquired and earth-work pushed forward on both lines. The survey of the projected line from Prome to Taungup, 113·51 miles, connecting Arakan with Rangoon, was completed during the year and the following surveys were in progress:—

- (a) Detailed survey from Pegu to Syriam, 67 miles.
- (b) Detailed survey of a loop line east of the Daga river between Neikban and Bègayet, 66 miles.

(c) Detailed survey of a line of railway from Pynmana to Magwe as a possible famine relief work, 100 miles. IV.—PRO-
DUCTION
AND DISTRI-
BUTION

181. The subsidence of the line, owing to heavy rainfall, caused frequent interruptions on the Hsipaw-Lashio Branch from June to August, and traffic was suspended between Se-en and Lashio from the 14th August till the 1st December. On the 5th October floods breached the line between Shweda and Pyawbwè. The damage was repaired in two days. Damage to
the line.

182. Only two fatal accidents occurred during the year. One was caused by the derailment of an engine and wagons at Myohaung, which resulted in the death of the driver. The other was due to a fall of earth during the repair of a cutting on the Lashio Branch, by which two coolies were killed. There were four collisions, which caused damage to rolling-stock to the value of Rs. 37,000. Accidents

183. The capital outlay on the Burma Railways system (open line) during 1904-05 was Rs. 22,33,902. This raises the total capital outlay since commencement to Rs. 13,38,37,089. Capital
transactions.

184. The gross earnings of the year compared with those of 1903-04 were:— Revenue
Transactions

During 1904-05	..	...	...	...	...	1,52,28,716
During 1903-04	...	...	...	...	...	1,41,21,600
or a net increase of						11,07,116

The working expenses compare as under:—

During 1904-05	...	...	...	...	...	93,33,999
During 1903-04	...	...	...	...	...	89,93,804
or a net increase of						3,40,195

The net earnings were as under:—

During 1904-05	...	...	...	...	...	58,94,807
During 1903-04	...	...	...	...	...	51,27,796
or a net increase of						7,67,011

185. The following comparison shows the results of working the open line:— Traffic and
working.

	1903-04.	1904-05.
	2	3
Train mileage	4,421,034	4,548,268
Average earnings per mile per week	Rs. 203.12	218.53
Average earnings per train mile	3.19	3.35
Average expenses per train mile	2.03	2.05
Ratio of expenses to earnings	63.69 per cent.	61.29 per cent.
Net receipts on capital outlay	3.94 per cent.	4.30 per cent.

186. Besides the construction of the Pegu-Moulmein and Henzada-Kyangin Railways, on which Rs. 26,58,448 and Rs. 5,58,832 respectively were expended, various improvements were effected on the open line. The track from Prome to Toungoo was relaid with 50-lb. steel rails, and the lines between Insein and Hlawga and Pazundaung and Thingangyun were doubled. The Letpadan station yard was remodelled and the railway from Letpadan to Bassein fenced throughout. Eighteen passenger and twenty-four goods engines were purchased. Miscel-
laneous Im-
provements.

Tramways.

IV.—PRO-
SECTION
AND DISTRI-
BUTION
Tramways.

187. The steam tramway from Thaton to Duyinzeik, 7.76 miles in length, connecting Thaton with the river-landing for launches of the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company, was again successfully worked by that Company. One passenger train each way daily connects with the Company's launches, but the bulk of the receipts, which amounted to Rs. 49,588 or nearly Rs. 5,000 more than in the previous year, was derived from the carriage of freight. The tramway is owned by the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company and no subsidy is now paid. In view of the approaching opening of the Pegu-Martaban railway, no extensions have been undertaken.

There was no change in the running of the steam tramways of Rangoon. A total of 247,591 miles was covered in the year and 3,499,930 passengers were carried. The total earnings amounted to Rs. 2,71,559. These figures show a substantial increase over those of the previous year. The line is in process of electrification, which is expected to be completed in two years.

The new electric tramways in Mandalay were opened during the month of July 1904 and were immediately successful. The line was not completely opened until the 31st of July 1904, but the passenger traffic for the year ending 31st July 1905 amounted to a total of 2,944,452 persons carried. No accidents to passengers have taken place and only two to pedestrians. The length of open line is six miles and no extensions of this system are at present contemplated. A project is now on foot to connect the town of Madaya and the Obo quarter of Mandalay by a steam tramway to be laid along the bund of the Shwetachaung, 13 miles in length.

Canals (Navigation and Irrigation).

General

188. The aggregate capital expenditure, direct and indirect, on irrigation was Rs. 12,05,766. The total area irrigated by canals and protected by embankments was 961,646 acres as against 921,139 in the previous year. The net revenue receipts amounted to Rs. 12,43,127 but irrigation works were worked at a loss and the profit was due to embankments.

Major Works—Imperial.

Mandalay
canal.
Expenditure
and revenue.

189. The capital charges incurred amounted to Rs. 1,62,360. The working expenses were Rs. 77,690 and the revenue receipts exceeded this sum by Rs. 12,221. The receipts would have been much larger but for delay in collection. The actual assessments of water-rate and land revenue for the year 1904-05 were Rs. 2,09,098 and Rs. 19,075 respectively as compared with Rs. 78,568 and Rs. 13,748 in the previous year.

Area irri-
gated.

190. The total area irrigated was 42,983 acres, of which 985 acres were twice cropped; 3,718 acres of land were cleared and brought under cultivation during the year.

General

191. The length of the main canal is 39 miles, and of its distributary system 103 miles. With the exception of a few outlets, heads and water courses on two distributaries, the distributary system is now complete and in working order. During the year the syphon under the Patheingyi distributary for the diversion of an old drainage channel was completed, and some 15 lakhs of earthwork were executed in improving the drainage channel. The Yangindaung and Patheingyi distributary systems were completed. A timber bridge, 70 feet in length with four spans, was erected on the main line. The dispensary and quarters for the Hospital Assistant at Lamaing, which were destroyed by fire in June, were rebuilt.

Maintenance
and repairs.

192. The canal and distributaries were kept in repair throughout the year and an improvement was effected by the planting of trees along the right bank of the main canal for a distance of 27 miles.

193. A sum of Rs. 8,67,337 was expended during the year. The total mileage of channel completed on the main line was 28.7, and on the Branches 47.3. Work on seven distributaries from the main canal and one from the Mókso-gyón branch, and on the remodelling of the Hladaw tank in connection with the Hladaw branch is in hand: 87.7 miles of distributaries, out of a total length of 128.9 miles sanctioned, were completed. Surveys for the alignment of the remaining distributaries were completed with the exception of two from the Hladaw branch, for which surveys are in progress.

IV.—Pro-
duction
and main-
tenance.
—
Shwebo
Canal
General

194. The pier and abutments for the undersluices were completed to their full height of 48 feet. The four Stoney's gates, 40 feet span, were erected, and the overhead bridge and lifting gear were completed.

Head
Works

The portion of the weir, 322 feet in length, which is designed for the Shwebo canal, was completed with the exception of the crest wall and a portion of the stone floor immediately below the wall.

195. The Main canal was completed with the exception of excavation of 20 feet near the head works, and pitching in bed and side slopes below the head regulator. Four distributaries were practically completed, and the remaining three half finished.

Main
Canal

196. Two inspection bungalows begun in the previous year were completed and two others built. Residential quarters for the Assistant Engineer, second sub-division, at Shwebo, were also completed.

Buildings

197. The Mókso-gyón branch was practically completed with the exception of one syphon, three superpassages, three bridges, and the regrading of one section. The Hladaw branch was completed during the year and the construction of a feeder channel to the Hladaw tank in connection with the branch canal approached completion.

Branches

198. The estimate for this project, amounting to Rs. 33,91,764, was submitted for the sanction of the Secretary of State, but as the head works had to be designed in connection with the head works of the Shwebo canal, which takes off from the left bank of the Mu river immediately opposite the starting point of the new system, and as the Shwebo canal head works had arrived at an advanced stage towards completion, the approval of the Government of India was obtained to the head works being put in hand before the project received final sanction.

Ye-u canal

199. The portion of the weir designed for the Ye-u canal, viz., 133 feet, was finished, with the exception of the brick floor and crest wall with shutters. All wells for the divide wall, and two piers of the undersluices, have been sunk, and the ironwork for the two Stoney's gates, 30-foot span, have been ordered from England.

Head
Works

200. In connection with this system, on which Rs. 1,76,069 were spent during the year, lines of cross sections have been run and levelled across the irrigable tract in order to obtain an accurate contour map of the tract. On the Northern Main canal two-thirds of the area has been contoured, and surveys for the area under the Southern Main canal have been started.

Main Canal
General

Residential quarters for the Executive Engineer at Minbu, commenced at the end of the previous year, were completed.

201. No actual construction was undertaken, but materials were collected at site. Quarters and office for the Assistant Engineer in charge were practically completed, and an inspection bungalow was about half finished.

Head
Works

202. The final alignment of the first 15 miles of both the Northern and Southern Main canals was completed and earthwork excavation was begun on the former. The manufacture of bricks for drainage crossings has been commenced, and the acquisition of land is nearly complete on the portion aligned.

Program
of canals

Minor Works—Provincial.

IV. — Pao-
Boc-tiq
and other
works.

General

203. The working expenses of the minor irrigation systems, for which no capital accounts are maintained, amounted to Rs. 10,49,631, and exceeded the revenue derived from them by Rs. 12,595. Navigation works also resulted in a loss, the expenses being Rs. 1,50,648 against receipts amounting to Rs. 1,26,026. On the other hand, embankments which were maintained at a total cost of Rs. 3,55,698, produced a revenue of Rs. 16,23,811.

Kyaukse
district.

204. The distributaries of the Nwadet canal were remodelled. Three distributaries were completed during the year and a fourth (Kalainggyaw) was nearly finished. Surveys for the remodelling of the North Ngapyang canal were in progress. On the Zedaw system a combined head regulator for the canal and the escape was completed.

The Kathaug distributary (7 miles) of the Nathlwe canal, with masonry works and timber bridges, was nearly completed.

Meiktila
district.

205. Four drainage crossings were found to be necessary on the new Okpo distributary from the Meiktila lake. Of these, three were carried through, as also was a fall on the escape channel. On the Nyaungyan-Minhla tank system the seven distributaries, commenced in the previous year, were finished.

Myingyan
district.

206. The Kama tank, which was extensively breached in September 1903, was thoroughly overhauled and repaired.

Minbu dis-
trict.

207. Nearly the whole of the remodelling of distributaries from the Man canal was carried out during the working season.

Pegu-Sittang
canal.

208. The construction of the Minywa lock was abandoned in October 1904, the decision being arrived at owing to changes in the set of the Sittang river, which might endanger the safety of the lock.

The Sinchidaing regulator was completed and materials were collected and work started on a dry stone wall of dressed laterite to protect the tow-path of the canal for a length of $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles. The masonry walls of the Tawa lock were raised 3 feet, and new flood gates were fitted.

Sittang-
Kyaikto
canal.

209. Quarters for the toll-collector at the Kadok Lock, Kyaikto, were completed.

Sittang embankment.

210. The extension of the southern end of the Sittang embankment up to the Athwe *chaung* was almost completed, thus bringing a considerable area of good paddy land under cultivation.

Irrawaddy
river.

211. Retirements of the Irrawaddy embankment, Herzada section, from miles 13-6 to 15-6, and in the 36th and 37th miles, were completed.

The improvement of the navigation of the Panhlaing creek by an artificial cut near Yandoon was carried out and the new cutting is now being used for navigation.

Minor rivers.

212. The navigation of the Myittha and Yu rivers by country boats was made easier by the improvement of the channels. Rocks were blasted and snags removed; and a tow-path was constructed at the Chaungyin and Kyaukkon rapids on the Myittha.

V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

REFERENCES—

Land Revenue Administration Report for the year ending the 30th June 1905.

Excise Administration Report for the year ending the 31st March 1905.

Salt Administration Report for the year 1904.

Report on the Administration of Stamp Revenue for the triennium ending the 31st March 1905.

Report on the working of the Income Tax Act for the triennium 1902-03 to 1904-05.

Report on the Maritime Trade of Burma for the year 1904-05.

Thirty-ninth issue of the Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India with the British Empire and Foreign Countries in the year ending the 31st March 1905 and the four preceding years, Vol. II, Table 8.

Twelfth issue of the Financial and Commercial Statistics of British India, Tables I—Area, Population and Land Revenue, III—Salt, IV—Opium, V—Excise, VII—Stamps and VIII—Income-Tax.

(a).—Imperial Revenue and Finance.

Gross Revenues.

213. The following statement exhibits the gross receipts and expenditure of the years 1903-04 and 1904-05 distributed between Imperial, Provincial, Incorporated Local, Excluded Local and Municipal Funds. The transactions of the Rangoon and Moulmein Municipalities, the Rangoon Port Trust, and the Rangoon Pilot Fund are included, though these funds do not bank with Government:—

Funds.	1903-04.		1904-05.	
	Receipts.	Expenditure.	Receipts.	Expenditure.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Imperial	5,13,58,902	1,31,04,223	5,55,85,945	1,41,57,339
Provincial	3,79,77,811	3,91,09,566	3,85,97,264	4,01,89,972
Incorporated Local	2,19,103	26,03,200	27,95,790	27,74,142
Excluded Local	31,97,590	30,44,213	38,23,131	32,01,372
Municipalities	9,57,484	1,00,28,380	74,38,915	86,15,769
Total	10,34,10,690	6,81,89,582	10,82,40,114	6,83,41,594

The deficits in the provincial account, which were designedly incurred by expenditure on public works, were met from the very large balance to the credit of the Province at the commencement of the Settlement in 1902-03. Certain items of revenue and expenditure are shared by Imperial and Provincial funds in fixed proportions. In the following paragraphs the revenue figures represent the total receipts, regardless of this distribution.

Land Revenue.

214. The area under assessment increased by some 180,000 acres in Lower ^{Ordinary} Burma and 260,000 acres in Upper Burma, and the corresponding enhancement of ^{revenue} the land revenue collections (excluding water-rate) was Rs. 14,73,939. The expansion of the assessed area, which was relatively less considerable than that of the previous year, was generally the result of the expiry of exemption periods

conceded to grant holders, the clearing of waste land by squatters, and the influx of cultivators to Lower Burma after the favourable season of 1903-04. One or more of these causes were at work in the Pegu, Pyapôn, Myaungmya, Tharrawaddy and Ma-ubin districts, which contributed extensions of seventeen to fifty-five thousand acres, while in Bassein cultivators utilised annually submerged land for the cultivation of a dry-weather crop. Tavoy and Akyab returned smaller areas, but the decrease in the latter was due to erroneous figures in the previous year. In Upper Burma the most remarkable increase was returned from the Lower Chindwin, where the introduction of a summary settlement brought under assessment an area of 205,646 acres. In the Upper Chindwin an apparent increase of 28,232 acres represents the substitution of acre rates for tithe in a part of the district. Cultivation expanded by 29,482 acres in Meiktila and 19,904 acres in Minbu under the influence of a favourable season and improved irrigation, and an increase of 14,340 acres in Myingyan is also to be attributed to the rainfall. On the other hand, cultivation contracted in the Yamèthin subdivision for want of rain, and in Sagaing the October rains spoiled much of the paddy which the excellence of the early monsoon had induced cultivators to substitute for dry-crops. In Pakòkku the more compact and valuable island crops were popular, and a decrease of 13,757 acres in the assessed area was accompanied by an enhancement of the revenue demand.

The land revenue demand for the Province was Rs. 2,33,43,843, as against Rs. 2,18,15,715 in the year 1903-04. Nearly half of the increase, which amounted to Rs. 15,28,128, occurred in the three districts of Myaungmya, Akyab and Pyapôn, where new rates came into force, their coincidence with a bad season in Akyab causing some temporary hardship. Elsewhere the growth of the revenue demand responded to the extension of cultivation, or, as in Tavoy, took place in spite of a reduction in the assessed area. Thayetmyo, where there was a partial failure of the sessamum crop, and Rangoon Town were the only districts in the Lower Province which shewed an actual falling off in the demand. In Mandalay the assessment of full rates in the canal tract on land which had received partial remission in the previous year and the extension of the irrigation system operated with a good rainfall in the unirrigated tract to augment the demand by one and a half lakhs. In Katha, an enhancement of Rs. 31,238 was due to the extension of survey. In other districts the demand varied with the expansion or contraction of the area assessed, or, as in Yamèthin, where crops were successfully raised in an indifferent season on the more highly taxed lands, was independent of it. The enhancement of the demand which should have followed the partial introduction of supplementary survey in the Upper Chindwin was postponed by delay in the field work, and in Myitkyina heavy rain on the lowlying *taungyas* counteracted the effect produced by the assessment of land irrigated by the Namlôn weir.

(215. Remissions were nearly Rs. 30,000 in excess of the previous year. In Amherst, Thatôn and Hanthawaddy, where they amounted to Rs. 82,506, Rs. 56,395 and Rs. 39,540, respectively, it was found necessary to employ special officers to deal with the numerous applications which were made on account of destruction by floods.) Increases of Rs. 13,000 and Rs. 8,000 in Henzada and Pegu were due to the same cause, and the collapse of an embankment caused disaster in Ma-ubin, where, however, remissions on account of floods were Rs. 30,000 less than in the previous year. The comparative immunity of Tharrawaddy from this form of calamity is indicated by a fall of about the same amount. The greater part of the remissions in Myaungmya represented irrecoverable revenue due from unsuccessful cultivators who absconded. In Upper Burma, considerable remissions were granted only in the Mandalay and Kyauksè districts, where the test of the maturity of a crop is lower than in the dry zone and applications for remission therefore more frequent. There was an increase in the amount remitted in Mandalay, and a decrease from Rs. 11,366 to Rs. 3,848 in Kyauksè is ascribed to the failure of cultivators to realise in time that a harvest which had promised exceptionally well was to disappoint them. The remissions included, and in some districts were entirely accounted for by, the amounts struck off on account of erroneous assessment.

216. In all but four districts water-rate, where collected, has been amalgamated with land revenue, and the increase from Rs. 27,301 to Rs. 32,159 in the year's assessments was due to the comparatively abundant rainfall in Shwebo and Sagaing where small rain-fed tanks are maintained by Government.

V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE

Water-rate.

217. The increase of the population of Lower Burma was reflected in the growth of revenue from the capitation or poll tax, which was assessed on 34,069 more persons and involved a demand of Rs. 1,19,377 more than in the previous year. The increase was common to every district but two, and was most noticeable in Myaungmya, where the number of assesses rose by nearly 10,000, and the demand by Rs. 15,100, and in the Pyapôn district, where the high proportion borne by the enhanced demand (Rs. 27,088) to the growth in the number of taxpayers (6,020) indicated rather an improvement in the work of the assessing agency than (as in Myaungmya) an addition to the floating population. In Hanthawaddy, an increase in the demand of nearly Rs. 10,000 was due to the more careful assessment of migratory coolies, and in Toungoo and Bassein the intimate connection which should subsist between population and revenue was illustrated by enhancements of Rs. 16,075 and Rs. 8,877, respectively. By the same test the increase in Henzada (Rs. 479) appears inadequate.

Outstandings amounted to Rs. 169 and remissions to Rs. 48,044. There was an increase of 6,578 in the number of persons shewn as exempted on account of poverty and old age, and it is believed that headmen used their powers both liberally and correctly.

218. A sudden rise of 20,275 in the number of households assessed to *thatha-meda* was in striking contrast to the gradual increases of the previous two years (1,301 and 528, respectively), and is to be attributed to the effect of a favourable season in Upper Burma on the annual exodus to the delta. Every district except three contributed to the increase, which, in Myingyan, amounted to 3,536. The resultant revenue demand rose by more than two-and-half lakhs to Rs. 48,98,147, an increase of about Rs. 1,17,000 taking place in Shwebo alone. The introduction of a settlement reduced the household rates in the Chindwin districts, and the demand fell by Rs. 1,06,069, but this was more than counterbalanced by the return to normal rates in Pakôkku and Magwe, where in the previous year a reduction had been made in consequence of the failure of the early rains.

Remissions were not noticeably larger than in 1903-04, but the outstandings (Rs. 2,510) were swollen by the impossibility of collecting a portion of the Kachin tribute in time. The principles on which the distribution of the tax should be made by the village assessors were made more widely known, but the tendency to treat it as a fixed poll-tax was still observed in districts where the rate had been reduced at settlement. There was also some indication that the increase in the number of households exempted (3,080) was due to a misapprehension of the conditions which justify exemption.

219. The decline which had been observed in the revenue from net license fees during the previous two years was checked, and the fees contributed about Rs. 7,000 towards a total increase of Rs. 71,643 in the revenue demand from fisheries. Considerable enhancements in the demand of fees for net licenses in Myaungmya and Mergui were the result of better supervision on the part of district officers, and the lack of it caused a falling off in Bassein and Akyab. The number of pump licenses for pearling in the Mergui district was larger than in the previous year, and produced an enhancement of Rs. 2,800 in the revenue, but the price of mother-of-pearl was abnormally low, and the right to collect it and its local substitutes without apparatus was sold for Rs. 8,000 less than in 1903-04.

Keen competition at the auctions, which was not in every case justified by the success of the operations, raised the demand for leased fisheries by Rs. 17,000 in Mandalay and Rs. 18,000 in Tharrawaddy and Bassein. In the last named district a newly divided fishery realised a false price, and it had to be resold at a loss of over Rs. 17,000. The season in the delta was not good and one-and-a-half per cent. of the demand, which for the whole Province was

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Rs. 64,482 in excess of the previous year, was outstanding at the end of the year, while remissions, mainly owing to failures in Bassein and Mandalay, amounted to Rs. 29,670. Advances were made to the fishermen on the coast estuaries, but they were not put to any practical use and have proved very difficult to recover.

Land rate and other miscellaneous land revenue.

220. The area assessed to land rate in lieu of capitation-tax, in the seven towns of Lower Burma in which this rate is levied, rose from 7,529 to 7,652 acres and the revenue demand from Rs. 88,317 to Rs. 92,661. The only decrease (15 acres) occurred in Prome and was due to the resumption of land for def. ult. Provided the tax is assessed with uniform strictness, the demand varies with the area covered with buildings. It was resolved during the year to introduce a large scale survey in many of the larger towns of the Province. Titles will be recorded and the maps maintained by a supplementary survey staff. This step was taken in view of the confusion of urban tenures and of the impossibility of identifying building leases on the 16-inch maps. The increase from Rs. 66,191 to Rs. 77,420 in the revenue derived from town land rents was partly due to the stricter enquiries on the result of which this scheme was based, but over Rs. 8,000 of the enhanced revenue came from Mandalay and probably included rents which should have appeared in the accounts of the previous year.

The extension of the operations of the Burma Oil Company in the Magwe and Myingyan districts enhanced the royalty on petroleum by four lakhs and in the Ruby Mines district 71 per cent. of the loss of Rs. 1,78,243 on the royalties derived from the mines in the previous year was recovered. These receipts with the royalties on jade and amber realised Rs. 20,02,521 as against Rs. 14,69,324 in 1903-04, while other minerals produced a revenue of Rs. 47,583 as against Rs. 39,815 in the previous year.

The strict enforcement of the Village Act in Prome, Thaton and Bassein raised the receipts under the village enactments from Rs. 1,83,820 to Rs. 2,35,156.

The temporary suspension of the grant system in the Pegu division and the discouragement of applicants by floods were largely responsible for a decline of Rs. 58,945 in the receipts of survey fees for *pottas*.

Canal Revenue (Navigation and Irrigation).

Canal revenue.

221. The direct receipts from major irrigation works amounted to Rs. 70,695 as against Rs. 92,796 in the previous year, but this does not include the increase of land revenue attributable to them. The receipts from navigation works were Rs. 1,26,026.

Sources of Imperial Revenue other than the Land.

Customs.

222. The gross receipts from import duties at the ports of Burma increased from Rs. 55,93,097 to Rs. 60,94,348 and those from export duties from Rs. 87,62,302 to Rs. 98,44,358. The Sea-borne Trade of the year attained a volume hitherto unprecedented, the imports of cotton goods and the exports of rice being chiefly responsible for the growth of customs revenue.

Opium.

223. The gross receipts from opium rose from Rs. 45,50,182 to Rs. 51,69,309. A decline of over a lakh in the receipts from license fees was the result of the extension to Upper Burma of the system of vend which has been in force in the Lower Province since 1902, but the simultaneous enhancement of the wholesale price of excise opium from Rs. 33 to Rs. 60, with higher or lower prices in certain shops, produced an increased revenue of about Rs. 80,000, while the financial success of the innovation may be anticipated from the fact that in Lower Burma the receipts from duty on excise and foreign opium rose from Rs. 42,92,387 to Rs. 50,11,715 as the system developed. Part of this increase is to be attributed to the enhanced price at which opium was issued from the treasury in some districts, but though, towards the end of 1904, retail sales were restricted to an amount calculated on the consumer's means or capacity of consumption, the issues of opium to the shops in Lower Burma (excluding Thayetmyo) exceeded by 8,218 seers the quantity

issued in the previous year, and in only one district (Tavoy) was less opium drawn from the Treasury in consequence of the restriction. The abolition of the auction system was accompanied by an increase of eight in the number of shops in Upper Burma, where the opium habit is practically confined to non-Burmans. The restrictions on individual purchases were designed to suppress the hawking of illicit opium which had become very prevalent under the new system, and the increasing use of cocaine necessitated the issue of a notification declaring it to be an intoxicating drug and prohibiting its possession except for medical purposes. Proposals for the better regulation of the sale and possession of morphia were also under consideration. (It may be assumed that the increased quantities of Government opium sold through the shops indicate a partial suppression of smuggling, but several large seizures were made in Bhamo, Myitkyina, Rangoon and Thaton, and proposals for the strengthening of the preventive staff and for the improvement of the controlling agency have been under consideration.)

224. The system of direct taxation on locally manufactured salt, which had been in operation in the Bassein, Hanthawaddy and Myaungmya districts, was extended during the year to Tavoy and Mergui, and is to be enforced in Amherst and Kyaukpyu, the only remaining districts where the industry is pursued on a large scale. The local output of salt declined from 705,606 to 582,148 maunds, owing partly to the slowness of the boilers to adapt themselves to the new system in Tavoy, and partly to the discontent caused by the working of it in Bassein. It is thought, however, that bad prices were a contributing cause of the discontent in Bassein, and steps are being taken to enquire into real causes of complaint. In the adjoining district of Myaungmya the boilers worked contentedly under the new system, which, among other advantages, is financially sound, the net revenue after deducting the cost of the establishment amounting, except in Tavoy, to a considerably larger sum than that which would have been realised under the discarded system of composition duties.

Duty was paid on 1,349,400 maunds of imported salt or about 75,000 maunds more than in the previous year. The competition between the English and German product continued keen, the latter retaining a lead in the market; both, however, were replaced to some extent by Aden salt. In Rangoon, prices fluctuated remarkably, English salt falling from Rs. 80 to Rs. 58 and rising again to Rs. 85. The average price of imported salt was Rs. 75 as against Rs. 67-8-0 for the local product, and it formed 70 per cent. of the total consumption as against 68 per cent. in the previous year. Away from the river and railway routes to Mandalay the local salt boilers disposed of their produce without difficulty, but foreign salt ruled the markets on the main lines of communication and monopolised the frontier trade with the Shan States and the North. There was a heavy fall in the coal trade in the locally manufactured salt, which was due partly to the smaller output and partly to the low prices which prevailed in Rangoon during a great part of the year.

225. Owing to a change in the date of termination of excise licenses from the 31st March to 30th April, which was effected for accounts purposes, the license fees for 13 months were included in the annual report of the Department. The instalment system was at the same time modified to suit small capitalists. Foreign liquor licenses were withdrawn from all but the larger towns, the demand elsewhere being provided for by a modification of the licenses at Railway refreshment rooms. The rules and license forms were further modified with a view to the exercise of a closer supervision over manufacture and sale, and instructions regarding the location of shop sites were prepared.

Allowing two lakhs of rupees for the longer period covered by liquor licenses, the receipts from license fees and duty on liquor increased by over 2½ lakhs, the gross revenue being Rs. 38,14,153. In pursuance of the policy of restricting the number of licenses for the sale of imported liquor, 29 of these shops were closed, but the receipts from license fees were Rs. 57,139 in excess of the previous year. Rangoon contributed nearly one-half of the total (Rs. 12,05,234), and the only considerable decreases were attributable to a combination of bidders in the

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Amberst district and the withdrawal of licenses from five shops in Tharrawaddy. The duty paid on spirits manufactured in India after European methods declined by half a lakh to Rs. 2,12,389. It was affected by the comparative popularity of Java rum and the reduction in the number of shops for its sale, as well as by defective control over illicit distillation in the Thatôn district, which has since been remedied.

License fees for the manufacture and vend of country spirits and country fermented liquor (including *tari*) realised Rs. 23,27,232 as against Rs. 18,71,394 in 1903-04. The actual increase on a period of 12 months may be calculated at three quarters of the difference. The most remarkable advance occurred in the fees for the manufacture and sale of country spirits, which were 72 per cent. in excess of the previous year. The receipts increased in every district except one, and were affected to the extent of Rs. 63,074 by the establishment of five new outstills in Thatôn to check illicit trade.

The revenue from country fermented liquors other than *tari* shewed an advance of nearly three lakhs and was practically all obtained from the Pegu and Irrawaddy divisions. There were indications that the suppression of foreign liquor shops, which largely contributed to this result, has been pushed too far. License fees for *tari* realised Rs. 5,72,983, or half a lakh more than in the previous year, though the number of shops was reduced by 110 and a combination of bidders in Moulmein depressed the receipts at auction. There were considerable seizures of ganja during the year. The hemp plant is indigenous in the hills and there is a large demand for it amongst natives of India, though there is no indication that the taste has spread to the Burmans.

Stamps.

226. The gross receipts from stamps rose from Rs. 29,41,940 to Rs. 33,12,820 and the charges from Rs. 97,135 to Rs. 1,05,316. A sum of Rs. 5,404 was debited to general supervision, and the cost of stamps supplied from the central depôt was Rs. 62,023, or more than twice as much as in the previous year. The growth of expenditure was largely due to the establishment of a central depôt in Rangoon for the supply of stamps to Burma and the Andamans. The receipts on account of judicial stamps amounted to 55.8 per cent. of the total stamp revenue, and were nearly Rs. 2,20,000 in advance of the previous year. A rise of Rs. 54,836 in Rangoon is attributable to the effect of land speculation on the value of civil suits, and elsewhere litigation grew with increasing prosperity. The land boom in Rangoon and its neighbourhood was not the only, though it was the predominating, factor in the growth of revenue from non-judicial stamps from Rs. 12,67,310 to Rs. 14,09,728. While the chief city accounted for an increase of nearly Rs. 1,20,000, the general expansion of cultivation enhanced the stamp revenue in nearly every district. The use of impressed labels or special adhesive stamps in the chief towns of the province extended in a remarkable manner. The value of receipt stamps sold was somewhat less than in the previous year. The abuse of them should be checked by the newly extended provisions of the Transfer of Property Act. The commercial development of Rangoon led to an increase in the sale of share transfer stamps and cheque and receipt forms, and over Rs. 20,000 was paid as duty on loans by the Rangoon Port Trust and Municipality. The amount of duty and penalty realised by Courts and Collectors shewed a considerable falling off, and prosecutions for breaches of the stamp law were neither so numerous nor so successful as in the previous year, when excessive zeal was shown in the Pakkôku district.

Assessed
taxes.

227. The final demand of income-tax amounted to Rs. 11,27,610, or one and three-quarter lakhs more than in the previous year, and all but Rs. 3,000 was collected. The operation of the Act was extended to ten more towns and the number of assesseees increased by 876 to 12,307. The number of objections to the Collector was greater, especially in Rangoon, where the final demand was Rs. 60,000 less than the original assessment, and in the Pegu subdivision, but only 174 processes were issued. Including recoveries by the Accountant-General and the Burma Railways Company the total collections of the tax rose from Rs. 11,86,971 to Rs. 13,67,105, the nett collections from Rs. 11,80,620 to Rs. 13,63,673 and the incidence of the

tax from Rs. 79-8-0 to Rs. 88-3-0 per head. The number of Government servants and pensioners who were assessed was smaller than in the previous year, but salaries in excess of Rs. 2,000 were more numerous, and the yield of the tax imposed both on this class and on the servants of local authorities shewed an increase. The employes of commercial firms shared in their prosperity and were taxed proportionately. Of the 56 companies, the tax on whose profits produced Rs. 2,67,260, forty-eight, or nine more than in the previous year, carried on business in Rangoon, and that town accounted for all but about Rs. 5,000 of the tax under this head. Interest on securities was slightly less productive, but there was a large increase in the tax levied on incomes from other sources, the final demand being Rs. 6,48,268 as against Rs. 5,57,532 in 1903-04. Every district except Mergui shared in the advance. In Rangoon the enhancement was as much as Rs. 49,132 and in other districts much of the increase was levied from the money lenders. The diversion of the Shan States trade to Hsipaw, which followed the opening of the railway to Lashio, together with the burning of the Zegyo bazaar and the failure of a prominent Chinese merchant, had produced serious commercial depression in Mandalay. The development of the canal system arrested the decline in prosperity and it is hoped that the activity of mining companies may help to improve the situation.

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228. The total forest revenue for the year reached a total of Rs. 1,09,61,494. The following statement gives the details and the corresponding figures of the previous year:—

Particulars.	1903-04.	1904-05.	Increase or decrease.
1	2	3	4
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
I.—Timber and other produce removed from the forests by Government agency.	43,29,281	59,67,801	+16,38,520
II.—Timber and other produce removed from the forests by consumers or purchasers.	34,81,781	42,42,892	+7,61,111
III.—Drift and waif wood and confiscated forest produce.	2,40,774	2,84,222	+43,448
IV.—Revenue from forests not managed by Government.	3,63,377	3,24,545	-38,832
V.—Miscellaneous	1,04,191	1,42,034	+37,843
Total	85,19,404	1,09,61,494	24,42,090

The financial results of the year's operations were as follows:—

Circle.	Receipts.	Charges.	Surplus.
1	2	3	4
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Pegu	52,20,017	12,91,972	39,28,045
Tenasserim	19,76,797	7,73,436	12,03,361
Northern	19,63,263	8,37,828	11,25,435
Southern	18,01,417	6,11,761	11,89,656
Total	1,09,61,494	35,14,997	74,46,497

V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

Not only were the gross receipts 24 lakhs in excess of the previous year, but the proportion borne to them by the surplus (68 per cent.) was nine points higher, the increase of revenue being obtained at an enhanced cost of only Rs. 14,686.

The profits of forest operations were most remarkable in the Pegu and Southern Circles. In the case of the former, an outbreak of anthrax amongst the elephants at the Rangoon depôt necessitated the local sale of timber extracted by Government agency. The local depôts did not afford safe storage for logs during the rains, and the value of timber which would ordinarily have swelled the receipts of the following year appeared in the accounts of 1904-05. In the Southern Circle the increase of revenue was mainly the result of the more extensive operations of lessees, who extracted 74,881 tons of timber valued at Rs. 13,06,161, as against 56,401 tons, worth Rs. 7,20,896, in the previous year.

(b) *Revenue and Finance other than Imperial.*

Provincial Revenues.

229. Of the items of revenue, which are not distributed between Imperial and Provincial, receipts from Law and Justice—Courts of Law were less by Rs. 14,750 owing to a falling off in magisterial fines, while a larger demand for jail-made articles enhanced the income of the Jail Department by nearly Rs. 16,000. Cattle-pound receipts and the recoveries on account of Punitive police were larger than in the previous year, and coast light dues, which increased with the growth of trade, helped to add Rs. 39,693 to the income of the Marine Department. An increase of Rs. 13,096 under Education was due to the transfer of the Rangoon College to Government from the control of the Educational Syndicate. Miscellaneous receipts were enhanced by 1½ lakhs owing to the sale of elephants by the Kheddah department and the opening of new bazaars, and the growth of traffic on the Pegu-Sittang Canal produced a larger sum for Minor Works and Navigation. The receipts from Contributions were increased by the extension of the system of collecting revenue by the agency of village headmen.

The expenditure in connection with land revenue, which is not shared by Imperial, increased by Rs. 62,769 mainly owing to the employment of additional Myoòks and their establishments, and the extension of supplementary and town surveys, and under Customs an enhancement of Rs. 38,955 was due to the entertainment of a larger establishment at Rangoon and the opening of the new office at Bhamo, as well as to the payment of more overtime and holiday allowances to the staff.

More post office lines were subsidised during the year at an enhanced cost of Rs. 22,149. Privilege leave arrangements and deputations on special duty in the Secretariat increased the cost of General Administration by Rs. 37,975, and expenditure on Courts of Law rose by over Rs. 1,80,000 owing to the employment of additional Magistrates and clerks and the heavier cost of the process serving establishment and of the maintenance of witnesses. In the Police department, the recruitment of the new Southern Shan States Battalion, the larger outlay on arms and accoutrements, clothing, and petty construction and repairs and the grant of personal allowances to officers of the Civil Police increased the expenditure by Rs. 4,84,998, and payments for the construction of launches raised the cost of the Marine department by more than Rs. 70,000. The outlay on Education was Rs. 2,02,373 in excess of 1903-04. New schools were opened and additional contributions made in support of Municipal and Local schools; the control of the Rangoon College was assumed by Government and the salaries of Assistant and Deputy Inspectors were increased. The increase in the cost of the Medical department by a lakh of rupees was due to expenditure on the Rangoon General Hospital, the payment of an enhanced contribution to the Rangoon Port Trust on account of plague and the grant of local allowances and higher rates of salary to the officers of the Indian Medical Service.

Abnormal expenditure in the previous year had been incurred in the purchase of elephants and on the dredger employed in the Moulmein river, and the outlay under Miscellaneous and Civil works fell off. Greater economy was effected in the purchase of materials for the Jail Department, the Government Press was

administered at a smaller cost, and more than Rs. 82,000 was saved on repairs to embankments.

V.—REVENUE
AND
FINANCE

Local Funds.

230. Under this heading are included the District Cess Funds of Lower Burma, the analogous district funds of the Upper province and the Taunggyi Improvement Fund. The accounts show that the total receipts increased by Rs. 76,656 and the expenditure by Rs. 1,70,942. The bulk of the income of the District Cess Funds is derived from the provincial rates, which rise or fall with the collections of land revenue to which they are proportionate. This source of revenue was therefore considerably more profitable than in the previous year. The receipts from ferries and bazaars were also more considerable. On the expenditure side a greater outlay was incurred on civil works, but in some districts there was a falling off in the amount of commission paid to village headmen. Educational charges decreased, the expenditure on account of Itinerant teachers being borne by provincial revenues. The receipts of district funds were Rs. 9,637 and the expenditure Rs. 5,064 in excess of the previous year. The enhanced income was derived from slaughter-houses, cattle-pounds and ferries, and the expenditure on public works was increased. The Taunggyi Improvement Fund received Rs. 9,158 and spent Rs. 6,649, closing with a balance of Rs. 5,097. The following statement illustrates the financial position of the Incorporated Local Funds:—

Incorporated
Local Funds.

Funds.	Opening balance.	Receipts.	Total.	Expenditure.	Closing balance.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
District Cess Funds ...	11,99,079	23,48,040	35,47,119	23,20,711	12,26,408
District Funds ...	2,69,307	4,46,360	7,15,667	4,55,813	2,59,854
Taunggyi Improvement Fund ...	2,588	9,158	11,746	6,649	5,097
Total ...	14,70,974	28,03,558	42,74,532	27,83,173	14,91,359

231. The receipts, expenditure and balances of the various Excluded Local Funds are shown in the following statement. It includes the transactions of the Rangoon Port Trust, though these do not appear in the Government books:—

Excluded
Local Funds.

Funds	Opening balance.	Receipts.	Total.	Expenditure.	Closing balance.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cantonment funds ...	11,945	2,21,997	2,33,942	2,03,314	30,628
Town funds ...	1,68,917	4,09,670	5,78,587	3,93,164	1,85,423
Port funds ...	2,16,711	3,36,562	5,53,273	3,49,868	2,03,405
Pilot funds ...	1,00,857	3,79,774	4,80,631	3,59,920	1,20,711
Land sale and Rent fund ...	2,159	619	2,778	2,778	...
Educational { General ...	32,347	46,858	79,205	44,618	34,587
{ College fund ...	17,905	33,600	51,505	51,505	...
Rangoon Police Reward fund ...	24	749	773	768	5
Rangoon Cantonment Garden fund ...	4,725	4,312	9,037	5,254	3,783
Rangoon Port Trust ...	9,69,496	23,88,990	33,58,486	17,93,183	15,65,303
Total ..	15,25,086	38,23,131	53,48,217	32,04,372	21,43,845

V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

Both the income and expenditure of Cantonment funds were smaller than in the previous year, but the variations were largely fortuitous. Mandalay had received a special grant of Rs. 26,000 in 1903-04 for the improvement of conservancy, and a similar grant of Rs. 8,500 in 1904 was spent on Police barracks in Rangoon. There was, however, a real growth of income from taxation in the latter Cantonment. Larger grants-in-aid for particular purposes swelled the balances of the Meiktila, Maymyo and Shwebo funds. A new town fund was opened at Lashio. There are now fifteen of these funds, which are administered by Committees on Municipal principles in small towns.

The debt of the Rangoon Port Trust at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 31,44,041, of which Rs. 30,00,000 represented the loans of 1903-04. The Bassein Port fund borrowed Rs. 12,000 from Government in 1903 and was Rs. 6,845 in its debt at the end of the year.

The Pilot funds at Rangoon, Akyab, Bassein and Moulmein receive all pilotage receipts and disburse the earnings of pilots, the cost of maintenance of pilot vessels and other expenses.

The balance of the Land Sale and Rent Fund at Akyab was transferred to the Government accounts in June 1904 and the fund closed.

The Rangoon Police Reward fund draws its income from fines and disburses them in rewards.

Government made a grant of Rs. 30,000 towards the support of the Educational Syndicate and the maintenance of the Bernard Free Library and the Rangoon College, but the management of the latter was transferred to Government in November 1904.

Road and Education Cesses.

232. There are no separate road and education cesses in Burma.

Municipal Revenues.

233. Excluding the Rangoon and Moulmein Municipalities, which do not bank with Government, there were 39 municipalities, the transactions of which are given in the following statement :—

Opening balance.	Receipts.	Expenditure.	Closing balance.
1	2	3	6
Rs.	R.	Rs.	Rs.
9,39,077	28,40,260	31,33,252	6,55,085

Municipal liabilities as regards loans on the 31st March 1905 were as follows :—

						Rs.
<i>Due to Government.</i>						
Prome	...	...	...	...	...	1,55,133
Yangoon	...	...	...	...	...	25,693
Akyab	...	...	...	...	...	522
Shwegyin	...	...	...	...	...	1,305
Henzada	...	...	...	...	...	33,036
Myaungmya	...	...	...	...	...	41,929
Ma-ubin	...	...	...	...	...	18,686
Toungoo	...	...	...	...	...	7,000
<i>Due to the Public.</i>						
Rangoon	...	...	...	...	...	1,06,95,500
Moulmein	...	...	...	...	...	10,16,000
Mandalay	...	...	...	...	...	7,23,000

The details of Municipal revenue and expenditure are set forth in paragraphs 81 to 100 of this report.

Other Funds.

234. There is only one class of Trust Fund, *vis.*, the Official Assignee's, which does not bank with Government and its accounts are not shewn in the Government books.

V.—REVENUE
AND
FINANCE.
—
Other classes
of Trust
Funds.

235. The transactions of the four Educational funds, namely, Jardine, Muzung Ohn Gaing, Renoung and Copleston, are similarly excluded from the Government accounts.

Educational
Endowment
Funds.

Paper Currency.

236. The circulation of notes, which in the first year after the opening of the Paper Currency office amounted to Rs. 20,90,495, exceeded a crore of rupees in 1900-01 and in the year ending the 31st March 1905 reached the sum of Rs. 1,74,83,405, which represents an increase of 736 per cent. in 21 years. The issues and receipts for the year of report and the preceding year were as follows:—

Circulation
of notes.

Year.	Issues.	Receipts.
1	2	3
	Rs.	Rs.
1903-04	20,49,97,600	20,37,54,335
1904-05	22,34,60,680	22,15,76,780

The increase in circulation was most marked in the case of notes of the Rs. 10 and Rs. 100 denominations.

VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

REFERENCES—

- Report on the Sanitary Administration of Burma for the year 1904.
Triennial Report on the Hospitals and Dispensaries of Burma for the years 1902—1904.
Triennial Report on Vaccination in Burma for the years 1902-03 to 1904-05.
Tenth issue of Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India, 1904-05, Tables Nos. XIII (Vital Statistics), XIV (Hospitals) and XVI (Vaccination).

Births and Deaths.

System of registration.

237. The system of registration remained the same as in former years, but since the close of the year Civil Surgeons have been placed in control of the work of tabulating statistics. It is hoped by this means to exercise a more efficient check over the classification of diseases. The area under registration in Lower Burma remained the same, but in Upper Burma certain tracts, hitherto excluded, in the Lower Chindwin and Yamèthin districts and in the Upper Burma portion of the Thayetmyo district were brought under registration.

Births.

238. In Lower Burma, 180,028 births were registered, a decrease of 4,553 as compared with the preceding year. The decrease has been attributed to defective registration. Of the births registered 93,221 were males and 86,807 females, giving a proportion of 107 males to every 100 females born. The birth-rate for the province was in the annual ratio of 32·71 per 1,000 as against 33·54 for the previous year and a mean of 34·25 for the preceding five years.

The birth-rate amongst the urban and rural population was 26·54 and 33·66, respectively, as compared with 26·50 and 34·52 in 1903. The marked variations in the towns of Lower Burma show that registration is unreliable, but the low birth rates of Rangoon, Akyab and Moulmein, where the percentage was below 23, are attributable to causes incidental to life in large industrial towns. The excess of births over deaths in the Lower Province was 56,567.

In Upper Burma registration of births is at present in force in 12 towns only, but a proposal to extend the system to rural areas is under consideration. The number of births recorded was 10,393 against 11,047 in 1903, and the proportion of males to females born was as 106 to 100. The birth-rate was 35·05 as compared with 37·48 in 1903.

Deaths.

239. There were 123,061 deaths registered in Lower Burma during 1904 as against 132,767 in 1903 and an average of 123,675 during the previous five years, the resulting rates per thousand of the population being 22·36, 24·13 and 24·11. The fall in the death-rate has been attributed to the greater healthiness of the year, and particularly to its comparative freedom from cholera. Defective water-supply and sanitation were responsible for a high rate of mortality in some of the larger towns.

In Upper Burma, the total deaths registered amounted to 55,671 or 18·69 per 1,000, which is an improvement on the figures (62,941 and 21·80) of 1903.

Infantile mortality.

240. The mortality amongst children under one year of age was remarkable. The total number of such deaths was 34,475 in Lower Burma and 11,946 in Upper Burma. They amounted to 37 per cent. of the total mortality in some districts and to 28 per cent. of all the deaths in Lower Burma. Improper feeding and clothing, neglect, and insanitary surroundings have their inevitable effect on infant mortality, but perhaps the chief cause is to be found in the barbarous methods of midwifery which still survive the progress of civilisation.

Causes of deaths.

241. Deaths from cholera amounted to 2,980 and from small-pox to 1,809. Both figures were below normal. There was also a slight decrease in the number of deaths from fevers, which amounted to 75,556, and dysentery and diarrhœa were less fatal than in 1903.

242. There were no indigenous cases of Plague during the year, though three cases were detected during the medical inspection of vessels coming from Calcutta. The immunity hitherto enjoyed by Burma has, unfortunately, been interrupted since the close of the year.

PLAGUE
—
V.L.—VIRAL
STAPHYLOCOCCI
AND MEMORIAL
GAL SERVICES
GAINING

243. The sales of quinine powders from Post offices decreased, but vaccinators were more successful in disposing of them. District reports show that there is very little demand for the drug, the value of which is not generally appreciated by the people.

Emigration and Immigration.

244. The number of immigrants at the various ports during the year was 1,82,721 and of emigrants 1,25,215. At Akyab there was an exodus of harvesters, ploughmen and mill hands to Chittagong, but on the whole the figures represent a large permanent or semi-permanent addition to the population of the Province. The bulk of the immigrants arrive from the Madras coast ports for the harvest and milling season, and many are tempted by the high rate of wages prevailing to stay and invest their savings in paddy land. The arrivals at Rangoon included many beggars, able-bodied or otherwise.

Emigration and Immigration.

Medical Relief.

245. Colonel Benson, M.B., I.M.S., officiated as Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, Burma, from the 1st to the 22nd January 1904.

Administration.

Colonel Little, M.D., I.M.S., the permanent incumbent, resumed charge of the duties on the 23rd January 1904, and continued in the appointment till the end of the year.

246. Compared with 1903, there was a marked increase in the total attendance at all hospitals in the province, the excess being 77,639 persons. Excluding Military Police and Railway Hospitals and those maintained entirely from private sources, there were 145 hospitals and dispensaries open at the end of the year. Twelve new institutions were opened and one closed. A new General Hospital for Rangoon was sanctioned, and is now in course of construction. The number of in-door patients at all hospitals was 50,593 as compared with 47,719 in 1903; of these 77.6 per cent. were discharged cured, 8 per cent. relieved, and 5 per cent. died. Nine lakhs seventy-two thousand seven hundred and ninety persons sought out-door relief as compared with 9,10,253 during 1903, but the proportion of women and children treated was slightly lower than in that year, their numbers being 168,174 women and 238,991 children.

Attendance at hospitals and dispensaries.

247. With the exception of small-pox, cholera, and diseases of the eye, there was a general increase of all diseases as compared with 1903. The most common complaints were malarial fever, worms and ulcers. The statistics of mortality show the year to have been unusually healthy and it may be assumed that this increase in the number of diseases treated is due to an increased appreciation of the hospitals.

Principal diseases.

248. The total number of surgical operations performed during the year was 24,280, as compared with 23,086 in 1903, and the percentage of deaths, which numbered 124, was higher. Defects in the surgical equipment of hospitals are engaging the attention of the Inspector-General.

Surgical operations.

249. Exclusive of the opening balance, which amounted to Rs. 71,846, the nett income amounted to Rs. 8,59,807, as compared with Rs. 7,95,961 in 1903. The percentage of support from Government increased from 42.29 in 1903 to 47.55 in 1904, while that obtained from Municipal and Local Funds decreased from 49.54 in 1903 to 43.88. The increase in the share provided by Government was due to the expenditure incurred on additional establishment and structural improvements at the General Hospital, Rangoon, and to the payment

Financial.

VI.—VITAL
STATISTICS
AND MEDICAL
SERVICES.

of contributions of Rs. 15,000 and Rs. 6,000 to the Maymyo and Bassein Civil Hospitals, respectively. The expenditure during the year under all heads was Rs. 8,57,537 as against Rs. 7,94,045 in 1903. Part of this increase was due to the grant of additional and enhanced rates of allowances to all Hospital Assistants in the Province, and the rest may be attributed to the extension of the field of medical activity.

Private,
Railway and
Police Hos-
pitals.

250. The number of out and in-patients treated in the private, Railway and Police Hospitals of the Province increased from 134,348 in 1903 to 159,171 in 1904. The number of operations performed was 1,781 as compared with 1,648 in 1903.

Dufferin
Hospital,
Rangoon.

251. The progress of this hospital has been hampered by frequent changes in the *personnel* of the staff. The attendance showed no advance on that of the previous year and there was a falling off in the number of in-door patients. A qualified Lady Superintendent has now been engaged and the affairs of the Hospital placed on a more satisfactory footing. Midwives and nurses have been trained for practise in the districts, and within the limitations imposed by the paucity of their numbers have done something towards mitigating the barbarity of native methods. A project is on foot to encourage proficiency in midwifery by the foundation of a scholarship for a medical course in England.

Sanitation.

Expenditure.

252. Of the total Municipal income of the Province (Rs. 87,17,586), 28 per cent. was spent on water-supply, 1 per cent. on drainage, 13 per cent. on conservancy, and 58 per cent. on other sanitary works, or 52 per cent. on all sanitary works.

Water-sup-
ply.

253. During the year great progress was made with the Hlawga water-supply system for Rangoon. It was formally opened for public use in February 1905, and will, it is anticipated, provide 25 gallons of water per head for a population of 650,000. The original water-supply project at Mandalay has been abandoned as being too expensive and a system of wells is being tried, which, if completed, is estimated to cost three and half lakhs. The Moulmein water-works have been completed by the Public Works Department and handed over to the Municipal Committee. Negotiations for a loan for the execution of a similar project at Akyab are in progress. The old water-works at Prome were successfully replaced by a new system with a higher pressure.

Conservancy.

254. The Shone and Ault system of sewage conservancy in Rangoon was found to be working most unsatisfactorily during the year and Mr. Ault, a specialist, has been engaged to improve it. The septic tank at Maymyo was found to be inadequate for the growing requirements of the town, and a new installation is being constructed which will require an independent water-supply.

The total expenditure on conservancy during the year was Rs. 12,90,083.

Drainage.

255. Progress was made with a scheme designed to drain the masonry area in Mandalay, and a considerable addition was made to the masonry drains in Prome, but no improvement was effected in the surface drainage of Rangoon till after the close of the year. Surveys for a complete drainage scheme are in progress at Akyab.

Village
Sanitation.

256. Outside Municipalities, a sum of Rs. 2,66,213 was spent on sanitary measures, but lack of funds and the apathy of the people militate against any substantial improvement.

Sanitary
Board.

257. The Provincial Sanitary Board held only one meeting during the year. The rules for the constitution and procedure of the Board have now been revised and meetings will, it is hoped, be more frequent.

Vaccination.

258. The staff of vaccinators employed during the year numbered 233 as against 224 employed during the previous year, and one Native Superintendent was added to the strength of the inspecting staff. A scheme for the reorganization of the staff of Native Superintendents of Vaccination into three grades on Rs. 50, Rs. 75, and Rs. 100 a month has, since the close of the year, been sanctioned by the Government of India. The details of the scheme are being worked out. It is hoped that the recruitment of a better class of Superintendent will result in the improved efficiency of vaccination. The sanctioned scheme also contemplates the requirement of a reasonable standard of education from candidates for the appointment of vaccinator, and the grant of a stipend of Rs. 10 per mensem to ten candidates a year during a period of six months' training. The total number of persons vaccinated was 397,441 as against 398,634 in the previous year. The decrease is attributed to a general improvement in the correctness of returns. The number of successful primary operations was 301,984 as compared with 320,035, with a percentage of success of 84.71 as against 87.20 in the previous year. Although the total number of re-vaccinations increased from 22,836 to 26,271 the percentage success fell from 54.97 to 47.60. The fall in the rate of success for both primary and re-vaccinations was largely due to the inferior quality or the temporary failure of the lymph supply, but ignorance or carelessness on the part of vaccinators and interference by the mothers of the children treated contributed to the same result. It is also thought probable that climatic reasons reduce the chances of success in the case of operations performed during the hot weather and rains. One thousand seven hundred and six operations represented the average work of each vaccinator during the year. This is 74 below the average of the previous year and nearly 300 below the standard which was set up by Colonel Little. It is, however, believed that previous returns have been falsified and that the decrease is to be attributed to improved supervision. It is observed that, though inoculation is still freely practised, the attitude of the people is rather apathetic than actually hostile, and that objections are only raised by Burmans to the vaccination of very young children. In Rangoon the reluctance of the native of India takes the form of obstruction.

GENERAL RESULTS
VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES

259. Since 1899-1900, when the death-rate was 13.21, there has been an almost continuous yearly decline in the mortality from small-pox, the death-rate for the year under review being only 2.38 per 10,000. The proportion of the population protected by vaccination was 394.89 per 10,000, as against 353.66 in the previous year.

Mortality from small-pox and extent of protection.

260. There was a marked increase in the activity of dispensary vaccinators, who performed 1,632 more operations than in 1903 with, however, a slight falling off in the ratio of success.

Dispensary vaccination.

261. There was a distinct improvement in the number of cases inspected by Civil Surgeons and Native Superintendents of Vaccination. The latter verified 19.35 per cent. of the primary operations performed and found 81 per cent. to be successful.

Verification.

262. The total expenditure on account of vaccination was Rs. 1,00,150, as compared with Rs. 94,331 in the preceding year. The difference was due to an increase in the pay of vaccinators and the employment of a larger staff during the year. The cost of each successful case was five annas two pies, as against four annas seven pies in the previous year.

Financial.

263. The percentage of cost borne by Government was 35.08, by Municipalities 17.12, by Local Funds 44.71, and by Native States 3.09, as compared with 35.61, 17.13, 43.68, and 3.58, respectively, for the previous year.

Percentage of cost.

264. Two hundred and fifty-two calves were inoculated at the Meiktila Vaccine Depot and only 183 with success. The deterioration of lymph during the hot weather months had been observed in previous years, but at the end of May 1904 the inoculation of calves completely failed, and the supply of lymph was interrupted till the end of June. Lanolinized lymph was supplied during the year for 472,489 cases and glycerinated lymph for 14,340 cases. The average cost of each case was 1.92 pies.

Supply of lymph.

VII.—INSTRUCTION.

References—

Report on Public Instruction in Burma for the year ending the 31st March 1905.

Report on the Insein Reformatory School for 1904.

Tenth issue of Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1904-05 and preceding years. Tables X (Education), XI (Reformatory Schools), XII (The Press).

General System of Public Instruction

265. There has been no important alteration in the system of Public Instruction since it was described in paragraphs 427—460 of the Report for the year 1901-02, though there have been additions to and a reorganisation of the staff. The policy outlined in paragraph 429 of that Report has been developed, and the transfer of the Rangoon College and the Collegiate School to Government has been carried into effect.

Education.

Number of schools and attendance.

266. The number of public schools increased from 5,557 in 1903-04 to 5,760 in 1904-05 and the attendance from 187,098 to 206,209. Private institutions were 590 more numerous than in the previous year and their pupils numbered 164,914 as against 160,037. The progress of education is illustrated by a rise of 4 per cent. in the number of schools and of 7 per cent. in the number of pupils. On an average there was one school to every three towns or villages, and the percentages of attendance by children of school-going age rose from 34'02 to 35'31 and from '99 to 1'10 for boys and girls respectively.

Finance.

267. The total expenditure on Public Instruction rose from Rs. 23,90,735 to Rs. 26,78,356. Of this sum Provincial funds contributed nearly 43 per cent. or Rs. 2,14,085 more than in the previous year, while the income from fees and from Local funds was proportionately lower, and that from Municipal funds 1'28 per cent. higher than in 1903-04. Of the provincial expenditure, nearly 2½ lakhs was debitable to an Imperial grant of four lakhs which was made for the furtherance of the policy of the Simla Conference of 1901. Though the whole of the grant was not spent, progress was made towards the realisation of its object, more particularly by improving the efficiency and prospects of teachers. Incidentally, the grant partially relieved local funds of the burden of educational expenditure. The increase in the income from fees was principally obtained from secondary schools.

Inspection and control.

268. A fifth Inspector of schools was appointed in February 1905 and provision was thus made for the supervision of Normal schools and European education, the first of which had formed the subject of a special enquiry and conference. The cost of the administration of the department was further increased by the considerable enhancements of pay which accompanied the formation of a Provincial service in July 1904 and the regrading of the staff of Deputy Inspectors.

Vernacular education.

269. Secondary schools increased in number from 269 to 309, and the attendance at them from 17,908 to 21,124. Only one of these schools was under Government management, and in that the attendance fell off. Elsewhere progress was general, except in the Mandalay Division. The results of examination shewed great improvement. There was an advance of 58 in the number of Primary schools, where the total attendance was 143,585. A school was opened at Falam in the Chin Hills, and sanction has been accorded to the foundation of twelve Government schools, while it is proposed to encourage the opening of private institutions by the payment of building grants. The expenditure on Primary vernacular schools was Rs. 3,93,369, or an increase of 15 per cent., and the proportion of

pupils who qualified at examination (72 per cent.) was an advance on the previous year. VII.—INSTRUCTION

270. The number of English secondary schools (77) remained stationary, but the attendance shewed an advance of 1,452. The results of examinations in Standards V, VI and VII were not so satisfactory as in the previous year, the percentage of success being nearly 60 per cent. in the case of Government institutions and 54 per cent. in the case of aided schools. It is hoped that the encouragement afforded by the opening of Government schools at Thazi, Maymyo and Sagaing will effect an improvement in Anglo-Vernacular education. Primary schools shewed an increase of three in number and 345 in attendance. Anglo-Vernacular education.

271. At the Rangoon and Baptist Colleges there was a falling off in the number of students. Of the 151 students at the former, 26 were in the B.A. and 125 in the F.A. Class. Only nine candidates appeared for the B.A. examination as against 20 in the previous year, and four passed, none with Honours. Thirty-nine out of 88 candidates passed the F.A. examination, more than half in the third division. The question of improving the methods of higher education in the Province was under consideration. The Baptist College, the conversion of which into a first grade institution is contemplated, sustained a severe loss in the death of its Principal, Dr. Cushing. Collegiate education.

272. The continued spread of education amongst girls was a gratifying feature of the year. The number under instruction was 54,787, of whom 49,659 were in public institutions, and a large and increasing number were Buddhists. There was an increase in every stage of instruction, but the majority (40,825) were in mixed Primary schools. One out of three female candidates passed the F.A. Examination and there were 12 successes out of 26 in the Entrance Examination. For the VIIIth standard girls were successful in 78 per cent. of their attempts, and in cases where both sexes came from the same school, they secured a fair, and in some standards a preponderating, number of passes. The expenditure on female education was Rs. 2,27,169 as against Rs. 1,98,032 in the previous year. Special salary grants are given to women-teachers in purely girls' schools, and the new Government Primary schools will include some intended exclusively for girls. Female education.

273. European education shewed an advance of 1 per cent. in the number of pupils, and its efficiency, in the Entrance and Preparatory Entrance Standards, was improved. It is proposed to establish a hill school at Maymyo for Europeans and Eurasians. At present all the schools are under aided management, the total expenditure incurred on them during the year being Rs. 1,59,923. European education.

274. Great attention was devoted during the year to the improvement of the teaching agency. All untrained teachers in Government schools are being gradually withdrawn for a course of training in a normal school, and it is hoped that the example will be followed by Municipal and aided schools. The course of instruction has been modified and improved and an increase in the number of stipends has been recently sanctioned. The attendance at Normal schools during the year increased from 473 to 494, the number of schools remaining stationary. New schools have now been opened at Rangoon and Akyab, and those at Moulmein, Toungoo and Mandalay have been reorganised and improved. The results of examination of trained masters were satisfactory, but female teachers were not so successful. The examination for untrained teachers' certificates, which will no longer be held, produced more passes on the Vernacular but fewer on the Anglo-Vernacular side. Training of teachers.

275. A scheme for the improvement of the Government Engineering School at Insein, the only Government Technical School in the Province, is approaching completion. It has been decided to extend and reorganise it, but not to raise it to the status of a College. Five out of seven candidates passed the Overseer test during the year. Drawing was practised much more freely in Vernacular Schools. Technical education.

VII.—15.
SCHOOLS. than in the previous year, the attendance at examination being four times as great though a smaller percentage of passes was obtained. The Kindergarten system also appealed to a much larger number of schools, and a great variety of races. Printing, book binding and carpentry were taught with some success at a Mission school for Karens at Toungoo.

Survey
Schools.

276. The number of survey schools maintained by Government (18) remained as in the previous year. Sixty-six per cent. of the candidates passed in surveying and 59 per cent. in arithmetic, but the standard of proficiency in Revenue law showed a remarkable decline, especially in Upper Burma. The schools, which were nearly all inspected during the year, were less freely attended than usual owing to the exaction of a stricter educational test at entrance, which has since been relaxed. A sum of Rs. 480 was allotted for prizes and 212 scholarships were awarded to deserving scholars.

Insein
Reformatory
School.

277 Seventeen boys were admitted and twenty-three released at the Insein Reformatory School, and 76 were under detention at the end of the year. Their discipline and conduct were fair. Sixty-eight boys were submitted to a literary examination, of whom 57 passed by various standards from I to VI, while their proficiency in cane-work, carpentry and tin-work was remarkably good. The profits from the sale of manufactures amounted to Rs. 865. Twenty-seven boys were employed in the garden, which produced all the vegetables required for the school.

Non-Burman
schools.

278. The number of Mahomedans under instruction rose from 10,475 to 11,207. There is only one special Mahomedan Anglo-Vernacular institution and it is observed that after passing the I or II Standard the boys generally attend Burmese schools. Of other races, only Karens studied above the middle stage, two passing the Entrance examination and eight in Standard VIII. The school at Taunggyi for the sons of Shan chiefs continued to flourish, and the assistance of departmental officers is to be lent to the Northern and Southern Shan States for the advancement of education among the people at large. Vernacular education made headway amongst the Chins and the Government School in the hills produced good results.

Literature and the Press.

Publications
registered.

279. The number of publications registered under Act XXV of 1867 was 146, the same number as in the previous year, and of these 22 were republications. Only seven were in English and of these three were religious and three were educational. Religious subjects accounted for no less than 86 of the 146 books registered. The number of registered dramas fell from 32 to 9 and they were for the most part without literary merit.

Fifty-two of the publications were in Burmese, eleven in Pali and 61 in both languages. A number of useful Pali grammars and translations were published and several books on arithmetic.

A "Postal-guide and Directory for Chetties" was published in Tamil and English; a "Catechism of Hygiene" in Tamil; a Christmas Cantata in Sgaw Karen and two Gospels in Kachin.

There was a slight improvement in the class of books published. Works of edification and utility preponderated, and the "Story of Maung Yin Maung and Ma Me" is credited with the distinction of being the first published novel in Burmese.

English
newspapers
and periodicals.

280. The English daily papers are the "Rangoon Gazette" and "Rangoon Times" at Rangoon, with issues of 1,500 and 1,000, respectively, and weekly summaries of news and Commercial supplements, and the "Upper Burma Gazette" at Mandalay, with a circulation of 350. The "Rangoon Gazette" also publishes a yearly Directory and Diary. The "Mandalay Herald," "Moulmein Advertiser" and "Moulmein Gazette" are published three times a week and have a circulation of 250, 500 and 170 respectively. Of bi-weekly papers the "Friend of Burma" and

"Rangoon Advertiser" circulate 1,300 and 1,000 copies from Rangoon, the "Imperialist and Irrawaddy Advertiser" of Mandalay has a circulation of 250, and the "Arakan Times" and "Arakan News" have each a sale of 150 copies from Akyab. "Publicity" (1,000) and "The Indian Bird of Freedom" (300), are published weekly in Rangoon, where the American Baptist Mission Press also prints 500 copies of "Good Cheer." Monthly periodicals are "The News" (450), "The Baptist College Argosy" (400), "The Life Line" (500), The "Young Men's Christian Association Monthly Notes" (600), "Second Thoughts" (50), "Mental Science Siftings" (1,000) and "Die Hards Doings" (1,000), the first four of which are published at the Mission Press. Two thousand copies of an English quarterly, "Buddhism," are printed at Rangoon, 1,000 of the "Burma Mission Herald" and 700 of the "Diocesan Quarterly."

281. The only Vernacular daily papers are published in Rangoon. They are the "Friend of Burma" and the "Burma Herald," of which 1,000 and 800 copies respectively are issued in Burmese, and a Chinese paper the "Geong Kang Sin Po" with a circulation of 150. There are five bi-weekly Burmese papers "The Star of Burma" (150), the "Burma Times" (900), the "Hanthawaddy Press" (1,000), the "Burma Printer News" (500), and the "Maha Bodhi News" (300), the first of which is printed in Mandalay, the second in Moulmein and the rest in Rangoon, where, also, a Gujerati paper, the "Rangoon Samachar," and a Tamil paper, the "Aranga Pathrica," have a circulation of 360 and 500 respectively. The "Mandalay Times" (Burmese) which issues three times a week from a Mandalay Press, has an average sale of 250 copies. Monthly publications in Burmese include the "Monthly Review of the Society for promoting Buddhism" (1,000), the "Burma Advocate" (1,000), the "Burma Magazine" (1,000), the "Burman Messenger" (600) and the "Burma Law Journal" (1,000). The first is printed in Mandalay and the rest in Rangoon. There are also monthly periodicals in Tamil and Karen.

Literary Societies.

282. The chief literary societies are described in paragraphs 487—489 of the Report for the year 1901-02.

The average number of monthly subscribers to the Rangoon Literary Society increased to 148, and its annual income to Rs. 7,280, and additions were made to the Library. The number of visitors to the Institute of the Rangoon Teachers Association was more than three times as great as in the previous year and evening classes and lectures on various subjects promoted the objects of the Society. The value of the Bernard Free Library in Rangoon has been much increased since the close of the year by the acquisition of the collection of books belonging to the *ex-Kinwun* Mingyi of Mandalay at a cost of Rs. 10,000, of which Government contributed half.

The promotion of literature was one of the objects of the foundation of the Chinese Empire Reform Association of Burma. Debates and lectures were held during the year and Chinese translations of European works were procured, while the Association took a leading part in the project for the foundation of an Anglo-Chinese school in Rangoon.

Arts and Sciences.

283. The Annual Provincial Art Competition was held in January 1905 and was associated for the first time with an exhibition of paintings and photographs.

In the Crafts section the competition was keen and the exhibits of a high quality. A new departure was made by the offer of prizes to European firms directing native workmen. In the Fine Arts section there were 300 exhibits, of which one-third were photographs. The latter were good and the paintings in water colour gave signs of promise.

VIII.—ARCHÆOLOGY.

REFERENCE—

Report on Archæological work in Burma for the year 1904-05.

284. The passing of the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, 1904, enlarged the scope of the Government Archæologist's duties. The preparation of lists of ancient remains and buildings, to which it may be found advisable to apply the provisions of the Act, is now being undertaken. The decision in each case may take the form of maintenance by the Public Works Department at Government expense or of protection under the Act, and it may involve, in the case of public or religious buildings, the formation of trusts or the negotiation of agreements with Trustees.

The most important constructive work undertaken during the year was the dismantlement and re-erection of the spire of the Mandalay Palace, which, owing to the decay of the posts, was dangerously out of the perpendicular. The work was not completed, only Rs. 8,000 being expended out of an estimate of Rs. 60,975. A sum of Rs. 1,183 was expended on the construction of a masonry *pyatthat* over the tomb of King Shwebo Min.

A museum was opened in the palace at Mandalay in January 1905 and catalogues of its contents and of the exhibits in the Pagan museum were prepared. Progress was made with the architectural survey of the palace buildings at Mandalay, and some interesting discoveries were made in the course of excavations at Halingyi near Shwebo. Elsewhere, the conservation of monuments made progress, and a number of inspections were made by the Government Archæologist. The cost of the department was Rs. 19,534.

IX.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

285. The ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the Province is described in paragraphs 492 and 493 of the Report for the year 1901-02.

Ecclesiastical.

286. The chief ecclesiastical event of the year was the consecration of the Cathedral Church at Rangoon by the Bishop, the Metropolitan of India and Ceylon assisting. The petition was presented by the Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Hugh Barnes.

The high cost of living in Burma has been met by the grant of a Burma allowance to Government chaplains.

The decision of the military authorities to station British troops at Maymyo, leaving a small force at Mandalay, emphasized the need of a church at the former place and of increased clerical ministrations at both. It has accordingly been decided to erect at Maymyo the church, which it had been proposed to build at Fort Dufferin, in memory of those who fell in the last Burmese war, and temporary arrangements were made with the Town Chaplain for the conduct of services at Mandalay. The number of smaller stations visited from time to time by chaplains shewed a considerable increase.

Stationery.

287. The bulk of the paper used for official purposes continued to be supplied from Indian mills. All supplies of stationery were, as usual, obtained from the Controller of Stationery, Calcutta, and the cost, which amounted to Rs. 2,58,457, was nearly Rs. 14,000 less than in the previous year.