

**REPORT**  
**ON THE**  
**ADMINISTRATION OF BURMA**

**FOR THE YEAR**

**1906-07**



**RANGOON**

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS.

REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF BURMA FOR THE YEAR 1960-61.

### PART I.

#### GENERAL SUMMARY.

	<i>Para.</i>	<i>Page.</i>
Changes in the Administration ...	1	i
Frontier affairs ...	2	ib.
The Shan States and Karenni ...	3	ib.
The Chin Hills ...	4	ii
Realization of land revenue ...	5	ib.
Surveys ...	6	ib.
Settlements ...	7	ib.
Land Records ...	8	ib.
Transfers of land ...	9	ib.
Disposal of waste lands ...	10	ib.
Revenue and rent-paying classes ...	11	ib.
Legislation ...	12	ib.
Police ...	13	ib.
Criminal Justice ...	14	iv
Prisons ...	15	ib.
Civil Justice ...	16	ib.
Registration ...	17	v
Municipal Administration ...	18	ib.
Military ...	19	vi
Marine ...	20	ib.
Agriculture ...	21	ib.
Weather and Crops ...	22	vii
Horticulture ...	23	ib.
Forests ...	24	ib.
Mines and Quarries ...	25	ib.
Manufactures ...	26	viii
Sex-tourne Trade ...	27	ib.
Trans-frontier Trade ...	28	ib.
Public Works—		
(i) Roads and Buildings ...	29	ib.
(ii) Railways and Tramways ...	30	ix
(iii) Canals ...	31	ib.
Irrigation ...	32	ib.
Gross Revenue ...	33	ib.
Imperial Revenue and Finance—Land Revenue ...	34	ib.
Customs ...	35	x
Salt ...	36	ib.
Opium and Excise ...	37	ib.
Stamps ...	38	ib.
Assessed Taxes ...	39	ib.
Forests ...	40	ib.
Imperial Expenditure ...	41	xi
Provincial Revenues ...	42	ib.
Local Funds ...	43	ib.
Municipal Revenues ...	44	ib.
Births and Deaths ...	45	ib.
Emigration and Immigration ...	46	xii
Medical Relief ...	47	ib.
Sanitation ...	48	ib.
Vaccination ...	49	xiii
Education ...	50	ib.
Archaeology ...	51	ib.
Ecclesiastical ...	52	xiv

## PART II.

## CHAPTER I.

## PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

	Para.	Page.
Physical features of the country, area, climate and chief staples	...	1
<b>POLITICAL.</b>		
Historical Summary	...	ib.
Form of Administration	...	ib.
Character of Land Tenures; System of Survey and Settlements	...	ib.
Civil Divisions of British territory	...	ib.
Details of the last Census; Tribes and Languages	...	ib.
<i>Changes in the Administration.</i>		
The Lieutenant-Governor	1	1
Administrative territorial units	2	ib.
Additions to and changes in the Administrative staff	3	2
<b>RELATIONS WITH TRIBUTARY STATES AND FRONTIER AFFAIRS.</b>		
(i) <i>Southern Shan States.</i>		
Transfrontier relations	4	3
Internal politics	5	ib.
Financial and Economical	6	ib.
General	7	3
(ii) <i>Karawmi.</i>		
-----	8	3
(iii) <i>Northern Shan States.</i>		
Political	9	3
Financial and Economical	10	ib.
General	11	4
(iv) <i>Mandalay Division.</i>		
-----	12	4
(v) <i>Sagaing Division.</i>		
-----	13	4
(vi) <i>The Chin Hills.</i>		
-----	14	4
(vii) <i>The Kachin Hills.</i>		
-----	15	5
<i>Condition of the People.</i>		
-----	16	6

## CHAPTER II.

## ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

*Realisation of the Revenue.*

Dem and, Recoveries, Remissions and Outstandings	17	7
Coercive processes	18	ib.
<i>Surveys.</i>		
Demarcation preliminary to survey	19	8
Surveys by Imperial Agency	20	ib.
Surveys by Provincial Agency:—		
(i) Original	21	ib.
Surveys by Provincial Agency:—		
(ii) Revision	22	9
<i>Settlements.</i>		
Regular Original Settlements	23	9
Summary Original Settlement	24	ib.
Revision Settlements	25	ib.
General	26	ib.
<i>Land Records.</i>		
Area under Supplementary Survey	27	10
Cost of Supplementary Survey	28	11
Survey Schools	29	ib.
Transfers of land	30	ib.
<i>Waste Lands.</i>		
Grants and leases for cultivation	31	11
Revenue-free grants	32	12
<i>Government Estates and Wards' Estates.</i>		
-----	33	12
<i>Revenue and Rent-paying Classes.</i>		
Land revenue paying classes	34	12
Tenants	35	ib.

## CHAPTER III.

## Protection.

	<i>Para.</i>	<i>Page.</i>
Legislating Authority	36	13
<i>Course of Legislation.</i>		
Work of Legislative Council	37	13
General Acts affecting Burma	38	14
Extension of enactments to the Shan States	39	ib.
<i>Police.</i>		
Police Commission Reforms	40	15
Strength, distribution and cost	41	ib.
Recruitment and conduct	42	ib.
Education and training	43	ib.
Buildings	44	16
Cognizable crime	45	ib.
Detection	46	17
Preventive Provisions	47	ib.
Surveillance and Identification	48	ib.
Railway Police	49	18
Military Police	50	ib.
Punitive Police	51	ib.
Village Administration	52	ib.
Rangoon Town Police	53	19
<i>Criminal Justice.</i>		
Courts	54	20
Offences	55	21
Disposal of cases	56	ib.
Punishments	57	ib.
Appeals	58	ib.
Revision	59	22
<i>Prisons.</i>		
Accommodation	60	22
Prisoners	61	ib.
Discipline	62	23
Financial	63	ib.
Vital	64	24
<i>Civil Justice.</i>		
Courts	65	24
Volume and classification of litigation	66	ib.
Disposal of cases	67	ib.
Execution of decrees	68	25
Insolvency Proceedings	69	ib.
Appeals	70	ib.
<i>Registration.</i>		
General	71	25
Deeds registered	72	ib.
Income and Expenditure	73	26
<i>Local Boards Administration.</i>		
	74	26
<i>Municipal Administration.</i>		
Rangoon Municipality	75	26
Minor Municipalities and their Committees	76	27
Minor Municipalities; taxation	77	ib.
Minor Municipalities; public safety and convenience	78	ib.
<i>Military.</i>		
Strength of the garrison	79	28
Military works	80	ib.
<i>Military (Volunteering).</i>		
	81	28
<i>Marine.</i>		
Light-houses and Light-ships	82	28
Port Administration, Rangoon	83	ib.
Pilot Service, Rangoon	84	29
Minor Ports	85	ib.
Commercial Marine	86	ib.
Commercial Marine; wrecks and casualties	87	30
Government steamers and launches	88	ib.
Marine Works and Surveys	89	ib.

**CHAPTER IV.**  
**PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.**

<i>Agriculture.</i>		<i>Para.</i>	<i>Page.</i>
Agricultural Department	...	90	31
Agricultural stock and cattle disease	...	91	<i>ib.</i>
Civil Veterinary Department	...	92	32
Pony and cattle-breeding	...	93	<i>ib.</i>
Prices	...	94	<i>ib.</i>
Agricultural loans	...	95	33
Co-operative Credit Societies	...	96	34
Protection from floods	...	97	<i>ib.</i>
Area irrigated	...	98	35
<i>Weather and Crops.</i>			
Character of the seasons	...	99	35
Cropped area	...	100	<i>ib.</i>
Area under various crops	...	101	36
Experimental cultivation	...	102	<i>ib.</i>
<i>Horticulture.</i>			
Agri-Horticultural Societies	...	103	37
Experimental gardens	...	104	<i>ib.</i>
<i>Forests.</i>			
Forest Reserves	...	105	37
Demarcation and Surveys	...	106	<i>ib.</i>
Working-plans	...	107	38
Roads and Buildings	...	108	<i>ib.</i>
Forest offences	...	109	<i>ib.</i>
Protection of forests	...	110	<i>ib.</i>
Plantations and experimental cultivation	...	111	<i>ib.</i>
Extraction and sale of timber	...	112	39
Miscellaneous	...	113	<i>ib.</i>
<i>Mines and Quarries.</i>			
Grant of new concessions	...	114	39
Petroleum	...	115	40
Gold	...	116	<i>ib.</i>
Rubies	...	117	<i>ib.</i>
Other minerals	...	118	41
Quarry Stone	...	119	<i>ib.</i>
<i>Manufactures.</i>			
Principal Industries	...	120	41
Factories	...	121	<i>ib.</i>
<i>Trade.</i>			
Maritime trade—Total value	...	122	42
Foreign Imports—Rangoon	...	123	<i>ib.</i>
Foreign Imports—Minor ports	...	124	43
Foreign Exports—Rangoon	...	125	<i>ib.</i>
Foreign Exports—Minor ports	...	126	45
Coasting trade	...	127	<i>ib.</i>
Transfrontier trade	...	128	46
Trade routes—Western China	...	129	<i>ib.</i>
Northern Shan States	...	130	<i>ib.</i>
Southern Shan States	...	131	47
Northern Siam	...	132	<i>ib.</i>
Southern Siam	...	133	<i>ib.</i>
Karenni	...	134	<i>ib.</i>
<i>Public Works.</i>			
General	...	135	47
<i>(i) Roads and Buildings.</i>			
Communications	...	136	47
Metalled roads	...	137	48
Unmetalled roads	...	138	<i>ib.</i>
Communications—Miscellaneous	...	139	<i>ib.</i>
Buildings—Imperial	...	140	<i>ib.</i>
Buildings—Provincial	...	141	<i>ib.</i>
Miscellaneous	...	142	49
<i>(ii) Railways and Tramways.</i>			
Railways—Construction	...	143	50
Railways—Interruptions and accidents	...	144	<i>ib.</i>
Railways—Finance and traffic	...	145	<i>ib.</i>
Tramways	...	146	51

## (iii) Canals.

	<i>Para.</i>	<i>Page.</i>
Navigation canals ... ..	147	51
<i>Irrigation.</i>		
Major Works, Imperial— (i) Completed works ... ..	148	51
Major Works— (ii) Works under construction ... ..	149	52
Minor Works—Provincial ... ..	150	ib.

## CHAPTER V.

## REVENUE AND FINANCE.

*Gross Revenue.*

.....	151	53
-------	-----	----

## (a) IMPERIAL REVENUE AND FINANCE.

*Land Revenue.*

Land revenue receipts ... ..	152	53
------------------------------	-----	----

*Canal (Navigation and Irrigation) Revenue.*

.....	153	54
-------	-----	----

*Sources of Imperial Revenue other than the Land.*

Customs ... ..	154	54
Opium ... ..	155	ib.
Salt ... ..	156	55
Excise ... ..	157	ib.
Stamps ... ..	158	56
Assessed taxes ... ..	159	57
Forests ... ..	160	58
Imperial expenditure ... ..	161	ib.

## (b) REVENUE AND FINANCE OTHER THAN IMPERIAL.

*Provincial Revenues.*

Provincial Receipts ... ..	162	58
Provincial Expenditure ... ..	163	ib.

*Local Funds.*

Incorporated Local Funds ... ..	164	59
Excluded Local Funds ... ..	165	ib.

*Road and Education Cesses.*

.....	166	60
-------	-----	----

*Municipal Revenues.*

Rangoon Municipality ... ..	167	60
Other Municipalities ... ..	168	61

*Other Funds.*

.....	169	61
-------	-----	----

*Paper Currency.*

.....	170	61
-------	-----	----

## CHAPTER VI.

## VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

*Births and Deaths.*

Number of births and deaths ... ..	171	62
Causes of death ... ..	172	63

*Emigration and Immigration.*

.....	173	64
-------	-----	----

*Medical Relief.*

Attendance at Hospitals and Dispensaries ... ..	174	64
Miscellaneous ... ..	175	65

*Sanitation.*

Expenditure ... ..	176	66
Water-supply ... ..	177	ib.
Conservancy and drainage ... ..	178	ib.
Sanitary Board ... ..	179	ib.

*Vaccination.*

.....	180	66
-------	-----	----

## CHAPTER VII.

## INSTRUCTION.

	<i>Para.</i>	<i>Page.</i>
<i>General System of Public Instruction.</i>		
.....	...	68
<i>Education.</i>		
Number of schools and scholars and expenditure	181	68
Primary Education	182	71
Secondary Education	183	69
Collegiate Education	184	ib.
Technical Education	185	ib.
Training Schools	186	ib.
European Education...	187	70
Education of Special Classes	188	ib.
Female Education	189	ib.
Insein Reformatory School	190	71
<i>Literature and the Press.</i>		
Publications registered	191	71
Primes, Newspapers and Periodicals	192	ib.
<i>Literary Societies.</i>		
.....	...	72
<i>Arts and Sciences.</i>		
.....	193	72

## CHAPTER VIII.

## ARCHAEOLOGY.

.....	194	73
-------	-----	----

## CHAPTER IX.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

<i>Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.</i>		
.....	...	74
<i>Ecclesiastical.</i>		
.....	195	74
<i>Stationary.</i>		
.....	196	74

ii

1906-07

1907-08

# REPORT

ON THE

## ADMINISTRATION OF BURMA

FOR THE YEAR 1906-07.

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### PART I.

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#### GENERAL SUMMARY.

The Hon'ble Sir Herbert Thirkell White, K.C.I.E., was Lieutenant-Governor of Burma throughout the year of report. Many important improvements in the administration were carried into effect. Further Police Commission reforms were introduced, a new Agricultural Department was formed and the Civil Veterinary Department was re-organised. An officer of the Commission was appointed to be Commissioner of Excise and a separate appointment of Deputy Commissioner for Rangoon Town Lands and Collector for the Rangoon Town District was created. The second Chief Engineer was appointed Joint Secretary to the Local Government.

Changes in  
the Adminis-  
tration.

2. Transfrontier relations were generally satisfactory throughout the length of the border and friendly intercourse was maintained with French and Chinese officials. On the north-eastern frontier, however, peace was disturbed by several armed raids into British territory of a more or less serious nature. On the northern frontier of the Myitkyina District several raids of a serious nature were committed by Kachins from across the N'Maikha. The gravest outrage was a preconcerted attack on the temporary Military Police post at Auche by Kachins from the Sana tract. The attack was easily repulsed. In unadministered territory north of the Arakan Hill Tracts 27 Shandus were massacred by Kõns. Further bloodshed has been averted in the meantime, and an attempt will be made to settle the case in the cold weather of 1907-08.

Frontier  
affairs.

3. The rainfall in the Southern Shan States was irregular and agricultural conditions were not favourable. The only crops which were moderately successful were potatoes and cotton. The volume of trade increased and crime was satisfactorily dealt with. The principal public work of the year was the completion by the Sawbwa of Yawnghwe of the navigable canal from the Yawnghwe Lake to Mawlihsat on the proposed railway line. Further progress was made in locating the line referred to. Some delays have occurred, but it is anticipated that the

The Shan  
States and  
Karnam.

present season's work will result in a scheme which can be pushed through to completion within the next few years. The death of Sawlawi, Sawbwa of Gantarawadi, which occurred immediately after the close of the year of report, was a severe loss to the State. The internal condition of the Northern Shan States was tranquil and the people were prosperous and contented. Notwithstanding cattle disease, agricultural conditions were normal and trade flourished.

The Chin Hills.

4. Apart from some excitement due to fear of disturbances connected with the massacre of Shandus already referred to, the year was uneventful in the Chin Hills. The season was favourable and progress in several directions was steady and gratifying.

Realisation of land revenue.

5. Outstandings of land revenue at the end of the year were nearly a third less than the corresponding figure for 1905-06 on a slightly enhanced demand. Remissions fell from 11 to under 4 lakhs partly owing to the new system of non-assessment of areas on which crops have been destroyed by floods. More coercive processes affecting property were issued and fewer affecting persons. The amount for the realisation of which application was made increased slightly, while there was a more decided rise in the amount realised by means of coercive processes.

Surveys.

6. No. 7 party of the Survey of India surveyed in detail 689 square miles in Pakòkku, Thayetmyo and Pyapòn Districts besides carrying out traverse work. Original surveys by provincial parties were in progress in Akyab, Kyaukpysu and Tharawaddy. Progress was made in the large-scale surveys of important towns and a good deal of special fishery survey work was done. Revision surveys by provincial agency were carried out in several districts.

Settlements.

7. As in 1905-06, six settlement parties were at work during the year, three in Upper Burma and three in Lower Burma. The original settlement of Mergui District was completed and progress was made with original settlement work in Pakòkku and the Lower Chindwin Districts. A summary settlement was brought to a close in Sandoway District. Revision settlement was completed in Ma-ubin and Myangmya Districts and in a portion of Pyapòn and also on the Mandalay Canal area and nearly completed in the Minbu District. The expenditure incurred during the year on settlement operations amounted to 3'62 lakhs, rather more than the figure of 1905-06, while the enhancement in the land revenue demand consequent on orders passed during the year reached 7'09 lakhs as compared with only 2'82 lakhs in the previous year.

Land Records.

8. A considerable addition was made to the area under supplementary survey and to the area assessed by the Land Records Department owing mainly to the inclusion of Shwebo District in the returns on completion of settlement. For the same reason the cost of the department rose by about 9 per cent. There was a further small decline in the attendance at Government Survey schools.

Transfers of land.

9. The area of land sold declined slightly and the area of land mortgaged largely. On the other hand, the area redeemed and that on mortgage at the end of the year showed substantial rises. These variations are attributed to the general rise in the value of land.

10. The area granted or leased for cultivation fell again owing to the continued suspension of the issue of pottas in the Pegu Division. The question of extending suspension to other divisions was under consideration. The area granted free for religious and public purposes was less than in the previous year. Disposal of waste lands.

11. The percentage of the occupied area held by agriculturists continued to diminish, but the rate of decline appears to have slackened owing possibly to recent action taken by Government with a view to discourage alienation to non-agriculturists. The area let to tenants increased, and there was a very notable rise in the aggregate rent of land, ascribed to enhanced prices for paddy, increase of population and decrease of cultivable waste. Revenue and rent-paying classes.

12. Five Bills were passed by the Burma Legislative Council. The Lower Burma Land and Revenue Law Amendment Act, 1907, empowers the Local Government to regulate the extract of minor mineral products and the transport of minerals. The Act also renders it compulsory on parties to an alienation of land to report the transaction. The Rangoon Water-works Act Amendment Act, 1907, confers on the Rangoon Municipal Committee the power, in certain cases, to execute necessary repairs to water-supply connections at the cost of the owner. The Burma Towns Act, 1907, consolidates the law relating to the administration of towns in Upper and Lower Burma and introduces certain minor improvements. The Rangoon Police Act Amendment Act, 1907, confers powers under certain Acts on the Commissioner of Police or Superintendents and on Police officers generally in Rangoon. The Act also enhances the penalty for begging. The Burma Highway Act, 1907, confers powers on District officers for preventing the destruction of road-surfaces by unsuitable vehicles and generally for regulating road traffic. Three other Bills, namely, a Village Bill, a Defile Traffic Bill and a Courts Act Amending Bill were introduced, but not passed during the year. The Burma Gambling Act, 1899, was extended to the Myelat in the Southern Shan States. Legislation.

13. A number of important reforms affecting both the district police and the Police Rangoon force were carried out during the year in consequence of the orders passed on the report of the Police Commission, and the expenditure underwent a corresponding expansion. Difficulty is still reported in obtaining recruits in several districts, and the force actually entertained was below strength by no less than 46 officers and 1,011 men. A Provincial Police Training School for officers of and above the rank of Sub-Inspector was opened in April 1906. During the year much was done for the housing of the Police. In accordance with the orders of Government the construction of temporary police cottages and barracks has been entirely discontinued. True cases of cognizable crime of all classes exhibit a small decrease of a little over 1 per cent. as compared with the figures for 1905. Cases of hurt and grievous hurt were appreciably less common, but dacoities increased by 32 and robberies by 15. The increase in cattle and ordinary thefts is an unsatisfactory feature of the year's record. The year of report showed a marked rise in violent crimes, the increase under all classes totalling 102 cases. Taking all classes of violent crimes, and excluding the 13 cases appertaining to the Railway Police, Lower Burma districts reported 719 cases and Upper Burma districts 201. The most unsatisfactory feature in

connection with violent crime was the small proportion of stolen property recovered. The percentage of convictions obtained by the police showed some improvement on the figure of 1905. The beat patrol system has been made more elastic and revision has been on the lines of increasing the number of visits to villages with bad reputations and to those containing released criminals, and reducing the number of visits to unimportant and non-criminal villages.

Criminal  
Justice.

14. Twenty-two Judges and Magistrates and three Benches were added to the staff employed in the administration of criminal justice, most of the additional officers being absorbed in Lower Burma. The number of offences reported during the year 1906 was considerably below the figure of the previous year. The improvement was mainly due to a falling off in the number of petty offences in Rangoon and was confined to Lower Burma, there being a normal rise of 415 cases in Upper Burma. The percentage of convictions was practically the same in Lower Burma and fell off in Upper Burma, while the average duration of each case remained unchanged in Upper Burma at 9 days and rose from 11 to 12 days in Lower Burma. Fines were less numerous owing mainly to the smaller number of prosecutions under special and local laws in Rangoon. Death sentences numbered 87 against 80, and sentences of transportation and of rigorous imprisonment were more numerous. An unsatisfactory feature of the reports is the proportionate increase, especially noticeable in Lower Burma, in sentences of simple imprisonment and imprisonment for short periods and in sentences of whipping of ten stripes or less. The total number of persons whose cases were dealt with in revision increased largely, the expansion being shared by Upper and Lower Burma.

Prisons.

15. The closing of the District Jail at Pakòkku, the opening of a new jail for 100 prisoners at Mogòk and the addition of 12 cells to the Akyab Prison resulted in a small increase of jail accommodation in the Province. On the other hand, the daily average population also increased, the available accommodation is little in excess of existing requirements and no considerable reduction is possible. For this reason the proposal to close the Rangoon Jail has been postponed. The Meiktila Jail was set apart for the exclusive confinement of juvenile offenders. The number of prisoners received into jails during the year showed a substantial increase over the total of the previous year under all classes. In spite of the rise in the daily average number of convicts the number of prison offences declined. There were twelve escapes altogether, six from inside the jail and six from outside. The gross cost of upkeep of the jails increased by about a lakh and there was a corresponding rise in the net cost per head of population. The health of the prison population showed a decided improvement during the year under review and the hospital statistics are the best recorded during the past fifteen years.

Civil Justice

16. During the year 1906 four Civil Judges were added to the staff and proposals have been laid before the Government of India for the appointment of another Divisional and Sessions Judge. The aggregate receipts of all Courts, Civil, Criminal and Revenue, amounted to Rs. 28,60,436 and the aggregate charges to Rs. 45,12,073. Separate figures are no longer furnished for each class

of Courts. There was a normal increase in the number of suits instituted in Lower Burma, and in Upper Burma a more noticeable expansion of litigation and the aggregate value of suits showed a very substantial increase from 181 to 225 lakhs. The number of regular civil suits decided during 1906 showed a noticeable increase. To relieve congestion on the original side of the Chief Court an Additional Judge was sanctioned for six months, and proposals for the constitution of a City Court are under consideration.

17. Proposals for the extension to Upper Burma of the Indian Registration Act, 1877, were not accepted by the Local Government, and revised draft rules have been framed under section 8 of the Regulation, which are designed to render the working of Registration offices in Upper Burma independent of the Indian Registration Act and of the rules made thereunder. The total number of documents compulsorily registered in Lower Burma and their aggregate value rose approximately by 12 and 17 per cent. respectively. The number of sales affecting immoveable property of the value of Rs. 100 or upwards increased by nearly 21 per cent. the value rising correspondingly by a little over 23 per cent. A large proportion of this expansion was contributed by Rangoon, where a number of unusually important transactions were registered. The increase in the volume of registration transactions is mainly attributed to the extension of the Transfer of Property Act, 1882, the provisions of which have gradually become known.

18. The number of municipalities in the Province was raised to 44 by the grant of full municipal status to the notified area of Wakema in the Irrawaddy Division. Assessments on Government, Railway and Port Trust property within Rangoon Municipal limits were revised and largely enhanced, and the total demand during the year on account of Municipal taxes showed a substantial expansion in consequence. (The rates of the general Municipal tax and of the water and scavenging taxes were raised and expenditure was kept down as low as was compatible with efficiency. Progress is being made by the Electric Tramway and Supply Company in preparation for lighting the streets by electricity, and it is expected that a start will be made in this direction at the close of 1907 or early in 1908. The Hlawga water-works were completed and taken over from Government on the 1st July 1906.) The works connected with the extension and improvement of the sewerage system were started and over two lakhs were spent on the project. Towards the close of the year Government made a contribution of one lakh of rupees towards plague expenditure and a grant of Rs. 58,719 towards the outlay incurred on account of the Hlawga water-works.

(In the remaining 43 Municipalities the incidence of taxation rose slightly owing to revision of assessments and levy of fresh imposts. Improvements in water-supply, drainage and conservancy are matters of urgent importance in almost every town in the Province, but the progress attained in carrying out the various schemes is not so rapid as might be desired.) Some work was done on the Akyab water-works, for which a loan of three lakhs was taken up. A tube well is being constructed at Gyobingauk, but three wells constructed at Kyaiklat have all proved failures. The latest Municipal water-supply scheme at Mandalay was not accepted by the Sanitary Board, and fresh projects are being prepared. Smaller schemes were in progress or under consideration for various towns, and

several minor drainage and conservancy schemes were in train. The prevalence of plague in many towns resulted in heavy work for Municipal officers and increased expenditure.

**Military.** 19. The expenditure on Military works during the year rose by one-third, and the total was much in excess of the average outlay of recent years. The greater part of the expenditure was incurred on buildings for troops at Maymyo and Mandalay Hill. During the year a new company was added to the Rangoon Volunteer Rifles and the total strength of the six Corps showed a small improvement on the figures of the previous year.

**Marine.** 20. The income of the Rangoon Port Trust increased satisfactorily owing to a general expansion of trade and also partly because the Trust no longer incurred expenditure on plague. Capital outlay exceeded 58 lakhs and loans amounting to 51 lakhs were taken up. The harbour works were nearly completed and the river training scheme was further threshed out. Shipping figures show a moderate expansion, chiefly in the coasting trade. One wreck and one collision were reported during the year, but no lives were lost.

**Agriculture.** 21. (The creation of a separate Agricultural Department in Burma took effect from the 15th October 1906. The superior staff consists of a Director and Deputy Director of Agriculture, an all-round Agriculturist to be Principal of the Agricultural College to be established at Mandalay, a Chemist and a Botanist. The scheme for the Department contemplates three main agricultural stations: one at Mandalay, one at Hmawbi in the Hanthawaddy District, and one in the dry zone of Upper Burma.) The annual returns of agricultural stock show a moderate improvement. The health of cattle was on the whole good during the year and the number of deaths from contagious diseases fell from 111,770 to 40,715. The improvement was common to all three diseases which find a place in the returns, namely, rinderpest, foot-and-mouth disease and anthrax (including other diseases classed as anthrax by the ordinary cultivator). In August 1906 an extensive re-organization of the Subordinate Staff of the Civil Veterinary Department was sanctioned by the Secretary of State. Harvest prices of paddy were abnormally high throughout the Province, in many markets all previous records were surpassed and it is said that in most districts the anticipation of large profits has induced the cultivators to trench on their food-stocks. The inflation of prices was mainly due to depleted stocks in Europe and scarcity in Eastern Bengal. The average price ranged from Re. 1-12 to Rs. 2 per maund, against an approximate normal of Re. 1-8. The prices of wheat were generally much higher than those of the previous year and also exceeded the normal standard. During the period of report a decided advance is noticeable in the work of the Co-operative Credit Societies. Their number nearly doubled itself and progress in every direction has been satisfactory. A striking fact is the confidence now displayed by the outside public in these societies. Applications were made by the public to deposit 1½ lakhs of rupees, and a single bank was willing to finance the societies up to Rs. 50,000 in one year. In fact the amount offered by depositors greatly exceeded the requirements of the societies. The special feature in the work of the year has been the establishment of sixteen societies on the Raiffeisen model. The societies on the new model deal with

smaller sums than the Schulze societies and are considered by some authorities to be more suited to the requirements of an agricultural community. The area of cultivation protected from floods by artificial embankments increased slightly. On the other hand the irrigated area showed a more noticeable decline.

22. The rains began favourably for the most part and ended well after a <sup>Weather and Crops</sup> prolonged break, the general result being that the crop was about normal. The cropped area increased by 1.1 per cent. and the outturn of rice from the principal Lower Burma districts was estimated at 5 per cent. below normal. One of the outstanding features of the year was the rapid extension of ground-nut cultivation.

23. The various experimental gardens in the Province were taken over by <sup>Horticulture</sup> the Department of Agriculture, which should be able before long to decide whether they are all worth the time and money expended on them. Arrangements for the distribution of imported seeds were made as usual. With the development of experimental stations, it will be possible to deal more systematically with the problem of introducing exotic plants by means of imported seeds. The remarkable advance within recent years in the cultivation of ground-nuts is one of the greatest successes traceable to seed distribution. The Horticultural Societies at Rangoon and Moulmein continued their work and the former Society has made good progress in laying out its new grounds.

24. A moderate addition was made to the total area of reserved forests during <sup>Forests</sup> the forest year ending the 30th June 1907 and a further large area was taken in hand for settlement. Progress with working-plans was small. A number of forest buildings were erected by the Department as usual and there was a noticeable increase of activity under the head of road construction. Forest fires were much less numerous and no fires of outstanding importance were reported during the year. Much work was done on the Mergui rubber plantation and a good deal of money was spent on it, bringing the total expenditure up to date to Rs. 2,28,514. A favourable report was received on samples of rubber from the plantation submitted for analysis. As the experiment has accomplished its object in showing the possibility of rubber cultivation in Mergui it is now proposed to make arrangements for leasing the plantation. The number of trees girdled increased, but the total quantity of timber of all kinds extracted fell off by over a sixth. The contraction was mainly under the head of unreserved woods and is accounted for in Upper Burma by the disorganization of the timber trade owing to the prevalence of plague in Mandalay, the principal market for this class of timber.

25. A mining lease covering the extraction of silver, copper, lead and zinc <sup>Mines and Quarries</sup> was granted to the Burma Mines Railway and Smelting Company in respect of an area in Tawngpeng State in the Northern Shan States, and the Burma Development Syndicate obtained a tin-mining lease in Mergui District. The yield of petroleum fell off by about 3½ per cent. owing to restricted production in Pakòkku and Myingyan. More gold was dredged from the Irrawaddy River, but the results so far have hardly realised anticipations. The Ruby Mines Company had a more successful year both as regards the value of stones extracted and as regards royalties collected from native miners.

Manu-  
factures.

26. There was no indication of change in the nature of the staple industries of the Province. The provisions of the Factories Act were extended to 19 new factories including 9 rice mills and 7 saw mills. The number of operatives employed declined somewhat, partly owing to plague and partly because many factory hands took the opportunity of low rates of passage to re-visit their homes in India. The number of children employed nearly doubled, but the total only reached 313, and they are employed only on light work.

Sea-borne  
Trade.

27. Excluding Government transactions the aggregate sea-borne trade of Burma for the year ending the 31st March 1907 once more surpassed all previous records. The total of 48.43 crores exceeded the figure of 1905-06, which itself surpassed all previous years, by no less than 570 lakhs or 13.36 per cent. as compared with an advance of 1.3 per cent. in 1905-06. There was a moderate improvement amounting to 4 per cent. in the foreign trade and a noticeable increase of 25 per cent. in the coasting trade. In the foreign trade exports of Indian produce, chiefly rice, showed contraction, but the deficit under this head was more than counterbalanced by the growth of imports, especially under metals and yarn and textile fabrics. In the coasting trade, imports as well as exports expanded, especially the latter, owing to larger shipments of rice. Of the total value the coasting trade represented 48 per cent. against percentages of 44 and 38 in the two previous years. Eighty-two per cent. of the entire trade passed through the port of Rangoon, Moulmein being second with 8 per cent.

Transfron-  
tier Trade.

28. The inland trade of Burma with foreign countries and with the tributary States and tribes on the external frontiers prospered during the year and showed a rate of expansion not much below that of the sea-borne trade. The total value of the trade amounted to 4 crores 88 lakhs, of which 238 lakhs represented imports and 250 lakhs exports. These totals were 11.5, 1 and 23.7 per cent. respectively in excess of the corresponding figures for the previous year. All countries shared in the increase, Western China to the extent of Rs. 8,13,000, Northern Shan States Rs. 9,40,000, Southern Shan States Rs. 19,04,000, Northern Siam Rs. 9,62,000, Southern Siam Rs. 2,23,000 and Karenni about two lakhs.

Public  
Works—  
(i) Road and  
Buildings.

29. The total outlay on public works from all sources during the year 1906-07 declined by over 4 per cent. owing to a contraction in the expenditure incurred on Provincial Civil Works. The latter item was, however, well above the average for the five years preceding the year of report. The aggregate expenditure on communications fell off appreciably. More was spent on upkeep, but a good deal less on new roads. The expenditure from Provincial Funds on civil buildings fell from nearly 52 to 46½ lakhs. The outlay on new buildings was some 5½ lakhs less than in the previous year. Over 9 lakhs were allotted to Police and a similar amount to Medical buildings, while Law and Justice swallowed up over 6 lakhs, Administration nearly 5½, Telegraphs 2½, Jails 1½, Education 1½ and Post Offices 1 lakh. Progress was made with various important building operations in Rangoon. The Secretariat buildings were completed and improvements were also made in the old General Public Offices in Strand Road. Fair progress was achieved with the works comprised in the project for the new General Hospital at Rangoon and the construction of the new Chief Court was advanced a stage. The extension of the Currency buildings was in hand and a commencement was made

with the new Press building. Outside Rangoon new buildings for the use of the various Departments of the administration were in course of construction all over the country. In the Southern Shan States nearly 3 lakhs of rupees were spent in moving the Kengtung post to a healthier site at Loimwe, which is about 5,000 feet above the sea. Work on the Rangoon Town Lands Reclamation Scheme progressed satisfactorily, the outlay amounting to about 6½ lakhs of rupees. The Hlawga water-works were completed and handed over to the Rangoon Municipality on the 1st July 1906.

30. No new railways or tramways were opened during the year, but a further advance was made towards the completion of three new railway lines in Lower Burma. A number of important surveys were also carried out, including a detailed survey across the Chinese frontier to Tengyueh and a reconnaissance survey thence to Talifu. Breaches of the railway line due to floods were less frequent and less serious than in the previous year, but there were a comparatively large number of accidents, including five collisions and five derailments. Railway accidents caused the death of 2 and injuries to 25 persons. The capital outlay on the Burma Railways system during the year 1906-07 amounted to nearly 45 lakhs against 24 lakhs in 1905-06. The gross earnings of the year rose by 2½ lakhs roughly to 160 lakhs, but the net earnings of the line, roughly 59½ lakhs, were more than a lakh behind the figure of the previous year. The Rangoon Steam Tramways had a fairly prosperous year and the electrification of the system was completed. The affairs of the Thaton-Duyinzeik and Mandalay Tramways were not quite so prosperous. In the case of Mandalay it is said that the existence of plague adversely affected earnings.

31. The Pegu-Sittang and the Sittang-Kyaikto Canals remained open and traffic on both waterways increased, the expansion on the shorter canal (Sittang-Kyaikto) being remarkable. Receipts expanded, but a good deal was spent on new works and repairs, and leaving out of account the initial cost of the canals there was a net loss of revenue on the year's working.

32. The Mandalay and Shwebo Canals were the only major irrigation works which earned revenue during the year, the latter being included for the first time. A larger area was irrigated from the Mandalay Canal, but the results have not entirely come up to expectations. Receipts for both works amounted to 4.05 lakhs and working expenses to Rs. 1,44,000. Surplus revenue on the Mandalay project showed a substantial rise of Rs. 83,000. One and a half lakhs were spent on the construction of the Ye-u Canal and 8½ lakhs on the Mon Canals project. Under the head of Minor Irrigation Works 3.19 lakhs were expended on new works and 1.96 lakhs on repairs.

33. The gross receipts of the Province, including Imperial, Provincial and Local Funds, amounted to 10 crores 26 lakhs of rupees or £6,840,000 sterling. The Imperial share accounted for 335 lakhs, the Provincial share for 472½ lakhs and Local Funds collected the balance of 218 lakhs. Gross expenditure came to 730 lakhs or £4,867,000.

34. The gross land revenue of the Province increased from nearly 383 to 386 lakhs, but the Imperial share underwent a reduction from 120 to 68 lakhs owing to increased contributions from Imperial to Provincial Funds in connection

SUMMARY.

with the new Provincial Settlement. The ordinary land revenue demand exceeded that of the previous year by nearly 3 lakhs, remissions were less by 7 lakhs and outstandings by nearly half a lakh. In consequence collections (239 lakhs) were over 10 lakhs better than the figure of 1905-06. Receipts from capitation-tax rose by about Rs. 70,000 to 50½ lakhs owing chiefly to assessment of Chittagamin coolies in Akyab District. *Thatamede* produced 46 lakhs, a fall of Rs. 40,000 being due to reduction of rates in consequence of settlement. There was a decline of 2½ lakhs in the fishery revenue (26 lakhs) due to the effect on auction prices of two successive bad seasons. Miscellaneous land revenue receipts rose by 1½ lakhs to nearly 25 lakhs.

**Customs.** 35. Customs receipts totalling 123 lakhs showed a decrease of over 5 lakhs. The decline was due to the continued export of duty-free rice to Eastern Bengal and to a contraction in the rice trade with the Straits Settlements.

**Salt.** 36. Salt revenue amounted to nearly 17 lakhs. Import duty on salt and salt-fish fell off by a lakh and Rs. 27,000 respectively, but a rise of Rs. 22,000 under excise duty on local salt reduced the deficit on the total of 1905-06 to Rs. 1,11,216. The increased proportion of local salt consumed in the Province is noticeable. Various questions regarding the duty on local salt and the conditions of local manufacture require settlement, and a special enquiry has been ordered.

**Opium and Excise.** 37. Imperial receipts from the sale of opium to the Burma Government fell from 6·08 to 5·77 lakhs owing to restriction of consumption. Excise revenue under opium fell by 2½ lakhs to 46 lakhs. Apart from opium, receipts under excise fell roughly from 40½ to 36 lakhs owing to substantial shrinkage under auction fees. In the case both of foreign and of country liquors, *tari* revenue showed a satisfactory expansion. No important change was made in the system of opium administration. In excise matters the chief feature of the year was the introduction of the contract distillery system.

**Stamps.** 38. Although there was some check in the growth of the stamp revenue compared with previous years, gross receipts under this head rose by nearly 2½ lakhs. Figures in respect of receipt stamps being omitted, the gross receipts amounted to 38 lakhs, of which court-fee stamps contributed 62 per cent. The increase in the previous year of over 4 lakhs under judicial stamps was abnormal, and the increase during the year of report, Rs. 1,86,000, is about the average of recent years. The check in the expansion of sales of non-judicial stamps is ascribed to successive unfavourable seasons and consequent arrest of trade.

**Assessed taxes.** 39. Collections under the Income-Tax Act, 1886, rose from 15·29 to 15·42 lakhs. A notable feature of the year was the rise, roughly from 200 to 300 lakhs, in the value of securities held in the Province, the interest on which is liable to taxation. The expansion is mainly due to investments by the public in Rangoon Municipal and Port Trust loans.

**Forests.** 40. Forest revenue amounted to 86·39 lakhs, a decrease of about 8 lakhs due to contraction of receipts from timber and other produce extracted by Government agency. Expenditure fell from 38·64 to 36·35 lakhs and surplus revenue from 55·82 to 50·05 lakhs.

41. Imperial expenditure in the Province rose from 53.80 to 57.24 lakhs. Imperial expenditure. Outlay amounting to 14 lakhs was incurred on Military Works representing an increase of 3½ lakhs. There were also small increases under other heads counterbalanced in part by the saving of over a lakh on the Imperial share of Forest charges.

42. Provincial Funds derive the great bulk of their receipts from the heads Provincial revenues. which are shared with Imperial Funds. The total Provincial receipts amounted to 472½ lakhs, showing an increase of 52 lakhs, which was principally accounted for by increases of 55 lakhs and 1.78 lakhs under Land Revenue and Stamps respectively and decreases of 2 lakhs under Excise and 2½ lakhs under Forests. Explanations of these variations have been given in the preceding paragraphs relating to Imperial receipts under the same heads. Fluctuations under heads which are entirely Provincial or are shared with Local Funds do not materially affect the Provincial Budget. The total expenditure met out of Provincial Funds amounted to 453½ lakhs of rupees and was less than the total receipts (by nearly 20 lakhs) for the first time during the settlement which expired at the close of the year of report. The total shows an expansion of 6.7 lakhs over the figure of 1905-06. Increased outlay was incurred in all the principal departments except Forests, owing to the growing needs of the administration; but there was a substantial reduction of expenditure on Civil Works from 114 to 105 lakhs.

43. The revenue of the 37 Incorporated Local Funds in Burma amounted to Local Funds. 36.07 lakhs and the expenditure to 33.69 lakhs. There was an increase under each head, more pronounced in the case of receipts. Of Excluded Local Funds the principal is the Rangoon Port Trust, which is dealt with elsewhere. The income of Cantonment Funds came to Rs. 1,80,825 and expenditure to some Rs. 25,000 less. In both cases the figures represent a decrease of nearly half a lakh on the previous year. Town Fund budgets showed smaller totals on both sides, owing to the conversion of two well-to-do towns into Municipalities.

44. The ordinary income of Rangoon Municipality rose from 26.08 to 30.03 Municipal Revenues. lakhs owing to increased receipts from taxation and special grants from Government. Charges amounted to 29.67 as against 28.56 lakhs, the increase being due to the contribution of a share of taxes towards reclamation and to enhanced outlay on plague, education and conservancy. Outstanding loans amounted to nearly 114 lakhs. The remaining 43 Municipalities collected 30½ lakhs as ordinary income and spent 33 lakhs. Considerable grants were made to various towns by Government. The loan liabilities of minor Municipalities amounted to 24.28 lakhs. Three loans were sanctioned during the year, one of 1 lakh for Moulmein, Rs. 20,000 for Thayetmyo and Rs. 25,000 for Pakokku.

45. There was no alteration during the year in the areas in which registration Births and Deaths. of births and deaths was in force, but orders were passed for the extension from the 1st January 1907 to non-Municipal towns and rural areas in Upper Burma of the registration of births, hitherto confined, in that section of the Province, to Municipal Towns. The number of births in Lower Burma fell from 191,226 to 180,025. The decrease was more or less general throughout each division except Tenasserim, and no convincing explanation of it is forthcoming. In Lower Burma

the number of deaths rose from 138,850 to 151,193, affording a death rate of 27·15 against 22·83, the mean for the five previous years, and 22·36 in 1904, previous to the introduction of plague. In Upper Burma, in a population of 2,917,501, the deaths were 76,493, yielding a death rate of 26·22 against 19·84, the mean of the five previous years, and 18·69 in 1904. The year under review must be described as generally unhealthy. An increase occurred in the number of deaths from each of the principal diseases. Plague was the cause of 8,637 deaths during the year as compared with 3,692 deaths in 1905. Several of the more important towns were seriously affected by this disease. Both cholera and small-pox were more prevalent. In the mortality from fever also there was a substantial rise. Proposals are now under preparation for providing a full staff of vaccinators sufficient to serve the entire population in one or two districts in Lower Burma. If these proposals take shape, inoculation would then be prohibited in those districts, and the same system would be gradually extended throughout the Province.

Emigration  
and Immig-  
ration.

46. The number of immigrants who arrived in Burma during the year rose from 239,000 to over 360,000. On the other hand, the number of emigrants who left the country also increased from 176,000 roughly to 320,000. The net addition to the population from this cause (40,718) was below the figure of the previous year (62,837).

Medical  
Relief.

47. There were 213 hospitals and dispensaries open in the Province at the end of 1906 as compared with 208 in 1905. The total attendance of in- and out-patients for 1906, excluding the figures for special and Railway institutions, was somewhat less than in the previous year. Small-pox occupied an important place in the list of diseases treated in the Province, there having been no less than 2,674 admissions. It is noteworthy that considerable increased activity has been exhibited in operative surgery, a specially large number of operations having been performed by the staff of the General Hospital, Rangoon. The net expenditure on medical relief under all heads (excluding investments) amounted to Rs. 10,26,752, an increase of Rs. 1,49,604 over the total of 1905. One Commissioned Medical Officer, two Civil Assistant Surgeons and one Military Assistant Surgeon were added to their respective cadres. Though the sanctioned establishment of Hospital Assistants was 326, the work had to be conducted with 290, as no more could be obtained. The sanction of Government for the opening of the Medical School was received, and action was taken to secure candidates for training as Hospital Assistants at Rangoon.

Sanitation.

48. Out of a total income of nearly 124 lakhs collected for local purposes in the towns and districts of the Province, over 44 lakhs were spent on sanitation. Municipalities spent Rs. 38,42,214 out of Rs. 74,91,807, Town Funds Rs. 1,25,113 out of Rs. 4,36,202, and District and District Cess Funds Rs. 2,87,938 out of Rs. 44,63,775, the balance of Rs. 1,82,126 being met from Provincial revenues. As might be expected, expensive sanitary works and schemes of water-supply are confined to the larger towns. The Sanitary Board met four times during the year and advised on various matters, the most important of which was the Mandalay water-supply scheme.

49. The expenditure from all sources on vaccination during the 12 months prior to the 1st April 1907 amounted to rather more than in the preceding year. It was met to the extent of 41'36, 40'90, 15'57 and 2'17 per cent. respectively by the Government, Local Funds, Municipalities and Native States. The staff employed consisted of 244 vaccinators, 3 more than in 1905-06, supervised by 32 Native Superintendents compared with 16 in the previous year. The ratio of success in primary and re-vaccination cases was slightly worse than in 1905-06. Except in Rangoon, where the Municipality maintains its own depôt, all the vaccine lymph used in the Province was obtained from the Government Depôt at Meiktila.

50. The number of colleges and schools of all descriptions during the year closing on the 31st of March 1907 was 21,375. These were attended by 398,598 pupils, of whom 62,749 were girls. In comparison with those of the previous year the figures for public and private institutions show increases of 2 per cent. as regards numbers and 3 per cent. as regards attendance. The total expenditure on education was Rs. 34,87,233, a rise of more than 2 lakhs over the total of 1905-06. Provincial Funds spent Rs. 4,73,897, or Rs. 1,14,879 more than in the previous year, on institutions managed by Government, and Rs. 72,765 on institutions managed by District or Municipal Boards. The total amount expended on education from Provincial Funds was 16 lakhs. The Imperial grants of 4 and 2 lakhs continued, and against them must be set down Rs. 5,51,361 of the total expenditure from Provincial Funds. Fees rose from 8½ to over 9 lakhs. The number of primary public schools has increased by 274, with a rise of 7,472 pupils. The total expenditure upon Primary schools was Rs. 6,31,637, of which nearly 3 lakhs came from Provincial Funds, and over 2 lakhs from District Funds. Secondary schools have increased by 63 to a total of 569. In the Matriculation Examination, out of 251 candidates only 105 passed; this, however, is a very considerable improvement on the results of the previous year. The total expenditure on secondary schools rose to over 13 lakhs, of which a little over 4 came from Provincial Funds, 2½ roughly from Municipal Funds, something over 1½ from private sources, and 5 lakhs from fees, the balance being met from District Funds. The Government College and the Baptist College, Rangoon, were, as in previous years, the only Colleges teaching the University course or part of it. The former had 111 students on the roll, presented 60 for the F.A., and 16 for the B.A. Examinations, and passed 16 and 8 respectively in these tests. The Baptist College had 24 on the roll, and presented 10 for the F.A., of whom 3 passed. Progress was made in the erection of new buildings for the Insein Engineering School. The number of Normal and of European schools remained the same. Satisfactory results were obtained in the education of special classes, and the rapid and continuous progress of female education deserves special mention.

51. The operations of the Archaeological Department in Burma received much attention during the year under review. Draft rules and directions framed under the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, 1904, were under consideration. The number of buildings maintained by Government was increased from 45 to 59. The preparation of lists of monuments worthy of preservation was still in progress but had not reached completion by the end of the year. No new survey or

excavation work was undertaken. The total expenditure incurred on archaeological works during the year 1906-07 amounted to Rs. 1,25,930 as compared with Rs. 72,123 in the previous year. The work of reconstructing the spire of the palace of the Burmese Kings at Mandalay was completed at a total cost of Rs. 65,173. The cost of the Department, exclusive of expenditure on works, amounted to Rs. 24,183.

Eccl<sup>esiast</sup>-  
cal

52. The pay of senior chaplains who have completed five years in that grade was raised to Rs. 1,000 a month. At the same time future entrants into the service were debarred from the grant of exchange compensation allowance, and certain changes were made in the terms of their appointment.

BURMA SECRETARIAT, 11th December 1907.

## PART II.

**Note.**—The departmental reports and other references on which this Report on the Administration of Burma is based are noted at the beginning of each Chapter. The departmental reports do not all cover the same period. The Reports on the Administration of Civil and Criminal Justice, the Police, Prisons, the Registration Department, the Salt Revenue and the Report on the Insein Reformatory School deal with events which took place within the calendar year 1906; the Land Revenue, Land Records, and Forest Administration Reports, the Season and Crop Report, the Report on Co-operative Credit Societies and the Report of the Department of Agriculture are concerned with the agricultural year from the 1st July 1906 to the close of June 1907. All other reports cover the twelve months of the official or financial year that ended on the 31st March 1907.

### CHAPTER I.

## PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

#### REFERENCES—

- Report on the Administration of the Shan States for the year ended the 31st March 1907.  
Report on the Administration of the Chin Hills for the year ended the 31st March 1907.  
Report on the Administration of the North-Eastern Frontier of Burma for the year ended the 31st March 1907.  
Season and Crop Report for the year ended the 30th June 1907.

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

#### POLITICAL.

Historical Summary.

Form of Administration.

Character of Land Tenures; System of Survey and Settlements.

Civil Divisions of British territory.

Details of the last Census; Tribes and Languages.

For information on the foregoing subjects, reference should be made to paragraphs 1 to 75 of the Report on the Administration of Burma for the year 1901-02.

#### Changes in the Administration.

1. The Hon'ble Sir Herbert Thirkell White, K.C.I.E., was Lieutenant-Governor of Burma throughout the year. The Lieutenant-Governor.

2. The only change effected during the year in divisional and district boundaries was due to the transfer of an area of about 22,500 acres from the Sagaing District in the Sagaing Division to the Myingyan District in the Meiktila Division. The growth of trade and population and the extension of cultivation account for the creation of a new subdivision and a new township in each of the districts of Pegu and Akyab. Elsewhere changes were due to reasons of administrative convenience. One township was abolished in Magwe District and a new one created. A township was abolished in Thayetmyo and three Mandalay townships were amalgamated into one. The net result of these changes was a decrease by one in the number of townships in the Province. Administrative territorial units.

CHAP. I.—  
 PHYSICAL  
 AND POLITICAL  
 GEOGRAPHY.  
 ADDITION to  
 and changes  
 in the Admini-  
 strative  
 Staff.

3. During the year of report further steps were taken to maintain and improve the efficiency of administration in a rapidly advancing country by the introduction of changes and reforms, by the creation of new posts and by revision of the terms of existing appointments. Progress was made in carrying out the important and far-reaching reforms consequent on the report of the Police Commission. The most notable improvements introduced during the year were the appointment of an additional Deputy Inspector-General for Civil Police and of a Deputy Inspector-General for Railways and Criminal Investigation, and the re-organization of the superior grades of Police officers down to and including Assistant Superintendents. The constitution of the new Agricultural Department took effect from the 15th October 1906. The superior staff consists of an officer of the Commission as Director, a trained Agriculturist as Deputy Director and three expert advisers. The re-organization of the subordinate staff of the Civil Veterinary Department was sanctioned in August 1906, but there has been unavoidable delay in giving effect to the changes involved. An officer of the Commission assumed control of the Excise Department as Commissioner of Excise with effect from the 1st May 1906. A separate appointment of Deputy Commissioner for Rangoon Town Lands and Collector for the Rangoon Town District was sanctioned and the appointment was filled from the 15th January 1907. The Collector of Rangoon, as he is called, relieves the Deputy Commissioner of Rangoon of all revenue business and of the registration of deeds and joint stock companies and the President of the Rangoon Municipality of his duties in connection with Rangoon Town Lands. To facilitate the disposal of work in the Public Works Department Secretariat the second Chief Engineer was appointed Joint Secretary to the Local Government with effect from the 1st November 1906.

## Relations with Tributary States and Frontier Affairs.

### (1) Southern Shan States.

Transfrontier  
 relations.

4. The external frontier of the Southern Shan States has remained undisturbed during the year. The construction of permanent boundary pillars on the Chinese frontier proceeded smoothly and rapidly, the work being facilitated by the ready co-operation of the Chinese officials. Cordial relations were maintained with the French officials beyond the Mekong. No incidents of importance occurred on the Siamese frontier.

Internal  
 Politics.

5. The internal political affairs of the different States with the exception of Mawkmai call for little comment. The death in November of the young *Sawbwa* left the affairs of the State mentioned in some confusion, the unravelling of which proved no easy task to the Administrator, and it is probable that the destruction by fire of Mawkmai town was in some way attributable to the unpopularity of the measures adopted by him. The administrations of the *Sawbwas* of Yawnghwe and of the Administratrix of Kēngkham are particularly worthy of favourable mention.

Financial  
 and Economic.

6. The irregularity of the rainfall throughout the cultivating season and in particular its failure during August 1906 did considerable damage, and conditions were not a little aggravated by the appearance of insect pests. The only crops that can be accounted moderately successful were potatoes and cotton. The results obtained with wheat were decidedly disappointing. No fresh outbreak of cattle disease occurred; but in some regions the outbreak of the previous year had not yet been stamped out. Rules have been recommended to the Chiefs with the object of preventing the recrudescence of this disease. Trade was adversely affected by the prevalence of plague in Burma and the heavy mortality of the previous year among beasts of burden. Nevertheless the volume of trade with Burma shows a considerable increase, which is chiefly accounted for by larger imports. The figures relating to gold and silver mark a considerable absorption of these metals, which may safely be taken to indicate growing prosperity.

7. The year was comparatively free from serious crime, while ordinary crime appears to have been more successfully dealt with than in the past. The arrangements for the administration of criminal justice remained practically unchanged except that it was found necessary to open three new courts in the Yawnghwe State. The Civil Justice (Subsidiary) Order, 1906, was extended to the Civil Station of Loilem; otherwise the Civil jurisdiction of British officers remained unchanged. The proposals relating to the Government Civil Police have been sanctioned since the close of the year under review. Educational progress was satisfactory nearly everywhere. In particular the School for the Sons of Chiefs at Taunggyi maintained the high degree of popularity already reached. The country was free from epidemics, prompt precautions having been taken in connection with two suspected cases of plague at Wetpyuye. The growing popularity of hospitals among the Shans is attributed to excellent work done by the Civil Surgeon, Taunggyi. The principal work of the year was the completion by the *Sawbwa* of Yawnghwe of the navigable canal from the Yawnghwe Lake to Mawlihsat on the proposed railway line. The *Sawbwa* is entitled to great credit for his enterprise and public spirit. In most of the other States much useful work has been done in connection with communications. From Government sources the principal subjects of expenditure were roads and barracks for the Military Police. The total amount expended was slightly less than in the previous year. The examination of the project of the proposed railway to the Southern Shan States made substantial progress. The proposed change from a narrow gauge to a metre gauge line and the investigation of the possibilities of electric traction have caused some unavoidable delay in the completion of the project. A final survey has now begun and the present season's work ought to result in a complete and practicable scheme which it may be possible to put into effect at an early date.

CHAP. I.—  
PHYSICAL  
AND POLITICAL  
GEOGRAPHY.  
General.

(ii) Karenni.

8. The State of Gantarawadi sustained a real loss by the death of its *Sawbwa*, Sawlawi, a man of conspicuous loyalty and ability who had administered his State for many years with success. Hkun Nan, his step-son, has just been appointed to succeed him. The rainfall in Karenni was irregular and unsatisfactory, the result being that the prices of foodstuffs rose very high. It is not yet possible to record any improvement of the conditions under which forests are being worked. If anticipations prove correct, the tin mines ought to become before long a valuable asset in Karenni. The trade in lac and catch flourished. On the whole the condition of the people is prosperous.

(iii) Northern Shan States.

9. Conditions on the external frontier of the Northern Shan States continued normal during the year 1906-07. The annual conference between the local officers and the Chinese authorities of the adjoining prefectures of Yunnan took place in December, and an amicable settlement of many pending cases was arrived at. His Majesty's Consul at Tengyueh contributed not a little to the maintenance of harmonious relations. The internal condition of the States was one of undisturbed tranquillity, and the people continue to be quietly prosperous and contented. The *Sawbwa* of Tawngpeng has at last escaped from his personal financial embarrassments; but evidence is not wanting to show that in matters relating to personal expenditure the *Sawbwas* are frequently in need of sound advice.

10. Economic conditions have been on the whole satisfactory. The rainfall was normal in quantity, and, although its lateness affected some classes of produce deleteriously, the rice crop was above the average. The cultivation of tea is still extending in the western States, from which it seems clear that the local cultivators at all events have no anxiety as to finding a market for their produce. The price, however, is falling. Among adverse agricultural occurrences the chief were the continued mortality of cattle from rinderpest and the plague of caterpillars,

Financial  
and Economic.

which were doubtless identical with those that caused so much destruction in the Southern Shan States. Both imports into and exports from Burma increased in value. The increase under the former head is wholly accounted for by heavier extraction of forest produce. To all appearances the financial position of the different States remains satisfactory; but comparisons are difficult owing to the increased length of the period now under review.

11. The condition of the States as regards crime remained practically unchanged, and it is evident that cases are well and expeditiously disposed of and that the confidence of the public in the administration of criminal justice is growing. On the other hand the state of several of the *Sawbwas'* police forces leaves a great deal to be desired. The aspect of educational affairs is a little less gloomy than it was in the previous year, and the progress of the Lashio school is encouraging; but much remains to be done before the position as a whole can be viewed with any complacency. Little progress seems to have been made with the project for the Hsipaw Hospital. The principal work which was nearly completed during the year was the iron bridge over the Namtu at Hsipaw. The Northern Shan States remained free from epidemic disease up to the close of the period under view.

(iv) *Mandalay Division.*

12. The administration of the State of Mōng Mit proceeded smoothly during the year, the young *Sawbwa* having, under the experienced control of the Deputy Commissioner of the Ruby Mines District, made a very promising beginning of his rule. Agricultural conditions and the state of public health were on the whole satisfactory. Crime was practically non-existent and the volume of litigation insignificant. Nothing of special note occurred within the Kodaung Hill Tracts.

(v) *Sagaing Division.*

13. The year 1906-07 was uneventful in the Shan States of Hsawngghsup and Singkaling Hkamti. The principal village of the former State was visited by the Lieutenant-Governor.

(vi) *The Chin Hills.*

14. The most noticeable event of the year under review in the Chin Hills and adjacent frontier tracts was the massacre of 27 Shandus by Kongs at the village of Bahe in the unadministered territory north of the Hill District of Arakan. This incident occurred in December 1906. It was apprehended at one time that the Shandus might attack the Kongs and follow them into administered territory. Measures were therefore taken to protect the Northern Arakan Frontier. The Shandus, however, have undertaken not to make reprisals pending the orders of Government. It is proposed to take steps in the open season to settle the case. The relations between tribes in the administered and unadministered tracts were satisfactory. In the Chin Hills the year was uneventful; and progress in several directions has been steady and gratifying. Crime was insignificant. Agricultural conditions were for the most part satisfactory, and it is pleasing to record that new crops and new methods of cultivation are commending themselves to the Chins. The increase in the attendance at hospitals and in the number of those vaccinated indicates a feeling of growing confidence among the tribes. Among administrative measures mention must be made of the institution of a Chin Civil Police force, which has been modelled on the successful force in the Pakōkku Hill Tracts. A large number of unlicensed guns were withdrawn from the Northern tribes.

The sudden departure, owing to illness, of the Superintendent of the Pakōkku Hill Tracts at the commencement of the open season seemed at one time likely to lead to trouble, as disaffected persons were reported to be ready to avail themselves of the opportunity presented by the absence of a responsible officer. But the prompt measures adopted by the new Superintendent, culminating in the arrest of

the leader of the disturbance and the capture of his followers, removed all cause for alarm. A satisfactory feature of the incident was the correct attitude of the trans-frontier Chins. The behaviour of the Chin police under the Chief Head Constable Om Tha throughout the year was excellent.

CHAP. I.—  
PHYSICAL  
AND POLITICAL GEO-  
GRAPHY.

Little of importance occurred within the Arakan Hill Tracts, although some anxiety was felt on account of the trans-frontier events which have already been described. Education has made steady progress, and various sanitary improvements have been made at Paletwa. The Deputy Commissioner of Akyab successfully held the usual annual darbar at Yechaungwa. In the Kyaukpyu District the Chin tracts were visited by an Inspector of Police, and were found to be in a peaceful condition. On the Upper Chindwin frontier amicable relations continued to prevail between the Chins and the inhabitants of the valleys.

(vii) *The Kachin Hills.*

15. Relations with the trans-frontier tribes under Chinese control continued to be on the whole satisfactory, and the only serious irruption into British territory was a raid on the Kachin village of Tulum by twenty-three armed men from the Chinese Shan State of Mengwan. But the disturbances just across the border, caused by the failure of the Mengwan *Sawbwa* to control the Kachins of his State, and by disputes regarding the succession in Santra, gave rise to some unrest among the Kachins in the Bhamo and Myitkyina Districts, and rendered necessary special measures to prevent them from becoming involved. These precautions were successful in restraining the tribes on this side of the border from taking an active part in the dissensions. The disputes in Santa resulted in the flight of the *Sawbwa*, who is a minor, from his State, and he is now with his mother a refugee in Myitkyina. The annual meeting for the settlement of frontier cases was held as usual, but its success was minimised by the death, a month previously, of Commandant Ma, who had done much in previous years to facilitate negotiations. The comparative immunity from disturbance enjoyed on the Chinese frontier was not shared by that part of the Myitkyina District which borders on unadministered territory. On the eastern section of the northern administrative boundary of that district several raids of a serious nature were committed during the year by Kachins from across the N'Maikha. The gravest outrage of the year was perpetrated by Kachins from the Sana tract west of the Malikha, who in March made a preconcerted attack on the temporary military police post at Auche in revenge for the death of one of their number, Shingrai La, who was killed by the Havildar of the post while resisting arrest for attempting to smuggle opium. The attack was easily repulsed as the post had been forewarned. The most noteworthy event in the internal administration of the Kachin Hills in the year under report was the death in February of Kansia La, the wealthy and influential *Duwa* of the Jade Mines Tract. He was succeeded without disturbance by his nephew La Saing. The Commissioner visited the tract and in accordance with his advice it has been decided not to change the existing system of administration which has on the whole been successful. The question of tolls and imposts was, however, examined. A reduction has been made in the excessive export rates which had been levied on coolies and mules leaving the mines with loads of jade, and the vexatious import duties on foodstuffs coming to the mines have been abolished. Notwithstanding the delay in starting work at the Tawmaw quarries caused by the death of Kansia La, the output of jade was almost double that of the previous year. Increased trade and closer supervision at the mines may be expected when the road from Nanyaseik, now in course of construction by the Public Works Department, is completed, and the mule road to Tawmaw is opened. The general condition of the people in the administered Kachin area was prosperous and otherwise satisfactory during the year, and no difficulty was experienced in collecting tribute. The experiment of enlisting Kachins in the Military Police continues to be satisfactory. The statements of criminal cases and of the action taken under the Kachin Hill Tribes Regulation show that the law has been judiciously applied. The steadily increasing number of civil cases is

CHAP. I—  
PHYSICAL  
AND POLI-  
TICAL GEO-  
GRAPHY.

evidence of the growth of trade between the Kachins and the Burmans and Shans of the plains. Steps are being taken to regulate the possession of firearms in the hill tracts in the east of the Myitkyina District. An examination of the hill tracts in the Bhamo District with a view to the adoption of measures to prevent the destruction of forests is to be undertaken in the coming open season.

### Condition of the People.

16. The character of the agricultural season in the year 1906-07 varied a good deal in different parts of the Province and at different periods of the year, but on the whole it may be described as not unfavourable. The crop was about normal, while harvest prices of paddy were exceptionally high throughout the Province, surpassing all previous records in many markets. A decided advance is noticeable in the work of the Co-operative Credit Societies, the object of which is to enable the cultivators to help themselves and to deliver themselves from the slough of debt in which many of them are sunk. The volume of trade expanded enormously and the figures of the year are well ahead of all previous records. The increasing wealth and prosperity of the country are undeniable and are reflected in the material condition of the people. On the other hand it must be admitted that the year was generally unhealthy, plague was prevalent and the death-rate in respect of all the principal diseases was higher than usual.

## CHAPTER II. ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

### REFERENCES—

Land Revenue Administration Report for the year ending the 30th June 1907.

Land Records Administration Report for the year ending the 30th June 1907.

Twenty-first issue of the Agricultural Statistics of India for the years 1902-03 to 1906-07, Volume I,  
Tables V, V—A and B and VI, VI—A and B.

### Realization of the Revenue.

17. The area under assessment increased in Lower Burma by nearly 200,000 acres, but in Upper Burma it fell by 158,000 acres. The current demand, 244½ lakhs, was less than 3 lakhs above that of the previous year, while there was a decrease of current remissions of over 7 lakhs and in outstandings of nearly half a lakh. In consequence the current collections (239 lakhs) were over 10 lakhs better than the figure of 1905-06. The most important increases in the demand were due to settlements, original and revision, to the imposition of the maximum rates on expiry of the period of intermediate rates and to the opening of the Shwebo Canal, while the largest falling off was due to floods in Hanthawaddy District. Remissions declined from 11 to under 4 lakhs, but this amount is still above the average. Moreover, the decrease of 7 lakhs is to some extent fictitious as the new system of non-assessment reduces remissions. Where destruction of crops is widespread it has been found that the ordinary procedure for granting remission is inadequate, and special measures are necessary. Proposals were submitted by the Commissioner, Pegu Division, for dealing with such cases, under which when the crops on the whole or any well-defined portion of a *kwin* have been destroyed by floods no assessment should be made in respect of the area certified by the Township Officer to be so destroyed. These proposals were accepted subject to modifications in points of detail, and effect has been given during the year of report to the orders issued. Outstandings amounted to 1.39 lakhs against 1.87 lakhs in 1905-06. Hanthawaddy again showed by far the largest amount (Rs. 76,865), the difficulty in collecting the revenue being attributed to the widespread destruction of crops by floods.

18. An increase on the large figures of 1905-06 occurred as regards processes for the recovery of revenue affecting property, but not as regards those affecting persons. Thus, while the number of notices (47,035) increased largely by 6,190 and warrants of attachment (22,569) and sales (3,393) considerably there was a small decline in the number of warrants of arrest (11,3) and a substantial reduction, from 4,217 to 2,607, in the total of persons arrested. Sixty-five defaulters, against 80, were committed to jail. These figures show that, while revenue was rendered more difficult to recover by two unfavourable seasons, officers made a genuine attempt to avoid issuing unnecessary processes against the person. The explanations offered by District officers of fluctuations in the figures are many and various. On a general view of the returns of processes and proceedings, it appears that the issue of coercive processes in Henzada and Myaunginya requires more attention and that, taking into consideration the decision to assess Chittagonian immigrants, the revenue officers in Akyab and Kyaukpyu have made praiseworthy efforts to reduce the number of proceedings in their respective districts in circumstances of special difficulty. It also appears that the main factors in the figures reported under this head are the character of the agricultural season and of the Deputy Commissioner. The amount for the realization of which application was made increased from 11.36 to 11.79 lakhs and the amount realized from 8.91 to 9.68 lakhs. These figures by

CHAP. II.— themselves would justify some increase in the number of proceedings as they show that there was a little more to recover and that a considerable portion of it was obtained.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

### Surveys.

Demarcation preliminary to Survey.

19. Demarcation in advance of cadastral survey was under aken in the Pyapón and Boraie Townships of the Pyapón District by a Demarcation Officer. Work was commenced on the 1st November 1906 and completed on the 15th March 1907. The total area demarcated was 170 square miles and the cost of the operations amounted to Rs. 999. In Akyab an area of 60 square miles was demarcated by the local staff in the Maungdaw and Rathedaung Townships. A special Demarcation Officer was engaged in demarcation in the Kyaukpyu District for a period of four months, but only 24 square miles were completed in this time owing to the unnecessary inclusion of extensive jungle and hills in the *twins* for survey. The cost of the demarcation amounted to Rs. 870. The preliminary demarcation of 50 square miles in the Tharrawaddy District was effected by local Inspectors and Surveyors. An area of 56 square miles was demarcated in the unsettled tracts of the Amherst District by an Inspector of the Revision Survey Party employed in the district in addition to his survey duties.

Survey by Imperial Agency.

20. No. 7 Party of the Survey of India brought its operations to a close in the Pakókku District by the completion of the detail survey of 514 square miles which had been traversed in the previous season. Six hundred and eighty-six square miles were also traversed in the upper section of the Thayetmyo District, of which 43 square miles were surveyed in detail. In the Pyapón District a total area of 170 square miles was traversed and 132 square miles cadastrally surveyed. The cost of the season's work amounted to Rs. 1,79,854. The Party was also engaged in the preparation of the Burma traverse charts, at a cost of Rs. 2,068.

Surveys by Provincial Agency — (i) Original.

21. During the year of report special, or extension, surveys by special staffs were undertaken in the Akyab, Kyaukpyu and Tharrawaddy Districts under the immediate supervision of the local Superintendents of Land Records. The survey of cultivated blocks in the unsettled tracts of the Akyab District was continued during the year. The cadastral section surveyed in detail a total area of 34 square miles, containing 13,345 acres of cultivation, in 27 *twins*. The cost of the operations amounted to Rs. 9,913. Cadastral survey was carried out in certain cultivated blocks bordering on the older surveyed tracts in the Kyaukpyu District. The area cadastrally surveyed was 20 square miles, containing 6,529 acres of cultivation, and the cost of the operations was Rs. 9,190. In Tharrawaddy District the area surveyed in detail totalled 43 square miles, containing 9,148 acres under actual cultivation. The cost of the survey amounted to Rs. 8,788. The work of demarcation and survey of all important towns in the province which was inaugurated two years ago was proceeded with as far as practicable in 19 districts during the year. The surveys undertaken are throughout on a uniform scale of 64 inches to the mile. The connected work of tenure enquiry and the subsequent preparation of the town lands rolls was also advanced as far as possible in eight districts. In all, 17 Demarcation Officers were employed in the year on demarcation work in 41 towns, for periods varying from two to nine months. The total area demarcated was 58.25 square miles, at a cost of Rs. 16,351. Surveys were carried out in 42 towns altogether and the total area traversed was 48.66 square miles. For the cadastral survey 6 Inspectors, 47 field-surveyors, and 20 draughtsmen and computers were employed for varying periods extending from two to seven months, and the total area mapped was 50.92 square miles. The entire cost of the survey operations of the year, for both field and office work amounted to Rs. 34,431. The work of demarcation and survey of fisheries by special staffs in the Maubin and Pyapón Districts was continued in the year. Over 400 fisheries were demarcated and surveyed at a cost of Rs. 14,681. *Potta* surveys were carried out by a staff consisting of 12 Inspectors and 87 surveyors; 5,423 cases were dealt with and 53,123 acres were surveyed against 6,012 cases and 49,114 acres in 1905-06. The cost of the surveys, Rs. 26,318, shows an increase of three thousand rupees.

22. The map and area and other connected work of the recess relating to the various revision surveys by special staffs executed during the year 1905-06 in the Ma-ubin, Pyapôn, Pegu, Amherst, and Thatôn Districts was duly completed in the recess season. In the year of report Revision Surveys by special agency were in progress in the districts of Pyapôn, Pegu, Amherst, Thatôn and Hanthawaddy. In the first two districts the operations were conducted by special Superintendents of Land Records and in the other districts by the local Superintendents. The resurveys which remained over from the previous year in the Pyapôn District were undertaken by a remnant of the old Ma-ubin-Pyapôn Party. The work was finished in two months, December and January, and on its conclusion the staff was transferred to Pegu to augment the Revision Survey Party there. The area resurveyed was 38,506 acres under occupation, or about one-half the total occupied area of the *kwins* dealt with. The cost of the operations amounted to Rs. 8,669. The cost-rate works out to 3 annas 7 pies per acre of cultivation. The completion of this work brings to a close the revision survey operations which have been in progress by the party in the Ma-ubin and Pyapôn Districts for the past four years. The Pegu Revision Survey Party continued its operations in the Pegu, Pyuntaza and Nyaunglebin Townships. The cadastral section resurveyed 196 *kwins* with 204,200 acres under occupation, including two *kwins* of the previous season which were redone owing to faulty work. The cost of the operations amounted to Rs. 48,730, giving a cost-rate per acre of cultivation, for both revision and original survey, of 3 annas 9 pies per acre. The Party has now worked for two years in the district, and has completed the entire programme of revision and original survey work allotted to it. The total cultivated area surveyed in the two seasons was 345,281 acres or 11 per cent. over the estimate as revised. (The four-year programme of revision surveys in the Amherst and Thatôn Districts which was commenced last year was continued in the year of report, with slightly increased staffs.) In Amherst, revisions in the year were carried on almost entirely in the Kyaikmaraw Township with small areas in each of the Chaungzôn, Moulmein and Kawkareik Townships. In the unsettled portion 36 new *kwins* were traversed, enclosed by a main circuit, and 40 subtraverses taken; the area of the traverses was 51 square miles. The cadastral section first took up and completed the 10 *kwins* and 3 *dani* islands of the unfinished programme of 1905-06, and then 17 other *kwins* of this year's programme, after which 13 *kwins* of new cultivation in the unsettled tracts, with an area of 18 square miles, were surveyed. Altogether 38,316 acres of cultivation were mapped. (The cost of the operations amounted to Rs. 17,446; this gives a cost-rate per acre of cultivation of 7 annas 3 pies. In Thatôn the surveys were chiefly in the Thatôn Township.) The field-surveyors completed the revision survey of 62,350 acres of cultivation, and the cost amounted to Rs. 16,854, which works out at 4 annas 4 pies per acre of the cultivated area. Surveys in the Hanthawaddy District were undertaken by a special staff. The cultivated area surveyed amounted to 88,169 acres, situated in the Kyauktan Subdivision and in the Kungyangôn Township of the Twante Subdivision in which a revision of settlement is to be made next year. The cost of the operations was Rs. 14,483; this gives the cost-rate per acre of cultivation at 2 annas 8 pies. Special surveyors were employed, as usual, in the annual resurvey of cultivation on island *kwins* in the districts of Mandalay, Sagaing, Lower Chindwin and Myingyan. In view of the approach of a revision of Settlement in the Meiktila District the local authorities were requested to have the *kwins* in which the maps were not up to date resurveyed, and in accordance with these orders the resurvey of 6,941 acres of cultivation was carried out by local surveyors.

CLASS. II—  
ADDITIONAL  
TRANSIT OF  
THE LAND  
SURVEYS BY  
PROVINCIAL  
AGENCY:  
(5) Revision.

### Settlements.

23. As in the previous year three parties were engaged on regular original settlement work, one in Lower Burma and two in Upper Burma. The total cost of the original settlement of Mergui, which was completed during the year, was Rs. 54,475 or just over 10 annas per acre. The comparatively high cost was due to the extremely scattered nature of the cultivation and the difficulties of communication

Number  
of  
acres

Case. II—  
Adminis-  
tration of  
the Land

as well as to the fact that the cultivated area was small. New rates were notified with effect from the 1st July 1907 and resulted in an enhancement of the revenue demand from 1'51 to 2'95 lakhs. Upper Burma Settlement Party No. 3 continued the settlement of Pakòkku District and Party No. 4 that of the Lower Chindwin. In Pakòkku 111,594 acres of cultivated area were completed and in the Lower Chindwin 230,666 at a cost in the former case of Rs. 94,756 and in the latter of Rs. 93,230. The cost per acre so far works out roughly at 11 annas for Pakòkku and 4½ annas for the Lower Chindwin. Original settlements in Upper Burma are necessarily complicated and ordinarily the cost per acre is more than in Lower Burma. The low rate in the Lower Chindwin District is due to the compactness of the cultivated area.

Summary  
original  
settlement.

24. The summary settlement of 120 square miles in the Sandoway District including 15,590 acres of cultivation was completed at a cost of 7½ annas per acre. The report was submitted to Government, but orders had not been passed at the close of the year.

Revision  
settlements.

25. Three revision settlement parties were at work during the year, two in Lower Burma and one in Upper Burma. The Mergui Settlement Party was moved to Moulmein in the end of 1906 to undertake the revision of the Amherst District. By the end of the year 314 square miles including 133,760 acres of cultivation had been completed at a cost of 5 annas per acre. The revision settlement of Ma-ubin, Myaungmya and Kyauklat Township of Pyapòn District was completed at a total cost of Rs. 54,500 or a little over 2½ annas per acre, the small cost being due to the great extent and compactness of the cultivated area. The new rates too effect from the 1st July 1907 and resulted in a great increase of the revenue demand from 7'24 to 12'64 lakhs. The revision settlement of the rest of Pyapòn District by the same Party has been finished but the rates have not been settled. The revision operations in the Mandalay Canal area were completed by a section of No. 5 Party which afterwards joined the rest of the Party at Minbu where the revision settlement was advancing towards completion at the end of the year.

General.

26. Apart from the revisions referred to in the preceding paragraphs new rates were notified during the year for the Kyauksè and Mandalay Districts and for the Samòn tract in the Mei tila District. The expenditure incurred during the year on settlement operations amounted to 3'62 lakhs, rather more than the figure of 1905-06, while the enhancement in the land revenue demand consequent on orders passed during the year reached 7'09 lakhs as compared with only 2'82 lakhs in the previous year.

### Land Records

Area under  
Supplementary  
Survey.

27. The total area under supplementary survey amounted to 47,470 square miles, showing an increase over the previous year of 3,818 square miles. Of this increase 3,680 square miles are in the Shwebo District, in which a regular Land Records staff is now at work, settlement operations having been completed. The area assessed by the Land Records Department rose by over 50,000 acres to 10,987,827 and the total assessment of the year amounted to Rs. 2,54,81,253, an increase of Rs. 5,22,080 as compared with the previous year. Of this sum over two lakhs relate to the Shwebo District alone, of which the figures have been for the first time included in the annual returns. The steady expansion of cultivation, the curtailment of fallows and the assessment of time-expired grants have contributed in most districts to the increase in the revenue. The other districts in which the principal increases occurred are Ma-ubin (Rs. 2,07,000), due mainly to an enhancement of rates, the result of revision settlement in the Danubyu, Yandoon and Pantanaw Townships; Kyauksè (Rs. 1,52,000), owing to the imposition in the year of revise rates on a revision of settlement of the entire district; Henzada (Rs. 1,21,000), owing in part to the imposition of maximum rates of assessment in the Henzada and Zalun Townships and in part to extensions of cultivation; and

Pyapôn (Rs. 87,000), due mostly to extensions. On the other hand there were large decreases in Magwe (Rs. 1,09,000), Myingyan (Rs. 78,000) and Meiktila (Rs. 97,000), owing to unfavourable weather conditions, and consequent decreased cultivation and cropped areas. In Hanthawaddy the decrease (Rs. 99,000) is more apparent than real, as the figures of the year of report show the net demand, while those of the past year represented the gross demand before remission.

CRAP. II.  
AGRICULTURE  
CROPPED  
AREAS

28. The total cost of the Land Records establishment amounted to Rs. 11,72,652. The figure was in excess of that of 1905-06 by Rs. 1,00,785, due in part to an increase of establishments and to a slight improvement in the rates of pay and travelling allowance of the superior staff, but chiefly owing to the inclusion for the first time of the Shwebo District in the returns on the withdrawal from the district of the Settlement Party to which the Land Records establishment was formerly attached. The cost per square mile in the year was Rs. 24.71 and per cent. of the assessment 4.60; in both cases the rates are slightly higher than the corresponding rates quoted last year.

Cost of  
Supplementary  
Survey.

29. The number of Government Survey schools was 18 as before, all of which except five are located in Government buildings. A school-house is now being built at Insein. The total number of pupils on the rolls of the schools on the 31st March 1907 was 393, of whom 31 per cent. were exempt from the payment of the school fee as compared with 402 in the previous year. Sixty-eight scholarships of the first grade and 140 of the 2nd grade at Rs. 10 and Rs. 5 each per mensem, respectively, were granted during the year. The total expenditure on the maintenance of the schools amounted to Rs. 40,462, while the total income from fees and other sources was Rs. 5,561: the net cost therefore was Rs. 34,901. This works out at Rs. 89 per pupil, or Rs. 8 more than last year. At the Syndicate examination of April 1907, the number of candidates from Government Survey Schools who succeeded in passing in Surveying, Arithmetic and Revenue Law were respectively, 277, 131 and 190 or 79, 42 and 59 per cent. of the number presented in each of these subjects. The passes in Surveying and Revenue Law show improvement, while the results in Arithmetic were much below the figure of 1906 (236).

Survey  
Schools

30. As compared with the previous year the area of land sold (539,214 acres) declined slightly and the area of land mortgaged largely from 467,326 to 390,316 acres. On the other hand the area redeemed and that on mortgage at the end of the year showed substantial rises of over 12 and over 6 per cent. respectively. 309,214 acres were redeemed during the year and at the end over 40 million acres were on mortgage. The rates per acre of land sold, mortgaged and on mortgage at the end of the year showed a respective rise of .28, 3.04 and 6.28 per cent. The rise in the price of land is ascribed to the rise in the value of paddy and to the increase of population and decrease of cultivable waste, and explains generally the variations of area recorded. The increased value of land allows less land to be sold or mortgaged to obtain the sum required and the increased value of the crop allows of larger redemptions. The increase of the area on mortgage at the end of the year is attributed to the recent declaration by Government of its intention to discourage the passing of land into the hands of non-cultivators. Non-cultivating mortgagees have accordingly preferred to let mortgages on land, to which the mortgagors have not obtained proper rights of transfer stand over, in the hope of being paid voluntarily, knowing that they have no hope of obtaining payment by compulsion. This factor is alleged also to have reduced sales of similar land, and consequently to have had some effect in reducing the total area sold.

Transfer of  
land

### Waste Lands.

31. The area granted or leased for cultivation during the year fell again from 53,393 to 41,542 acres. In 1905-06 the figures were very nearly those of 1900-01. Then from 1901-02 to 1903-04 the figures were generally over 100,000. In 1904-05

Grants and  
leases for  
cultivation.

**Chap. II.—**  
**Adminis-**  
**tration of**  
**the Land.**

a decline began with the suspension of the issue of pottas in the Pegu Division and has continued now for two years. The continuance for two years of the experiment of suspension has been sanctioned, but the question of resuming the issue of grants in suburban areas has been under discussion. Commissioners of Divisions in Lower Burma other than Pegu reported on a proposal to extend the suspension of the issue of grants to their divisions and the matter is now under the Financial Commissioner's consideration. The Commissioners of Irrawaddy and Tenasserim are favourable, the Commissioner of Arakan, a division in which there has never been the congestion of work which has occurred in the other three Lower Burma Divisions, is against the proposal. At the beginning of the year, 8,596 applications for grants or leases were pending, 10,663 new applications were received, 11,219 were disposed of, and 8,040 remained pending at the end of the year. Under 300 of the last total belongs to Upper Burma. In Amherst, Toungoo and Thaton, the districts in which at the end of 1905-06 there was the largest number of pending cases, special grant officers were employed. In Upper Burma as usual no leases were issued in the Minbu Division and in other divisions leases were either not issued at all, or only to a small extent, except in the Shwebo, Myitkyina and Mandalay Districts, where respectively 1,612, 342, and 312 acres were leased. Three hundred and ninety-nine acres were granted or leased to headmen as *thugyisa* against 1,027 acres in 1905-06. As regards leases for rubber cultivation there is little of interest in the reports. The firm which in the previous year cleared 628 acres near Shwegyin transferred their lease of 1,500 odd acres to two Ceylon planters. It was intended by the transferees to form a company, but the attempt proved unsuccessful and the lease was transferred once more, this time to the Mergui Rubber Company, a body which had already negotiated for land off the Mergui coast for rubber cultivation.

Revenue-free  
grants.

32. The area granted free for religious edifices increased by 31 acres to 220 acres. This total is considerably over the average of the seven years ending with 1905-06, namely, 158 acres. The area granted revenue-free for public purposes declined from 173 to 79 acres.

### Government Estates and Wards' Estates.

33. There are no Government or Wards' estates in Burma.

### Revenue and Rent-paying Classes.

Land  
revenue  
paying  
classes.

34. The total area occupied by agriculturists and non-agriculturists, both resident and non-resident increased during the year, but the percentage of area occupied by agriculturists to total occupied area which was 85.94 in 1904-05 and 85.27 in 1905-06, has fallen to 84.75. It may be noted, however, that the last decline amounts to .52 per cent. only as against .67 in the previous twelve months. It is perhaps too early to ascribe this result to the measures adopted with a view to checking the acquisition of land by non-agriculturists, but it is at any rate satisfactory to note that the downward tendency of these figures has slackened. The percentage of area occupied by resident to that occupied by total non-agriculturists, which was 39 in 1904-05 and 38 in 1905-06, was 37 in 1906-07, the decrease being uniform. Projects of legislation for dealing with the alienation of land by agriculturists continued to be discussed during the year.

Tenants.

35. The area let at full rents to tenants rose by some 140,000 acres to a total of 2,460,000 acres. Various reasons are offered for fluctuations in the figures. At the same time the number of tenants decreased by about 6,000 to 175,000. The percentage of tenants who have rented their land continuously for five years and over fell from 15 to 13. The aggregate rent paid for land in the province increased during the year by no less than 28 per cent. The rise is generally ascribed to enhanced prices for paddy, increase of population and decrease of culturable waste. Tenancy legislation was under consideration during the year, but no final decision was arrived at.

## CHAPTER III. PROTECTION.

### REFERENCES—

- Report of the Police Administration of Burma for the year 1906.  
Report on the Police Administration of Rangoon Town for the year 1906.  
Reports on the Administration of Civil and Criminal Justice in Burma for the year 1906.  
Report on the Prison Administration of Burma for the year 1906.  
Note on the working of the Registration Department in Burma during the year 1906.  
Report on the working of the Rangoon Municipality for the year ending the 31st March 1907.  
Resolution on the working of Municipalities in Burma for the year ending the 31st March 1907.  
Report on Government Steamers, Vessels and launches in Burma for the year 1906-07.  
Report on the Maritime Trade of Burma for the year ending the 31st March 1907.  
Forty-first 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 1907 and the four preceding years, Volume II, Shipping, Tables 1, 6 and 7.  
Forty-first issue of the Annual Statement of the Coasting Trade and Navigation of British India for the year ending the 31st March 1907, Tables 2 to 7.  
Report of the Commissioners of the Port of Rangoon for the year ending the 31st March 1907.  
Twelfth issue of the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1906-07 and preceding years, Tables I, II, III, IV, V, VII, IX, XI and XVII.

### Legislating Authority.

36. The constitution of the Legislating Authority of the Province is described in paragraphs 106 to 109 of the Report on the Administration of Burma for the year 1901-02.

### Course of Legislation.

37. The four Bills described in paragraph 48 of the Report for 1905-06 became law during the year as Burma Acts I, II, III and IV of 1906. Several other Bills were under the consideration of the Local Government; and five, the provisions of which are summarized below, were introduced in the Burma Legislative Council in December 1906 and February 1907 and have since become law. Later in the year three additional Bills were introduced in Council. The object of the Lower Burma Land and Revenue Law Amendment Act, 1907, is to empower the Local Government to regulate the extraction of clay for brick-making, of laterite and of other minor mineral products which cannot suitably be dealt with under the special Mining rules issued by the Government of India. It was found that, though the right to such minerals has always been reserved to Government, there were no provisions for the proper enforcement of such right or authorizing Government to regulate the extraction of such minerals. Suitable powers for this purpose and for the regulation of the transport of minerals have, therefore, been conferred by the Act. The opportunity has also been taken to render it compulsory on parties to an alienation of land to report the transaction in order that the Government registers of such transactions may become a more reliable record of titles to land. Such reporting was already required in the case of leased and grant lands and has been the common practice in the case of other lands. The object of the Rangoon Water-works Act Amendment Act, 1907, is to enable the Rangoon Municipal Committee to minimize the evil likely to arise in cases where it becomes necessary to cut off the water-supply to private houses owing to the pipes or other fittings being out of repair to such an extent as to cause a waste of water. In such cases the sanitary appliances are likely to become a danger to health, and great inconvenience is caused to the tenants by the apathy of the owners. The Act confers on the Committee the power to

Work of  
Legislative  
Council.

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Work of  
Legislative  
Council.

CHAP. III.—  
PROVISIONS.

execute necessary repairs at the cost of the owner on a failure of the owner to do so after receipt of notice. The Burma Towns Act, 1907, consolidates the law relating to the administration of towns in Upper and Lower Burma. Previously the two parts of the Province were subject to separate enactments which were almost identical, and there was likewise no great difference in the practical application of these enactments in the different towns of the Province. The opportunity was also taken to introduce some minor improvements for the purpose of making the law clearer, more especially as regards the extinction of fires and the prevention of the spreading of contagious disease among human beings and cattle. The Rangoon Police Act Amendent Act, 1907, confers on officers of the Rangoon Police force power to arrest any person committing an offence under the Act in view of a Police officer if the name and address of such person is unknown to him and cannot be ascertained then and there. I also confers on the Commissioner of Police the powers exercisable by the Commissioner of Police in Presidency Towns under the Indian Lunatic Asylums Act, 1858, and empowers the Superintendents of Police to issue warrants for the search of common-gaming houses under section 6 of the Burma Gambling Act, 1899. The latter power was previously exercisable by the Commissioner of Police, but it was found that the gamblers could, by a frequent change of the scene of operations, evade the search when time was lost in applying to that officer. The Act also increases the maximum penalty for begging to imprisonment not exceeding one month, as it was found that the previous maximum was insufficient for the suppression of the professional begging carried on by a class which flocks to Burma from all parts of India on account of the larger earnings obtainable in Rangoon. The Burma Highway Act, 1907, remedies a defect of the existing law under which District officers were powerless to prevent the rapid destruction of road-surfaces by unsuitable vehicles. In the case of certain roads the surface has been regularly cut up by narrow-tyred carts carrying heavy loads which proceeded in the same track until the parallel ruts became too deep for the progression of such vehicles. The road soon became impassable and in the case of the Mogòk-Thabeitkyin road the damage to the carts and bullocks was so great that after a single journey the bullocks were often sold for slaughter and the carts for firewood. It was believed that the use of proper wheels would not only minimize these evils but would also be more economical even to the cartmen. The Act confers suitable powers for the regulation of such matters and generally for the regulation of traffic. The latter power is also very necessary in the case of dangerous hill roads. As the three other Bills, namely, the Burma Village Bill, the Burma Defile Traffic Bill and the Lower Burma Courts Act Amendment Bill, were not passed during the year of report a description of these enactments may more suitably appear in next year's Report.

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 further to Amend the Indian Tariff Act, 1894. [The Indian Tariff (Amendment) Act, 1906.]
- III. The Indian Coinage Act, 1906.
- V. An Act further to amend the Indian Stamp Act, 1899.
- VI. An Act further to amend the law relating to merchant seamen. [The Indian Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Act, 1906.]
- VII. An Act to amend the Excise Act, 1896. [The Excise (Amendment) Act, 1906.]
- VIII. An Act to amend the Land Improvement Loans Act, 1883, and Agriculturists' Loans Act, 1884. [The Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans (Amendment) Act, 1906.]

Extension of  
enactments  
to the Shan  
States.

39. The Burma Gambling Act, 1899 (Burma Act I of 1899), was extended subject to certain restrictions and modifications to the Myelat in the Southern Shan States.

## Police.

40. Further progress was made during the year 1906 in carrying into effect reforms resulting from the Report of the Police Commission. The more important improvements introduced in the course of the year were as follows: (a) appointment of two Deputy Inspectors-General of Ranges in place of one Deputy Inspector-General; (b) reorganization of the superior grades of police officers down to and including Assistant Superintendents; (c) abolition of the appointment of Personal Assistant to the Deputy Inspector-General of Civil Police and appointment of a Personal Assistant to the Deputy Inspector-General for Railways and Criminal Investigation; (d) absorption of Chief Head Constables, Head Constables and Sergeants in the new grades of Sub-Inspector and Head Constable on increased pay; (e) opening of the Provincial Training School under a District Superintendent; and (f) appointment of a Deputy Inspector-General for Railways and Criminal Investigation. The total cost of the reforms introduced up to November 1907 amounted to 13.59 lakhs per annum, of which Rs. 63,000 per annum concerned the Rangoon Police.

CHAP. III—  
PROTEC-  
TION.  
Police Com-  
mission  
Reforms.

41. The sanctioned strength of the Civil Police force, excluding the Rangoon Police, at the end of 1906, was 1,599 officers and 11,613 men or 33 officers and 15 men more than in the previous year. Small additions to the force were sanctioned in the Kyaukpyu, Mandalay and Myitkyina Districts. The force actually entertained was below strength by no less than 46 officers and 1,011 men. The shortage in officers was due to the orders of Government to fill up only 50 per cent. of the vacancies in the rank of Sub-Inspectors by the promotion of head constables and the shortage in constables was mainly due to the stoppage of recruiting in Upper Burma districts. The number of police stations was two more (487) and the number of outposts four less (211). The cost of the Police force for the year under report was Rs. 45,03,875 as against Rs. 41,46,879 in the previous year, the increase of Rs. 3,57,003 being almost entirely due to the introduction of the further instalment of reforms mentioned in the preceding paragraph.

Strength  
distribution  
and cost.

42. Difficulty is still reported in obtaining recruits in the districts of Mergui, Upper Chindwin, Pakokku and Myitkyina. Thirty-one officers and 486 men were dismissed the force for all causes, these figures being an increase of eight officers and a decrease of 34 men as compared with the figures for 1905. Other departmental punishments show a satisfactory decrease of 103 officers and 261 men, the figures for the year under report being 19 officers and 844 men punished. Only 59 officers and men were rewarded by special promotion, being a decrease of 23 on the 1905 figures. This decrease is entirely due to the abolition of grading in the rank of constable. When grading existed men could be rewarded by a step of promotion, but the incremental system of salaries based on fixed periods of service has done away with rewards by promotion. One thousand seven hundred and ninety-three officers and men or nine more than in 1905 were rewarded during the year. There were fewer discharges and desertions during the year, but more resignations. Seven more deaths occurred in the force and the average admissions into hospital also increased somewhat.

Recruitment  
and conduct.

43. The year under report exhibits an increase of 37 literate officers, but a decrease of 317 literate Constables, the figures for 1906 being 1,530 officers and 8,907 constables. The decrease in the number of literate Constables in the force is due almost entirely to the stoppage of recruiting in Upper Burma, the casualties among the literate men remaining unfilled. The total number of old constables trained amounted to 5,649 as compared with 6,545 in 1905, and of this number 5,131 or 91 per cent. qualified, being a small improvement of 2 per cent. The percentage of casualties among recruits who entered the Training depôts, rose from 22 in 1905 to 27 in the year of report, being 469 out of a total of 1,745 entrants. One thousand and forty-seven recruits presented themselves for the final examination, of whom 982 or 94 per cent. passed. This

Education  
and training.

**CHAP. III—**  
**PROSECUTION.** shows a falling off of 2 per cent. on the figure of 1905. The number of officers and men who appeared for the quarterly examinations was 1,731, of whom 301 obtained 1st class, 600 2nd class and 606 3rd class certificates, which is 2 per cent. worse than the 1905 figure of merit. A proposal for establishing a Central Training School for Indian Constables was under consideration. Eight thousand one hundred and fifty-seven old Constables and 737 recruits were put through their annual musketry course, and the figure of merit shows a satisfactory rise from 48 in 1905 to 59 in 1906. The Provincial Police Training School started work on the 7th April 1906, when there were four Probationary Assistant Superintendents and 20 Probationary Sub-Inspectors present. The conduct of the Probationers and cadets was on the whole very good and the new school appears to have been successfully launched.

**Buildings.**

44. During the year much has been done for the housing of the Police. In accordance with the orders of Government the construction of temporary police cottages and barracks has been entirely discontinued, and a steady improvement both in the amount and quality of police accommodation is being effected. Enhanced powers of sanction up to Rs. 2,500 were delegated to the Inspector-General of Police and have been found useful.

**Cognizable crimes.**

45. True cases of cognizable crime of all classes exhibit a small decrease of 628 cases or a little over one per cent. as compared with the figures for 1905, the totals for the two years being 42,469 and 43,097. Excepting class V, "Minor offences against property," which is responsible for an increase of 173 cases, the remaining five classes into which offences are divided all exhibit small decreases. Excluding class VI, which only deals with "offences against religion," "public nuisances" and "offences under special and local laws," none of which can be characterized as true crime, the number of true cognizable cases under classes I to V amounted to 27,428 in 1906 as compared with 27,896 in 1905. Under class I, "Offences against the State, etc.," the decrease of 76 cases is principally due to decreases in "Offences relating to coin," "other offences against public justice" and "personating public servant or soldier." The decrease under class II, "Serious offences against the person," is 374 cases and is mainly accounted for by satisfactory decreases of 93 and 163 cases, respectively, under grievous hurt and hurt, and 126 cases under criminal force to public servant or women, etc. Murders show a decrease of 24 cases, but this decrease is more than counterbalanced by increases of 27 attempts at murder and 15 culpable homicides. Class III, "Serious offences against the person and property," exhibits a decrease of 127 cases, but this improvement is unfortunately due to a falling off in the less important classes of crime, whereas the more important classes exhibit increases. Dacoities increased by 32 and robberies by 15. Lurking house-trespass and house-breaking show a substantial decrease of 157 cases. Tharrawaddy, with an increase of 14 dacoities, and Bassein, with an increase of 12 robberies, are the districts mainly responsible for the increase in these two classes of crime. The increase of 12 robberies in Bassein is, however, compensated for by a decrease of 6 dacoities. Class V, "Minor offences against property," is the only one responsible for an increase, which amounts to 173 cases as compared with the 1905 figures. The returns show increases of 181 cases of cattle theft, 155 cases of ordinary theft and 22 cases of criminal breach of trust, and decreases of 3 cases of receiving stolen property, 9 cases of cheating, 153 cases of criminal or house-trespass and 20 cases of breaking closed receptacles. The increases in cattle and ordinary thefts are an unfortunate feature of the year's record. The year under report shows a marked rise in violent crimes, the increase under all classes totalling 102 cases. No less than 920 violent crimes were dealt with in 1906 as compared with 818 in 1905. Culpable homicide shows an increase of 15 cases. Dacoities without murder and preparation and assembly for committing dacoity number 100 and exhibit an increase of 32 cases. Lower Burma was responsible for 84 of these, and Upper Burma for only 16, a difference which is a striking comment on the degrees of criminality of the lower and upper portions of the province. Taking all classes of violent crimes and excluding

the 13 cases appertaining to the Railway Police, Lower Burma districts report 719 cases and Upper Burma districts 201. The results of Police working in all classes of violent crime is practically the same as in 1905. The most unsatisfactory feature in connection with violent crime was the small portion of stolen property recovered. The percentage of recoveries has dropped from 14 in 1905 to four in 1906, a very serious retrogression. Though the majority of districts report that great assistance has been rendered by village headmen and villagers in the detection of violent crime and in the arrest of men concerned therein, the Inspector-General of Police states that not only the number of cases in which resistance was offered has declined, but also that it has been of a less effective nature than in 1905. The number of cases of violent crime in which firearms were carried increased from 38 to 62 and the number of offences under the Arms Act from 445 to 473.

CHAP. III.—  
PROSECUTION.

46. Exclusive of cases under special laws, which may be left out of account in considering the results of Police work, a total of 27,428 true cases as compared with 27,896 cases in 1905 were dealt with by the Courts and Police. Of this number the Police held investigation into 20,337 and refused investigation into 2,284 reports, and 11,935 cases out of the 20,337 investigated ended in conviction. The measure of success obtained is 59 per cent. as against 56 per cent. in 1905. The percentages of cases convicted to cases tried remains the same as in 1905, namely, 85 per cent. Detection in murder cases continued to be unsatisfactory, only 118 cases ending in conviction out of 326 cases dealt with. The value of property stolen amounted to Rs. 20,65,084 or Rs. 4,05,061 more than in 1905. This increase is mainly accounted for by an extraordinary large theft of Rs. 2,85,000 reported from Tharrawaddy. The recoveries total up to Rs. 4,36,705 or 21 per cent., which shows a further falling off of 3 per cent. Recoveries of stolen cattle, however, showed some improvement.

Detection.

47. The year under report exhibits an increase of 205 persons prosecuted for badliveliness under Chapter VIII of the Criminal Procedure Code. In 1905, 3,013 persons were proceeded against and in 1906, 3,218. Of this number 2,491 as against 2,296 in 1905 were convicted either by being placed on security or being sent to prison. The special powers of sanctioning prosecutions conferred on District Superintendents of Police and Subdivisional Police Officers were widely utilised in all districts, though the proportion of the number of cases in which the prosecutions have been sanctioned by these officers is still low in the Hanthawaddy, Pegu, Tharrawaddy and Prome Districts. Convictions were obtained in 77 per cent. of the cases, which is a small improvement of one per cent. as compared with 1905.

Preventive  
Provisions.

48. During the year under report 5,316 released convicts and 15 conditionally released convicts were brought on the Police registers, bringing up the totals of released and conditionally released convicts to 28,311 and 70, respectively, or a grand total of 28,381. Of this number, 3,149 were expunged after the prescribed period of surveillance as they were leading honest lives, and the names of 1,461 were struck off owing to death or emigration, leaving a balance of 23,772 on the registers. The number of "untraceables," *vis.*, 4,163, though less than at the close of 1905, is still very large and every effort is being made to reduce the number. The beat patrol system has been made more elastic, revision being undertaken on the lines of increasing the number of visits to villages with bad reputations and to those containing released criminals, and reducing the number of visits to unimportant and non-criminal villages. Revision on these lines has tended to make the surveillance over registered criminals more real and effective. The returns for the year show that a total of 2,788 old offenders were identified by the Police, being a decrease of 269 as compared with the figures for 1905. The total of 2,788 identifications is made up of 1,273 for one previous conviction, 732 for two previous convictions, 387 for three previous convictions and 396 for four or more previous convictions. The rules relating to the collection and

Surveillance  
and identification.

Case III  
Prison  
tion.

recording of prisoners' finger prints were given effect to during the year under report. Two thousand and forty references were made to the Central Bureau to trace previous convictions, out of which 539 or 26 per cent. proved successful. This is a small advance on the 21 per cent. of success recorded in 1905.

Railway  
Police.

49. The sanctioned strength of the Railway Police force was increased by the appointment of 3 Sergeants to a total of 375 officers and men and a number of Sergeants and Head constables were converted into Sub-Inspectors in accordance with the orders on the Police Commission Report. The cost of the force rose from 1'10 to 1'25 lakhs. The number of true cognizable cases dealt with, 968, was almost the same as in the previous year while the convictions obtained show a slight falling off. There were 28 true cases of thefts from trains, of which 14 ended in conviction. Only four of the cases were from 1st and 2nd class carriages and this small number as compared with the figures for the previous year is attributed to the safe-guarding of compartments with bolts. There were 36 thefts from wagons and 22 convictions. Out of 18 true cases of house-breaking, in which theft was the motive, only one single case ended in conviction.

Military  
Police.

50. The actual strength of the Military Police on the 1st January 1907 was 15,620 officers and men or 325 below sanctioned strength. The force continued to be divided into 13 battalions officered by 53 British officers, namely, 12 Commandants with 35 Assistant Commandants and two Adjutants with four Assistant Adjutants. The cost of the Military Police rose slightly from 53'40 to 54'48 lakhs. The number of men departmentally punished shows a decline as compared with the figures of 1905. There was a slight decrease in the number of desertions. The discipline of the force was good, and the relations of the men with the people were satisfactory. The percentage of casualties from natural causes to average strength shows a slight decrease as compared with the figures of the previous year. The percentage of admissions to hospital remained about the same. One thousand and eighty recruits were enlisted during the year, of whom 83 were Karens, 22 Shans, 81 Kachins and the remainder natives of India, as against 929 recruits enlisted in 1905. Recruiting was carried on in the same manner as before. The restriction as to the maximum standard of height in the case of Sikhs is stated to have caused some difficulty in recruiting. As regards all other classes men of good stamp were generally obtainable in sufficient number. All battalions were exercised with the Martini-Henry Rifle and musketry practice was generally good. The condition of Military Police buildings at the headquarters of battalions and at outposts was satisfactory. During the year there were seven cases of escape from Military Police custody as against four in 1905. A bad case of escape was that of a deserter of the 90th Punjabis from Military Police custody at Mogok.

Punitive  
Police.

51. Three detachments of punitive police were quartered for varying periods on certain villages situated in the Hanthawaddy, Prome and Yamethin Districts respectively. In the case of the first two districts the villages were concerned in extensive cattle thefts and the villages punished in the Yamethin District were guilty of systematically harbouring a gang of dacoits. The cost of the police levied on the villages concerned amounted to about Rs. 1,600 and Rs. 1,400, respectively, in the cases of the Hanthawaddy and Prome villages and to Rs. 5,200 in the case of Yamethin.

Village  
Administra-  
tion.

52. There were 18,035 village headmen in the Province at the end of 1906 as compared with 18,315 in the previous year. A third of the decrease is due to the exclusion of the villages of the Mōng Mit State from the Ruby Mines District. A large decrease of 86 in the number of headmen in the Lower Chindwin District is accounted for by the breaking up of 13 circles and the arrangement of the villages composing them in groups under independent headmen. The application of sections 2 to 13 of the Village Act to the Salween District increased the number of headmen in the Tenasserim Division. The number of headmen in charge of circles continued steadily to decrease and fell from 675 to 636. The

inclusion of the Salween District entailed an addition of 6 to the total number, so that the real decrease is 45. Disintegration was most rapid in the Sagaing Division, where 17 circles were split up, the Meiktila Division coming next with 6. Progress was made during the year in the work of defining and demarcating village boundaries and issuing maps to headmen. There was an increase of 5, from 632 to 637, in the number of headmen exercising special criminal powers and of 11, from 863 to 874, in the number of those exercising special civil powers. Fines inflicted by headmen amounted to Rs. 1,30,106, as against Rs. 1,52,448 in 1905. Except in the Meiktila and Arakan Divisions the decrease was general. It was largest in the Pegu and Tenasserim Divisions. The number of revisions of headmen's orders fell from 10,707 to 9,069. It is said that many cases which have been examined do not find a place in the returns. As in former years there was a general consensus of opinion that the judicial work of headmen is, on the whole, satisfactory. The work done by village headmen in the assessment and collection of revenue is generally commended and the number of cases in which it has been necessary to punish headmen for misappropriation or fraudulent alterations and omissions in assessment rolls and tax tickets remained small. Headmen were again reported to be generally apathetic as regards excise and opium cases. It is admitted that their assistance is given when required, but they do not endeavour to detect cases by themselves, and they tolerate breaches of the law not brought to their notice by an excise or police officer. The reports are almost unanimous in acknowledging the invaluable assistance rendered by headmen to the police in the detection of crime. The work done by headmen in the collection of vital statistics and with respect to agriculture and famine is satisfactory. In Myingyan scarcity was averted by their efforts in encouraging the cultivation of ground-nuts. In some places the rules regarding the treatment of cattle disease are not yet understood. Sanitation has been improved in many instances through fear of plague, and for the most part the reports on this point are more satisfactory than usual. Three hundred and thirty-two headmen were removed or dismissed, 74 suspended, and 945 fined, as against 316, 37, and 965, respectively, in 1905. The number rewarded rose from 713 to 800, a satisfactory increase taking place in the Tenasserim Division, where the practice of presenting rewards at a public durbar was introduced. In the Irrawaddy Division the practice of holding Divisional Durbars was continued throughout the year, with great success. The number of villages fined otherwise than under the Track Law was 229 against 233 in 1905. An outbreak of crime in Toungoo caused an increase in the number of fines in the Tenasserim Division. The large increase in the Sagaing Division is due to villages in the Sagaing and Shwebo Districts having been fined for suppressing evidence in cases where telegraph insulators were broken and other wanton damage was caused to Government property. The increase in the Meiktila Division appears to be mostly due to the strict enforcement of fencing in the Yamethin District. The result of the efforts made in the Pegu and Tharrawaddy Districts to induce villagers to defend themselves against dacoits has been disappointing. (On the other hand, two conspicuous instances of bravery in attacking dacoits armed with firearms occurred in the Amherst District and it is reported that the experiment of arming villagers with cross-bows in that district and in the Thaton District has been attended with success. The decrease which occurred in 1905 in the number of villages fined under the Track Law was maintained. During the year there were seven cases in which persons were ordered to remove from their villages to some other locality under the Village Act or Regulation, of which four occurred in the Pegu Division.) A notorious cattle thief was sent from Pegu to Mergui and an organiser of elephant thefts was removed to Toungoo from the Siamese border of the Amherst District.

53. The Police Force in Rangoon Town continued to be administered separately from the force in the rest of the Province. Progress was made in carrying out the reforms sanctioned by the Government of India and His Majesty's Secretary of State in consequence of the recommendations of the Police Commission, and since the close of the year all these measures of reform have

CHAP. III.—  
 PART  
 II.—

been carried into effect. During the year the Commissioner's status was assimilated to that of a Deputy Inspector-General. The Government of India have accepted the Lieutenant-Governor's recommendation that the Commissioner should continue to be directly under the Local Government and that the Rangoon police should not be merged into the general police force of the Province. On the 1st January 1907 the sanctioned strength of the Town Police was 945 officers and men, 8 more than in the previous year, and the actual force was 10 below strength. The total cost amounted to Rs. 4,07,891, an increase of Rs. 46,095. The conduct of the force was better than in the preceding year. There was a substantial decrease from 383 to 320 in the number of departmental punishments; dismissals and removals fell from 31 to 26 and only two of the force were convicted by Magistrates, as against 10 in the year 1905. There was also a satisfactory increase in the number of rewards given for good conduct. The decrease of about 4,000 (from 13,735 to 9,776) in the number of cognisable cases is entirely due to the treatment of cases under section 41 of the Rangoon Police Act as non-cognisable. Offences under the Indian Penal Code increased by 206 cases. The increase is almost accounted for by the increase in the number of true cases of thefts reported from 856 to 1,040 or by 21 per cent. The number of robberies, though not in itself large, has increased every year since 1904. Theft has increased annually since 1903; but the increase in the year under review was abnormal. This increase of thefts and robberies is serious and the attention of the Commissioner has been drawn to the matter. The improvement as regards house-breaking cases anticipated in 1905 has taken place, though the number of these cases was greater than in 1903 or 1904. The increase in the number of cases under the Excise and Opium Acts is to be attributed to the activity of the Excise Department and of the Police. The percentage of convictions to cases investigated, a valuable criterion of police work, was lower than the low percentage of the previous year. At the same time, the percentage of convictions to cases brought to trial was high. The deduction is that while detection is susceptible of much improvement, cases taken into Court are properly investigated and prosecuted. The percentage of convictions in Sessions trials was reasonably high, amounting to 80 per cent. The failure of detection in murder cases and in cases of serious offences against the person is noticeable. Unfortunately there are practical difficulties, which appear to be insuperable, in the way of making unlawful the possession or carrying of large clasp-knives so often used in cases of murder or serious hurt. Although the number of habitual criminals confined in jail increased, the anticipation expressed by the Commissioner in his Report for the year 1905 that crime would as a consequence diminish has not been fulfilled. The number of absconding criminals proclaimed continued to increase, but there was a considerable decline in the number arrested during the year. The Rangoon Police Act has now been amended so as to enable the police to arrest persons committing offences under section 41 of the Act whose names and addresses cannot be ascertained immediately; and a provision has been enacted increasing the stringency of the law against begging. These measures will enable the police to deal more effectively with criminals found loitering in suspicious circumstances, and will, it is anticipated, check to some extent the immigration from India of the necessitous and undesirable idlers who in the past have resorted in large numbers to Burma.

### Criminal Justice.

Courts.

54. The administration of Criminal Justice in the Province was in the hands of the Chief Court, Lower Burma, assisted by 249 Judges and Magistrates and 25 Benches of Honorary Magistrates and of the Judicial Commissioner, Upper Burma, who had under his control 193 Judges and Magistrates and six Benches. There was a total increase of 22 Judges and Magistrates and of three Benches, most of the additional officers being absorbed in Lower Burma. If Benches are left out of account 131 Europeans and 316 Natives acted as Judges and Magistrates as compared with 127 Europeans and 298 Natives in 1905.

55. The number of offences reported during the year 1906 (90,804) was considerably below the figure of the previous year (93,310). The improvement was confined to Lower Burma, there being a normal rise of 415 cases in Upper Burma. An examination of the Lower Burma figures shows, however, that there was very little change in the total number of serious offences. The decrease was confined to nine districts and is almost entirely accounted for by a falling off of 3,745, 853 and 649 cases respectively under the Police, Vaccination and Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Acts in Rangoon, although offences under the Municipal Acts increased at the same time by 1,700. Variations under the head of cognizable crime have already been commented on in paragraph 45. Out of the total offences reported 88,071 cases were brought to trial before the Courts and 78,377 were returned as true. The percentage in each case was much the same as in 1905. Eighty-nine thousand three hundred and thirty-seven persons were convicted out of 154,318 under trial during the year. In 1905 the corresponding figures were 92,323 and 155,994 so that the proportion of convictions fell off somewhat. The number of complaints dismissed under sections 203 and 204 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, and of cases dealt with under section 562 increased to a satisfactory extent in Lower Burma, but fell off slightly in Upper Burma. Six thousand five hundred and seven persons were under trial at the end of the year, the rise of over 600 persons being shared by both sections of the Province.

CHAP. III—  
PROSECUTION  
OFFENCES.

56. The number of cases disposed of during the year fell from 88,713 to 86,858. Only 21,336 cases were tried by Benches of Honorary Magistrates against 25,574. The percentage of convictions was practically the same in Lower Burma and fell off in Upper Burma, while the average duration of each case remained unchanged in Upper Burma at 9 days and rose from 11 to 12 days in Lower Burma. The proportion of cases tried summarily was 40 per cent. in Lower Burma and 25 per cent. in Upper Burma as compared with percentages of 44 and 24 in 1905. In Sessions cases 694 persons were tried with assessors in Lower Burma and 10 in Upper Burma and 127 were tried by jury in Lower Burma. As usual the Judge differed from the assessors in a large number of cases. More cases were dealt with by Sessions Judges during the year. The percentage of convictions in Sessions cases improved in Lower Burma and fell off in Upper Burma. Eighty-five cases were committed to the Chief Court as compared with 53 in 1905, while references for confirmation of death sentences declined from 96 to 80.

Disposal of  
cases.

57. Fines were inflicted on 67,890 persons, the total being 4,062 less than that of 1905 owing mainly to the smaller number of prosecutions under special and local laws in Rangoon. On the other hand the average fine was higher in Lower Burma and the total amount of the fines imposed rose considerably from 778 to 816 lakhs. Three thousand one hundred and eighty-five persons were sentenced to be whipped. This figure represents an increase of 266 persons and is equal to a percentage of 28.7 of the total number of cases in which whipping might legally have been inflicted as compared with 26.7 per cent. in the previous year. The amount of compensation paid to complainants remained practically the same. Death sentences numbered 87 against 80 and sentences of transportation and of rigorous imprisonment were more numerous. An unsatisfactory feature of the reports is the proportionate increase, especially noticeable in Lower Burma, in sentences of simple imprisonment and imprisonment for short periods and in sentences of whipping of ten stripes or less. Eighteen boys, three more than in 1905, were sent to a Reformatory school and there was a substantial improvement in the number of first offenders released under section 562 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. Steps were taken by the Chief Court with a view to encouraging applications for the conferment of powers under this section on and class Magistrates in outlying townships.

Punish-  
ments.

58. The number of regular appeals disposed of during the year rose from 7,212 to 7,333, the increase being confined to Lower Burma. The percentage of

Appeals.

**Cases III.—** sentences confirmed, 59.5 in Upper Burma and 69.4 in Lower Burma, did not differ much from the figures of the previous year. The appellate work of the Chief Court continues to increase in volume. The Local Government appealed to the Chief Court against sentences of acquittal in the case of ten persons and was successful as regards six out of the ten. In Upper Burma one case involving 23 persons was appealed to the Judicial Commissioner with the result that a new trial was ordered. Sentences were enhanced on appeal in only three cases, all in Upper Burma. The number of appeals pending trial at the end of the year diminished to some extent in both sections of the Province and the average duration fell from 18 and 14 to 17 and 13 days respectively in Lower and Upper Burma.

**Revision.**

59. Inspection and revision continued to receive the special attention of Judges and Magistrates. In this way a very large portion of the work of subordinate Magistrates comes under observation and opportunities of guidance and correction as well as means of preventing and remedying injustice are afforded. The total number of persons whose cases were dealt with in revision increased from 26,623 to 30,889, the expansion being shared by Upper and Lower Burma. The original sentence was confirmed in 22,898 cases, reduced or altered in 320, and reversed in 1,137. Interferences were proportionately rather more numerous than in the previous year.

**Prisons.**

**Accommodation.**

60. The closing of the District Jail at Pakōkku, the opening of a new jail for 100 prisoners at Mogōk and the addition of 12 cells to the Akyab Prison left the Province with 6 Central and 25 District jails providing accommodation for 15,322 prisoners as compared with 15,284 during the year 1905. The daily average population was 13,370, but this number was much below the corresponding figure at the end of the year (14,129), which may or may not have been the maximum. It must also be remembered that the whole accommodation is not interchangeable for all classes of prisoners and cannot always be utilized. The available accommodation is not therefore much in excess of existing requirements and no considerable reduction is possible. For this reason the proposal to close the Rangoon Jail has been postponed. There is little doubt that at some future date the Rangoon Jail will have to be moved, but the necessity of providing accommodation elsewhere in place of it and the expense involved render it impossible to undertake the removal at present. As it is, limitations of space in the jails of the Province render it difficult to provide for the effective separation of juvenile from adult convicts and of habitual offenders from casual prisoners. Both these matters have received attention. Special enquiry has been made into the treatment of juvenile prisoners, and there appears to be no doubt that the existing arrangements for their accommodation are in need of improvement. The officiating Inspector-General of Prisons recommended the construction of a special jail where youthful offenders only would be confined, and where juveniles of Class A and Class B could be more effectively kept apart from one another than is the case at present. This proposal has been accepted in principle and the Meiktila Jail has been set apart for the exclusive confinement of juveniles of both classes. A proposal to construct a separate civil jail in Rangoon to relieve the present over-crowding of civil prisoners in the Rangoon Central Jail has been approved. The experiment of placing habitual prisoners in central jails under the charge of special convicts of their own class instead of under casual prisoners employed as convict officers has been tried not only as a means of maintaining discipline but in order to prevent the association of casual and habitual offenders. The experiment is reported to have proved satisfactory, but it is doubtful whether the system is consistent with the orders prohibiting the employment of habituales as prison officers.

**Prisoners.**

61. The number of prisoners received into jails during the year showed an increase over the total of the previous year under all classes. The year opened with a total population of 13,228 and closed with a population of 14,129. The

number of prisoners received by direct committal and by transfer was 35,674 compared with 34,123, and the number discharged from all causes totalled 34,773 against 33,772 in 1905. The total daily average rose from 12,637 to 13,370, which is the highest daily average on record since 1898 when the daily average population amounted to 12,672. Releases under the ordinary remission rules rose from 4,694 in 1905 to 4,765 in 1906. The number of reconvicted prisoners was 4,420 against 4,167 in 1905 and the ratio per cent. to the total number of convicts admitted was 22.94 against 22.87 in the previous year. The Bassein Jail again had the highest ratio, *vis.*, 37.87. The number of youthful offenders under 15 years of age committed to jail was 39, of whom 11 had been previously convicted against 49 and 9 respectively in 1905.

CHAP. III.—  
PRISONS  
TION.

62. In spite of the increase in the daily average number of convicts from 11,951 to 12,606, the number of prison offences declined from 44,916 to 42,109. Seventeen out of the total number were dealt with by criminal courts and the rest by Jail Superintendents. In the previous year 25 offences came before Magistrates. A case of serious assault occurred at the Mōnywa Jail on the 21st December, when a convict night-watchman was struck on the head with a turmeric pounder by a prisoner belonging to the A class and undergoing a sentence of three months' rigorous imprisonment. The injury proved fatal almost instantaneously. The Sessions Judge, Sagaing Division, who tried the case, sentenced the culprit to death, but the sentence was commuted on appeal to transportation for life. The reduction in the number of punishments was general under the several forms of punishment with the exception of punishments "not classified" and "fetters and hand-cuffing behind or to a staple." It is noteworthy that the punishment of penal diet with and without solitary confinement fell from 6,803 to 2,547. The ratio of all punishments to average population fell from 375.83 to 334.04. Of the total number (42,109) of offences committed by all classes during the year 22,484 were committed by habituels, showing that though the habitual class in jail during the year represented only 37.24 per cent. of the average population, about 53.9 per cent. of the punishments were inflicted on them. From these figures it is clear that the chief offenders against discipline are the habituels, notwithstanding their greater acquaintance with jail rules. The principle that habituels should be kept apart from casuals is fully recognized and every endeavour is made to carry it out to the utmost limit. The total number of floggings decreased from 160 in 1905 to 129 in 1906. The number of punishments inflicted on convict officers, who averaged 2.40 during the year, was 11,226 or 4.7 punishments per man as compared with 12,986 or 5.6 per man in 1905. The special privileges allowed to convict officers as an experimental measure have, on the whole, been found to work satisfactorily. There were twelve escapes altogether six from inside the jail and six from outside. Of prisoners who escaped 11 were recaptured during the year.

Discipline.

63. The gross cost of upkeep of the jails increased from Rs. 7,03,946 to Rs. 8,06,500. The increase of Rs. 1,02,554 was chiefly due (1) to the rise in the jail population, (2) to the improved rates of pay sanctioned for the jailor staff, (3) to the expenses consequent on the opening of a new jail at Mogh, (4) to the increased stocks of rations in hand at the end of the year and (5) to the high rates paid for dietary articles, especially paddy and *pōgya*. Deducting the cash earnings of prisoners from the gross cost of maintenance, the net cost of the prison administration was Rs. 6,00,732 against Rs. 4,96,250 or Rs. 44-15-0 per head of strength against Rs. 39-4-0 in the previous year. The manufacture profits fell from Rs. 2,07,696 to Rs. 2,03,768. By the employment of convict labour in the execution of "jail works and repairs" a saving of Rs. 21,086 accrued to the Government during 1906. The profits of the Jail Branch Press, which increased from Rs. 1,22,498 to Rs. 1,61,050 are not included in the total earnings. The total estimated value of vegetables produced from jail gardens was Rs. 78,647 as compared with Rs. 71,972 in the previous year. The value of paddy, dhāl, *pōgya*, condiments and tamarind, obtained from jail farms was Rs. 25,355 as compared with Rs. 24,509 in 1905.

Financial.

CHIEF CLERK—  
 PROSECUTOR  
 VICE

64. The health of the prison population showed a decided improvement during the year under review. In spite of the fact that the daily average number in confinement rose from 12,637 to 13,370, the ratio per mille of average strength as regards admissions to hospital fell from 320.33 to 279.43, of the daily average number of sick from 16.62 to 15.78 and of deaths from all causes from 17.01 to 14.31 as compared with 1905. These are the best results obtained during the past fifteen years. The ratio per cent. of opium consumers admitted into jail increased from 11.57 to 14.17. Bhamo and Kyaukpyu again show the highest percentages, namely, 72.22 and 39.9, respectively. Seventeen per cent. of the total mortality was amongst opium consumers.

### Civil Justice.

Courts

65. The administration of Civil Justice during the year 1906 continued to be under the control of the Chief Court, Lower Burma, with four Judges and of the Judicial Commissioner, Upper Burma. In Lower Burma there were 6 Divisional and 21 District Courts and in Upper Burma 4 of the former and 16 of the latter. Each district is divided into Civil subdivisions and Civil townships. The number of District Courts and Courts of higher grade remained unchanged, while there was a net increase of two Courts of lower grade in Lower Burma and a decrease of one in Upper Burma. One hundred and four Europeans and 234 Natives were employed as Judges at the close of the year as compared with 95 and 239 in the previous year. The increase in the number of Europeans is mainly accounted for by the system recently adopted of posting junior Assistant Commissioners to the additional charge of Township Courts as part of their training. In the case of Sessions and Divisional Courts the most important change effected in the year was the re-distribution of work between the Sessions Judges of Bassein and Prome. The arrangement by which the jurisdiction of the Sessions Judge of the Prome Division now includes the Thayetmyo District has resulted in that officer being heavily overburdened with work, and cannot be regarded as a permanent settlement of the difficulty. To afford the necessary relief, proposals have been laid before the Government of India for the appointment of another Divisional and Sessions Judge. The aggregate receipts of all Courts, Civil, Criminal and Revenue, amounted to Rs. 28,60,436 and the aggregate charges to Rs. 45,12,073. Separate figures are no longer furnished for each class of Courts. So far as corresponding figures for 1905 can be obtained by addition of those shown in the Civil and Criminal statements, the receipts, Rs. 25,62,020, are about 3 lakhs less than those for 1906, while the charges, Rs. 33,10,202, are more than 12 lakhs less. These large differences are, no doubt, due partly to the increased accuracy of the new system of calculation. It seems probable that the figures for charges on account of buildings, stationery and printing were very imperfect under the old system. At the same time a considerable increase in the total charges was no doubt due to the increased number of Judicial officers in 1906.

Volume and  
 classification  
 of litigation.

66. There was a normal increase from 61,483 to 63,622 in the number of suits instituted in Lower Burma and in Upper Burma a more noticeable expansion of litigation (24,780 suits against 21,488). The rise in the number of suits, which was most marked in the Tharrawaddy District and throughout the dry zone of Upper Burma, came mainly under the head of suits for money or moveable property, the total of which rose from 75,644 to 80,743 and represented in the year of report as in the previous year over 91 per cent. of the cases which came before the Courts. Township Courts in both sections of the Province and Subdivisional Courts in Lower Burma were responsible for the bulk of the increased work. The aggregate value of suits showed a very substantial increase from 181 to 225 lakhs, mainly in the various classes of Courts in Lower Burma, other than Small Cause Courts.

Disposal of  
 cases.

67. The number of regular civil suits decided during 1906 was 88,344 as compared with 81,271 in 1905. Of these only 22,006, against 21,234, were contested. At the close of the year 8,960 cases were pending, 600 more than at the

end of 1905, and the average duration of cases in Lower Burma was greater. The number of cases pending in the Chief Court and the average duration of cases rose considerably. To relieve congestion on the original side of the Chief Court an additional Judge was sanctioned for six months, and proposals for the constitution of a City Court are under consideration. Miscellaneous cases, which in the Subordinate Courts consist chiefly of applications for removal of attachment and in District Courts of applications for probate and for succession certificates rose in number from 10,758 to 11,682.

CHAP. III.—  
PROTECTOR.  
TION.

68. The total number of applications for execution of decrees rose by 8,026 to 53,535 and the amount realised also increased by 3½ lakhs to nearly 27 lakhs. The rise in the number of applications was common to both sections of the Province, while the increase in the amount realised was almost entirely confined to Lower Burma. Twenty-one thousand six hundred and twenty-four applications or 48 per cent. of the total were wholly infructuous as compared with 44 per cent. in 1905. Imprisonments of judgment debtors increased in Lower Burma, but declined somewhat in Upper Burma, and property of the debtor was sold in 6,218 cases against 5,128. The large increase in the number of applications for attachment before judgment has attracted the attention of Government.

Execution of  
decrees.

69. Five hundred and sixty-five applications were made to the Courts under the provisions of the Code of Civil Procedure relating to insolvency as compared with 409 in 1905, and 114 were pending at the end of the year. Less than Rs. 4,000 were realised from the assets of insolvents. Discharges in 1906 (64) were much more numerous than in the previous year (15).

Insolvency  
proceedings.

70. The number of regular appeals decided during the year (4,227) exceeded the total of the previous year by 293. The average duration of cases was greater in Lower Burma and less in Upper Burma. Appellants were wholly or partly successful in 36 per cent. of the cases decided as compared with 37 per cent. in 1905.

Appeals.

### Registration.

71. The registration of deeds continued to be governed during the year 1906 by the provisions of the Indian Registration Act, 1877, in Lower Burma and in Upper Burma by the Upper Burma Registration Regulation, 1897. No changes were made in the Law or in the Statutory Rules. Proposals for the extension to Upper Burma of the Lower Burma Act were not accepted by the Local Government and revised draft rules have been framed under section 8 of the Regulation, which are designed to render the working of Registration Offices in Upper Burma independent of the Indian Registration Act and of the rules made thereunder. A new Registration Office was opened at Buthidaung in the Akyab District from the 23rd July 1906, and the offices at Payagale in the Pegu District and at Sinbaungwe in the Thayetmyo District were abolished during the year. Extensive revisions in District Registration establishments were effected in the period under report; in some instances these revisions led to increased and in others to decreased cost. Arrangements were made for the recurrent entertainment of temporary clerks at busy seasons. The system of appointing pensioners or non-officials to be Joint Sub-registrars was tried during the year, but the result of the experiment has not been altogether encouraging.

General.

72. The total number of documents compulsorily registered in Lower Burma rose by 4,400 and the aggregate value by Rs. 1,14,12,977, the percentages of increase being approximately 12 and 17 respectively. The number of sales affecting immoveable property of the value of Rs. 100 or upwards rose by 2,815 or nearly 21 per cent., the value rising correspondingly by Rs. 66,27,660 or a little over 23 per cent. The figures for mortgages showed a smaller advance, the percentages of increase in transactions and value being 7 and 10 per cent. respectively. A large proportion of this expansion was contributed by Rangoon, where a number of unusually important transactions were registered. In the Pegu and Irrawaddy Divisions the increase in the volume of registration transactions is mainly attributed

Deeds regis-  
tered.

CHAP. III.—  
PROTEC-  
TION.

to the extension of the Transfer of Property Act, 1882, the provisions of which have gradually become known. There was a slight increase in the number of compulsory registrations in Upper Burma and a corresponding increase in value. The aggregate value of immoveable property in Upper Burma affected by instruments of sale or exchange of the value of Rs. 100 and upwards and by mortgages rose by Rs. 2,31,993 or a little over 5 per cent. The aggregate value of moveable property affected by documents registered in Book 4 in Upper Burma more than doubled during the year under report, while the corresponding figures for Lower Burma remained practically stationary, though the number of transactions slightly increased.

Income and  
expenditure.

73. The total income of the Registration Department for the year 1906 amounted to Rs. 2,13,087, or Rs. 20,169 more than in 1905, while expenditure rose by Rs. 5,406 to Rs. 74,161. The income from fees increased by rather more than eleven per cent. in Lower Burma and by four per cent. in Upper Burma. Expenditure increased by Rs. 4,699 or rather more than eight per cent. in Lower Burma and by Rs. 707 or a little over six per cent. in Upper Burma. In the Lower Province the income was about three times and in Upper Burma twice the expenditure incurred, the difference between income and expenditure for the whole of Burma being Rs. 1,38,926. It must, however, be borne in mind that no share of the pay of Township Officers, who perform the greater part of the work of Registration, is included in the figures of expenditure.

#### Local Boards Administration.

74. There are no Local Boards in Burma. The District Funds in Upper Burma and the District Cess Funds in Lower Burma are administered by the Deputy Commissioners of the Districts to which they belong. Some account of their receipts and expenditure is given in paragraph 164.

#### Municipal Administration.

Rangoon  
Municipality.

75. During the year 1906-07 the Rangoon Municipal Committee held 12 general and special meetings and the average percentage of attendance at each meeting was 66. On the 29th November 1906, a general election was held. The allotted number of members to be elected by the European community is five, but only four stood for election. The vacancy was filled by the Local Government. The incidence of taxation and income per head of population in 1906-07 was Rs. 8-9-11 and Rs. 13-9-3, respectively, as compared with Rs. 7-8-4 and Rs. 11-12-8 in 1905-06. On the 31st March 1907, the total monthly rental value of buildings within the Municipality, exclusive of Port Trust, Railway and Government property, aggregated Rs. 8,05,552, or Rs. 45,548 in excess of the total monthly rental value on the 31st March 1906. Assessments on Government Railway and Port Trust property were revised and largely enhanced, and the total demand during the year on account of Municipal taxes rose from Rs. 17,04,900 to Rs. 21,51,886. Measures were taken during the year to place Municipal finances on a better footing. The rates of the general Municipal tax and of the water and scavenging taxes were raised and the expenditure was kept down as low as was compatible with efficiency. The question of revising the town assessments on a scientific basis was also considered, and the Committee, at the time, was of opinion that it would be necessary to employ the services of an expert to devise a modern system of assessments which would not only provide for a proper valuation of the different kinds of premises, but would ensure the automatic growth of Municipal revenue in proportion to the increasing prosperity of the town. It was, however, ultimately decided not to engage the services of an expert Assessor. During the year the fire brigade attended 32 fires and the total value of property destroyed was estimated at Rs. 2,83,264, as against Rs. 10,18,310 in 1905-06. Street-lighting with oil was carried out by contract as in previous years. Progress is being made by the Electric Tramway and Supply Company in carrying out preliminary works preparatory to the introduction of street-lighting by electricity and it is expected that a start will be made in this direction at the close of 1907 or

early in 1908. The Hlawga water-works were taken over from Government on the 1st July 1906. Up to the 31st March 1907, the total expenditure incurred on these works amounted to Rs. 47,24,283. A supplementary estimate for Rs. 1,42,662 was sanctioned for special repairs, towards which Rs. 58,719 were contributed by Government from Provincial funds. The works connected with the extension and improvement of the sewerage system were started on the 3rd April 1906 under Mr. Ault's supervision, and on the 31st March 1907 the whole of the air and sewage mains were completed east and west of Judah Ezekiel Street, with the exception of the out-fall end of the 36-inch sewage main and the 7-inch air main along Merchant Street, east of Judah Ezekiel street. The capital outlay on drainage works exceeded two lakhs. Proposals for establishing new Municipal markets in Rangoon were under consideration during the year. Considerable attention was devoted to the important question of the construction and repair of roads and various proposals and experiments were considered and tried. Towards the close of the year Government made a contribution of one lakh of rupees towards plague expenditure and a grant of Rs. 58,719 towards the outlay incurred on account of the Hlawga water-works.

CHAP. III.—  
PROTEC-  
TION.

76. The number of minor municipalities in the Province was raised to 43 by the grant of full municipal status to the notified area of Wakèma in the Irrawaddy Division. Including Rangoon there were 31 Municipalities in Lower Burma, Irrawaddy Division heading the list with 12, and 13 in Upper Burma. In addition to the municipalities proper there were 16 notified areas in which certain provisions of the Municipal Act were in force. Municipal affairs were managed by Committees comprising 537 members, of whom 71 (distributed over 8 municipalities) were elected by their fellow townsmen, 298 were nominated by the Commissioner or the Local Government, and the rest were members *ex-officio*. The list of members include 190 officials and 14 Europeans. Owing to continued mismanagement of its affairs by the elected Committee at Moulmein the system of election was abolished for this Municipality and a new Committee was nominated by the Local Government. General elections took place in four towns. In Pegu all seats were keenly contested and in Mandalay there was keenness among certain classes. The Bassein and Toungoo rate-payers took little or no interest in their elections.

Minor  
Municipali-  
ties and their  
Committees.

77. The average incidence per head of population of Municipal taxation in the 43 municipalities during the year rose slightly to Rs. 1-11-2 consequent on revision of assessments and levy of fresh imposts. The most important decrease was in Mandalay, where collections were backward owing to the prevalence of plague. In some cases fluctuations were apparent only, being due to changes in the period of collection of taxes and similar causes. The only important revision of assessment was in Moulmein, where increase of income exceeding Rs. 10,000 a year was obtained from one quarter of the town. Sampan taxes were imposed in Pyapôn and Kyaiklat, a conservancy tax in Mandalay and a covered area tax in Pyinmana, while the lighting tax in Kyaikto was extended to new areas. In more than one Upper Burma Municipality taxes under the Burma Municipal Act, 1898, were substituted for existing taxes under the Upper Burma Regulation.

Minor  
Municipali-  
ties; taxa-  
tion.

78. Improvements in water-supply, drainage and conservancy are matters of urgent importance in almost every town in the Province, but the progress attained in carrying out the various schemes is not so rapid as might be desired. Owing to various delays the Akyab water-works, for which a loan of three lakhs was taken up, are not so far advanced as they should be, but it is expected that the project will be finished by the rains of 1908. A tube well is being constructed at Gyobingauk, but three wells constructed at Kyaiklat have all proved failures. The latest Municipal water-supply scheme at Mandalay was not accepted by the Sanitary Board and fresh projects are being prepared. Smaller schemes were in progress or under consideration for Thatôn, Pakôkku, Mònywa and Yamèthin. Some extensions of masonry drains were carried out at Prome and Bassein and drainage schemes for Pyapôn, Mandalay and Mònywa were in train. Henzada, Wakèma and Pakôkku

Minor  
Municipali-  
ties; Public  
Health and  
Convenience.

CHAP. III.— had conservancy schemes in preparation. The prevalence of plague in many towns resulted in heavy work for Municipal officers and increased expenditure.

Prescriptions.

### Military.

79. The total strength of the troops forming the Burma garrison at the end of March 1907 was 10,696 officers and men, of whom 4,389 were Europeans.

Strength of the garrison.

80. The expenditure on Military works during the year rose from 10.51 to 14.05 lakhs, a total much in excess of the average outlay of recent years. Of this sum 8½ lakhs were spent on original works and nearly 2½ lakhs on repairs. At Maymyo the work of providing *pucca* barracks and other buildings for a full battalion of British Infantry was nearly finished, and the Native Mountain Battery lines were well advanced at an expenditure up to the end of the year of Rs. 90,000. Additional roads were also laid out and a water-supply scheme and septic tank were practically completed. Satisfactory progress was made with the construction of buildings for the accommodation of two companies of British Infantry on Mandalay Hill. The re-erection, at Rangoon, of old barracks, brought from Thayetmyo, for the accommodation of 300 Native Infantry was completed. The scheme for supplying drinking water to the whole of Rangoon Cantonment from artesian wells was carried into effect, and in addition to the projects mentioned many minor works were taken in hand at the various stations where troops are quartered.

Military works.

### Military (Volunteering).

81. There were six Volunteer Corps in Burma during the year of report: three of these, the Port Defence, the Rangoon Volunteer Rifles and the Burma Railways Corps, have their headquarters in Rangoon; the Moumein Volunteer Rifles and Artillery have their headquarters at Moulmein and the Upper Burma Volunteer Rifles at Mandalay. During the year a new company was added to the Rangoon Volunteer Rifles and the designation of the Mounted Company of the Corps was changed to the Rangoon Mounted Rifles. The total strength of the six Corps as shown by the rolls at the close of March 1907 was 2,474 adults, 282 cadet and 128 reservists, exceeding the figures of the previous year by 120 men. With 2,629 efficient exclusive of the reservists against 2,446 in 1905-06 the Corps taken together earned in capitation and other grants Rs. 1,05,272 or Rs. 5,112 more than in 1905-06. These figures do not include the 42 members of the South Andaman Rifle Corps, which for administrative purposes is attached to the Rangoon Volunteer Rifle Corps and earned in grants Rs. 1,455.

### Marine.

Light-houses and Light-ships.

82. The maintenance of the nine light-houses, the light-house tender "Ruby" and the four light-ships stationed off the coast of Burma during the year ending the 31st March 1907 cost Rs. 1,55,295, over Rs. 35,000 less than in the previous year. There were appreciable decreases in expenditure under the heads Establishment, oil, stores and contingencies and blue light composition. Receipts from light-dues fell by Rs. 68,353 to slightly over 4½ lakhs. Twenty-four cases of beri-beri occurred amongst the light-house staff, of which 3 were fatal. Monthly visits to the light-houses and light-ships were carried out by the Royal Indian Marine steamers "Mayo" and "Dalhousie." The nine light-houses with their subsidiary buildings were all maintained in good order. The dangerous rock off the pier head at Beacon Island was removed. Projects were in hand for improving the landings at Table Is and, Double Island and at Alguada; also for a new light-house on Beacon Island. Improvements to ventilation were also undertaken. A Wigham light for Zallatung anchorage was indented for. Iron-screw pile beacons were put up in "Fells" Passage and "Celerity" Passage.

Port Administration, Rangoon.

83. The income of the Rangoon Port Trust, including debt account, but excluding loans was Rs. 26,03,314 against Rs. 23,75,336 in the previous year, there being an increase in ordinary revenue under the several heads, due to a general

expansion of trade. The expenditure, including debt accounts and works financed out of surplus revenue, decreased from Rs. 29,03,318 to Rs. 26,03,476. The ordinary expenditure exhibited a decrease of Rs. 2,77,138 as compared with 1905-06 which was mainly due to no payment having been made towards fire and marine insurance, depreciation and replacement and revenue reserve funds, and to no expenditure having been incurred on plague preventive measures. The estimated capital expenditure during the year was Rs. 68,46,334 and the actual Rs. 53,71,628, the saving being caused by the temporary postponement of the schemes for river training and for the provision of fixed moorings. The year closed with a credit balance of Rs. 10,37,160. During the year the Port Commissioners raised two 4 per cent. debenture loans, one of 11 lakhs and another of 40 lakhs. The average rate of tenders accepted was Rs. 93-8-5 for the former loan and Rs. 93-4-9 for the latter loan. The total debt at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 1,08,74,041. The Budget estimate provided Rs. 17,88,000 for capital expenditure on the new harbour works sanctioned in 1901, and the actual outlay was Rs. 17,48,999. Since the commencement of the works Rs. 66,05,035 have been expended out of sanctioned estimates of Rs. 88,99,424, and at the end of the year the works were nearing completion. During the year three additional sets of swinging moorings were laid down in the Pegu river. The steam buoy vessel "Goliath" arrived from England on the 13th July 1906, and has been a great acquisition to the Port Trust flotilla. The scheme for training the Rangoon River was much discussed during the year and two Committees sat on it. Shortly after the close of the year a project was finally adopted involving an estimated outlay of 125 lakhs. The question of dredging the channels at the mouth of the harbour was under consideration, but no definite conclusion was arrived at. A modified scheme of wharf extension was sanctioned by Government, but the Port Commissioners were not satisfied, and continued to press the Local Government to make over the control of the foreshore to them. With a view to providing more accommodation for the growing trade of the Port, 28.6 acres of land including 2,000 feet of foreshore were acquired at Botataung. The price of the land as fixed under the Land Acquisition Act amounted to nearly 36 lakhs. Proposals for acquiring land on the river bank at Kemmendine were also considered, and were carried into effect after the close of the year at a cost of over 5 lakhs.

84. The 21 pilots of the Port of Rangoon earned for the Pilot Fund Rs. 2,82,423 or Rs. 15,974 more than in 1905-06, and for themselves Rs. 1,87,984, or Rs. 12,495 more. An addition of Rs. 5,000 brought the Depreciation Fund up to Rs. 20,000, while the closing balance of the Pilot Fund on the 31st March 1907 stood at Rs. 72,363. Four of the 21 pilots were special pilots, not available for general duty. They were the commanders of the British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers plying between Rangoon, Moulmein and Mergui and of the new Port Trust tug "Hlaing."

85. Receipts during 1906-07 of the six minor ports for which separate Port Funds are maintained, declined by Rs. 38,686 to Rs. 3,31,449, while the expenditure rose from Rs. 3,41,785 to Rs. 3,68,945. Port Officers appointed by Government continued to manage the Ports of Moulmein, Akyab and Bassein, where there are special pilot services consisting of eight, two and four pilots respectively, two of the eight at Moulmein being the Commanders of the British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers which ply thrice a week between that port and Rangoon. The expenditure of the Pilot Funds at the three ports, Rs. 94,161, exceeded the receipts by Rs. 4,213 and the closing balance fell to Rs. 19,944. The administration of the three remaining ports of Mergui, Tavoy and Kyaukpyu, none of which has a Pilot Fund, is in the hands of the Deputy Commissioners of the districts bearing these names.

86. Four hundred and ninety-two steamers and 127 sailing vessels arrived in Burma from foreign countries during the year 1906-07. The number of arrivals was somewhat in excess of the figures of the previous year, but the total tonnage,

**CHAP. III.—** 1,068,824 tons, was almost exactly the same. Of these vessels 379 steamers and 8 sailing ships with a tonnage of 889,382 tons arrived at Rangoon, the same comment being applicable to the figures. In the coasting trade of the Province there was a more substantial advance, for though arrivals of sailing vessels declined from 1,416 to 1,347 the number of steamers rose from 1,969 to 2,035 and tonnage from 2.14 to 2.45 million tons. One thousand and fifty-two or rather more than half the steamers were bound for Rangoon, while only 187 sailing ships had a like destination. Of the tonnage Rangoon accounted for 1.80 million tons. The size of steamers visiting Rangoon continued to increase, and no fewer than 416 vessels exceeding 4,000 tons entered the port. Two hundred and seventy-three vessels sailed under a foreign flag as against 171 in the previous year, the colours of Norway, Germany, Japan, Austria-Hungary and Holland being most prominent.

**Commercial  
Marine :—  
Wracks and  
casualties.**

87. The schooner "Hoe Soon," of 79 tons register, was wrecked in the Bay of Bengal on the 23rd April 1906. The master and crew on finding that the ship was sinking put off on a raft and, after being knocked about for three hours in a rough sea, were picked up by the "Ramapoor," which plies between Rangoon and Moulmein. The Court of Enquiry which investigated the casualty came to the conclusion that the loss of the vessel was due to stress of weather. On the 20th September 1906 the British India Company's steamer "Palamcotta" collided with the pilot brig "Kyauktan" at the mouth of the Rangoon river. The Court of Enquiry found the master of the brig guilty of negligence in not having his lights correct and he was severely censured. Altogether during the year, in the Rangoon harbour, there were 29 accidents to vessels in charge of Assistant Harbour Masters or Pilots. In connection with these accidents eight Courts of Enquiry were held; one Pilot was reduced for a short period and two Assistant Harbour Masters were warned to be more careful in future.

**Government  
Steamers  
and  
Launches.**

88. The three Royal Indian Marine vessels "Irrawaddy," "Sladen" and "Bhamo" carried by river over twelve thousand troops and followers, with ammunition, horses and cattle, besides 7,739 tons of stores and 1 crore and 11½ lakhs of specie. They earned Rs. 2,83,474, or a decrease of Rs. 24,765 as compared with the earnings for the year 1905-06, due in a measure to the vessels not being so fully employed as in the previous year. Nine new vessels were added to the Government flotilla, one was sold and one foundered, leaving at the end of the year 97 vessels of all descriptions, including 8 house-boats, 1 barge, 8 flats and 1 schooner. All the vessels were fully employed throughout the year. The total expenditure on the up-keep of these vessels, including 4 per cent. interest on the balance of their cost, was Rs. 6,42,454, while they earned Rs. 4,26,815. Seventeen launches earned more than the cost of their up-keep, the profit on the working of three paddlers in Upper Burma amounting to over Rs. 38,000. One flat, one house-boat and two launches are under construction.

**Marine  
works and  
surveys.**

89. Landing stages were completed at Insein and at Sinbyu-in, on the Tavoy river, and one at Dedaye was well advanced. The wharf at Kyetsabyin was completed, and wharves Nos. 10 and 12 at Bassein were replaced by iron pontoon and swing-bridges at the cost of the port funds. The new godown north of Mission Street jetty at Moulmein was completed. A theodolite survey of the Pegu river on a 4-inch scale which was commenced in April 1906 was carried up the river for 11 miles. A survey of the Bassein creek on a scale of 6 inches to the nautical mile was also commenced during the year and is approaching completion. The Western Channel, the Spit Channel, the Middle Bank Channel, the Hmawun Lump, the DeSilva Shoal, the Lifey Reach and the Choki Lump tracks of the Rangoon river were periodically surveyed, and the Hastings and Monkey Point Channels were examined regularly every few days as a sudden and unaccountable shoaling took place in December 1906. The Royal Indian Marine steamer "Investigator" was engaged during the year in making a detailed survey of the Arakan coast from Nurbudda Shoal to Khwa, including the drawing up of a large scale plan of the whole of Andrew Bay. At the close of the year an area extending from 18° to 18° 22' N. as far out as between 40 and 50 fathoms had been surveyed, and a 3-inch plan of Andrew Bay had also been completed.

## CHAPTER IV.

### PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

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Forty-first issue of the Annual Statement of the Coasting Trade and Navigation of British India for the year ending the 31st March 1907, Tables 3 to 12.  
Twelfth issue of the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1906-07 and preceding years—Table XIX.

#### Agriculture.

90. The creation of a separate Agricultural Department in Burma took effect from the 15th October 1906. The superior staff consists of a Director and a Deputy Director of Agriculture, an all-round Agriculturist to be Principal of the Agricultural College to be established at Mandalay, a Chemist and a Botanist. The scheme for the Department contemplates three main agricultural stations: one at Mandalay, the College Station under the charge of the Principal of the College; one at Hmawbi in the Hanthawaddy District, for the study of rice and other Lower Burma crops; and one in the dry zone of Upper Burma. These two last stations will be under the charge of the Deputy Director of Agriculture. The land for the first two named has already been acquired: the site for the third will be selected shortly by the Expert Staff in consultation. Meanwhile preliminary operations have been started on the farms at Mandalay and Hmawbi. Apart from his connection with the Agricultural College and the Veterinary Department, the main duty of the Director of Agriculture is to supervise the working of experimental farms, to promote by all possible means the improvement of old and the introduction of new staples, to popularize more productive or economical methods of cultivation and to combat the pests and diseases which injure agricultural produce and agricultural stock. Agricultural Department.

91. The annual returns of agricultural stock show a moderate improvement under all heads except that the number of mules and buffalo calves has declined somewhat. There were altogether in the Province on the 30th June 1907  $1\frac{1}{4}$  million bulls and bullocks,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  million cows and nearly a million calves, 750,000 buffaloes with 326,000 calves, 23,000 sheep, 128,000 goats, 55,000 horses and ponies and eighteen hundred mules. The health of cattle was on the whole good during the year. The number of deaths from contagious diseases fell from 111,770 to Agricultural stock and cattle

**CHAP. IV.—40,715.** The improvement was common to all three diseases which find a place in the returns, the mortality for the year being distributed as follows:—rinderpest 33,106, foot-and-mouth disease 3,404, and anthrax (including other diseases classed as anthrax by the ordinary cultivator) 4,205. Pakòkku and Toungoo suffered severely from rinderpest with 7,000 and 5,000 deaths and there was a good deal of anthrax in Bassein, Myaungmya and Akyab. Neither of the last mentioned diseases was prevalent to any extent in Upper Burma. The number of inoculations against rinderpest declined from 6,335 to 3,617 owing to the less serious nature of the outbreaks. The rules regarding segregation appear to be generally well observed, but the villagers still require to be taught the value of inoculation.

Civil Veteri-  
nary Depart-  
ment.

92. In August 1905 an extensive re-organization of the Subordinate Staff of the Civil Veterinary Department was sanctioned by the Secretary of State. In place of 82 Veterinary Assistants on pay ranging from Rs. 30 to Rs. 60 whose total salaries amounted to Rs. 52,152 a year, the sanctioned scheme contemplates the ultimate appointment of five Deputy Superintendents divided into four grades carrying salaries of Rs. 500, Rs. 400, Rs. 300 and Rs. 200, of twelve Inspectors divided into three grades carrying salaries of Rs. 150, Rs. 125 and Rs. 100, and of one hundred and twenty Veterinary Assistants divided into four grades carrying salaries at the rate of Rs. 60, Rs. 50—2—60, Rs. 40—2—50 and Rs. 30—2—40 a month. The cost of 70 Veterinary Assistants, who will be employed in Lower Burma, will be met from the District Cess Fund, while the expenditure involved in the entertainment of 50 Veterinary Assistants, who will be employed in Upper Burma, will be borne by Provincial Revenues, to which the cost of the supervising staff of Deputy Superintendents and Inspectors will also be debited. The extra outlay involved in the whole scheme when in full operation will amount to Rs. 61,968 a year, of which Rs. 46,068 will be payable from Provincial Revenues and the remainder, Rs. 15,900, from local funds. The revised scale will be worked up to gradually as qualified candidates become available. On the 31st March 1907 seven Assistants had been promoted to be Inspectors, but serious difficulties were still experienced in the recruitment of Assistants and their number fell from 79 to 78. Steps are being taken towards the appointment of two Deputy Superintendents to begin with and of additional Inspectors. The total cost of the Department for the year was Rs. 1,47,037, nearly Rs. 8,000 more than in 1905-06. Of this amount Imperial funds provided Rs. 29,459, Provincial Rs. 78,191 and Local Rs. 39,387.

Pony and  
cattle  
breeding.

93. The four Government stallions standing at Tharrawaddy, Lashio and Thamakan covered 112 mares or 16 more than in the previous year. The two Deli stallions at Tharrawaddy covered 82 mares and the foals inspected are reported to be satisfactory. There are no Government bulls at stud in Burma and the only direct encouragement given by Government to cattle-breeders is by the holding of agricultural shows at which prizes and medals are given for the best cattle in the various classes. The only show of importance during the year was held at Bhamo. Out of 169 exhibits 71 buffaloes were entered and it was in this class alone that anything beyond mediocrity was attained. A small local show was held at Pindaya in the Southern Shan States.

Prices.

94. Harvest prices of paddy were abnormally high throughout the Province, in many markets all previous records were surpassed and it is said that in most districts the anticipation of large profits has induced the cultivators to trench on their food-stocks. The inflation of prices was mainly due to depleted stocks in Europe and to scarcity in Eastern Bengal. The average price ranged from Rs. 1-12-0 to Rs. 2 per maund, against an approximate normal of Rs. 1-8-0. In Arakan prices were extremely high owing to the large export to Chittagong and the keen competition between the European and Native rice merchants at the export centre of Akyab, where prices rose from Rs. 95 to Rs. 200 per hundred baskets (9-gallon). In Hanthawaddy the prices per 100 baskets were Rs. 115 in January, Rs. 120 in February and Rs. 125 in March. In Pegu prices opened with Rs. 110 and rose to Rs. 130. In Tharrawaddy prices ruled high owing to

failure of crops in recent years; agriculturists realized good prices, but it was a bad year for speculators. In Prome prices were high owing to short crops. In Bassein there was a rise in the price of Rs. 22 per 100 baskets over last year due to competition between rice-millers; and in this district as in Hanthawaddy, Pyapôn, Amherst, Mandalay and elsewhere, the demand for the smaller rice mills which have been started in the districts by Native merchants has been a factor in causing higher prices. In Mandalay there was a general rise in prices notwithstanding a greater output, ascribed to the erection of additional local rice mills and a decreased export to Lower Burma in consequence. At the end of June about 25 per cent. of the estimated exportable surplus of the province was held over by speculators who awaited a further rise in prices before marketing their stocks. The prices of wheat were generally much higher than those of the previous year and also exceeded the normal standard. They were particularly high in Sagaing, amounting to Rs. 3-11-0 per maund, owing to a reduced outturn; the produce of the Sagaing District is almost entirely bought up by contractors for Jails and the Military Police. In Mandalay and Minbu, also, the prices were over Rs. 3 per maund. The prices of jowar considerably exceeded those of the previous year, being over Rs. 2 per maund at most centres, and Rs. 3-6-0 at Mandalay, Rs. 2-9-0 at Myingyan and Rs. 2-10-0 in Minbu. The average price of gram was about Rs. 2-8-0 per maund; in Minbu and Thayetmyo it was over Rs. 3; in Sagaing, where three-fourths of the crop finds its way down country, the price was Rs. 2-10-0. The market value of sessamum is steadily rising, owing partly to the diminution in the area under this crop, the peace of which is being taken by ground-nuts. The principal prices were Rs. 4-13-0 per maund at Myingyan, Rs. 4-10-0 at Sagam and the Lower Chindwin, Rs. 4-6-0 at Yamèthin, Rs. 5-4-0 in Minbu, Rs. 3-12-0 in Meiktila, Rs. 4-3-0 in Shwebo, Rs. 6-2-0 in Mandalay and Rs. 5-13-0 in Thayetmyo. The prices of cotton at the chief markets were affected by the manipulation of the market by the principal buyers who had formed an effective combine, the price in Sagaing falling from Rs. 20 to Rs. 18 per 100 viss (365 lbs.). The price per maund for uncleaned and ginned cotton, respectively, was at Myingyan Rs. 4-11-0 and Rs. 16-11-0, at Sagaing Rs. 4-1-0 and Rs. 19-12-0, at Meiktila Rs. 4-8-0 and Rs. 15-12-0 and at Thayetmyo Rs. 4-12-0 and Rs. 14-10-0; in the Lower Chindwin the price of uncleaned cotton was Rs. 4-6-0.

95. In the districts of Pegu and Thatôn there were no transactions in connection with agricultural advances, and in Kyaukpyu and Hanthawaddy there were no advances outstanding at the beginning of the official year. In all other districts there were such advances outstanding, amounting to Rs. 5,08,460, an increase of 30 per cent. on the previous year. Advances were made in almost every district amounting to Rs. 8,56,788, an increase of 27 per cent. There were no remissions. Collections amounted to Rs. 6,19,903, an increase of nearly 11 per cent. The balance outstanding was Rs. 7,45,345, an increase of over 46 per cent. The repayment of Rs. 61,490, or 4½ per cent. of the total amount advanced, was suspended during the year in 17 districts in amounts varying from Rs. 20 in the Upper Chindwin to Rs. 23,070 in Yamèthin. In all districts except ten, amounts varying from Rs. 65 in Katha to Rs. 58,695 in Hanthawaddy, the total being Rs. 1,67,363, more than double the figure of the previous year and over 12 per cent. of the total advanced, were overdue at the end of the year. Of interest, rather more was in arrears at the beginning of the year than at the end of 1905-06 and arrears together with the larger interest consequent on the larger loans, brought up the total amount of interest due to Rs. 57,031, an increase of over 22 per cent. No interest was remitted. The collections of interest showed an increase of Rs. 6,268 or nearly 15 per cent. The amount overdue at the end of the year was Rs. 9,552, an increase of 85 per cent. The total amount of principal and interest overdue at the end of the year was Rs. 1,76,915, nearly 2½ times as much as in 1905-06. The reasons given for advances vary in each district and there are many different opinions as to the popularity of the system. The questions whether village headmen receive commission for standing surety and whether they ought to get such commission was under enquiry. The Financial

**CHAP. IV.—** Commissioner has no doubt that headmen are generally paid and he does not propose to forbid the practice. Advances under the Land Improvement Loans Act amounted to Rs. 3,250 during the year.

**Co-operative  
Credit  
Societies.**

96. During the fifteen months ending the 30th June 1907 a decided advance is noticeable in the work of the Co-operative Credit Societies. Their number increased from 23 to 40, of which 37 are Rural Societies, against 21 in the year 1905-06. The Urban Societies rose from 2 to 3, but these play a minor part in the scheme and Government is mainly interested in the success of the Rural Societies. In Lower Burma the Rural Societies grew from 10 to 16 and at the end of the year their members numbered 710 against 444 in the previous year. In Upper Burma the advance was more marked: there were 21 societies against 11 in 1905-06 and the membership was 1,215 against 922. The movement seems to have taken a specially strong hold in the Kyaukse District owing to the interest displayed in the work by the district officials and the intelligence of the people. Altogether Rs. 1,67,745 were disbursed as loans to members during the period under review, Rs. 17,275 were subscribed in shares, Rs. 1,600 were deposited by members and Rs. 29,900 by non-members. The interest received amounted to Rs. 12,591 and Rs. 10,745 were carried to the reserve funds. The most striking fact in the year's record is the confidence now displayed by the outside public in these societies. Whereas in 1905-06 the resources of the societies consisted entirely of subscriptions from members and the sums advanced by Government, which that year amounted to Rs. 29,210, in the period under review by far the most important item is the deposits made by non-members. Applications were made by the outside public to deposit 1½ lakhs of rupees, and a single bank was willing to finance the societies up to Rs. 50,000 in one year. Government loans were in fact restricted to Rs. 6,850 and the stage in which these societies depend on State aid is now clearly past. It seems plain that the view that there is no spare money in Burma, that local deposits are not forthcoming nor are to be expected, and that these societies must depend to a great extent on contributions by Government, has not been borne out by the facts. Experience has been the other way: local depositors have offered far more than the societies have been able to take. The special feature in the work of the year has been the establishment of sixteen societies on the Raiffeisen model. Previously all societies had been formed on the Schulze-Delitzsch plan. The former differ in various respects from the latter. They are managed entirely in the interests of the borrower, there are no dividends and members derive no benefit except the privilege of borrowing. Any surplus goes into a reserve fund which forms a very important feature of the organisation. Shares are non-existent or very low. No salaries or commissions are paid, the jurisdiction of each bank is more restricted, loans are made for longer terms and on personal security only. Schulze banks were intended for townsmen not of the poorest class, and there is some support for the view that institutions on the Raiffeisen plan are better suited to the requirements of an agricultural community. The societies on the new model deal with smaller sums than the Schulze Societies; but in the few months of their existence they had already obtained Rs. 14,400 as fixed deposits and they appear to utilise their money fully. So far as can be seen the new societies seem to have good prospects. It appears that the movement on the whole has had more success in the Upper than in the Lower Province. Of the societies previously formed the Registrar found that those in Upper Burma were the more successful, because they were more rural in character and because the Upper Burmans have a greater power of combination. The experience of the year seems to indicate that, so far at least as societies on the Raiffeisen model are concerned, the less wealthy districts of Upper Burma are more in need of attention. The Arakan Division has been excluded from the movement in the past, but steps are now being taken to ascertain whether the advantages of the co-operative movement cannot be extended to the cultivators there.

**Protection  
from floods.**

97. The construction and maintenance of artificial bunds along the banks of the Irrawaddy River in Lower Burma form an important part of the irrigation work of the Public Works Department in this Province. Embankments maintained by the

Department exist also in the Pegu and Ma-ubin Districts. The capital outlay on the Irrawaddy and Thongwa Island embankments for which alone capital accounts are maintained amounted at the end of the year to 34.3 lakhs. In the whole Province no less an area than 614,299 acres of cultivation, about 10,000 acres more than in 1905-06, were protected by embankments. The receipts representing the total amount of land revenue assessed on the area protected rose from 15.83 to 17.22 lakhs. Working expenses came to 4.35 lakhs, the increase roughly of a lakh being due to the construction of large and costly retirements found necessary in the Kyaugin and Myanaung sections of the Irrawaddy embankments. The net revenue from all embankments aggregated 12.86 lakhs, some twenty thousand rupees in excess of the figure of the previous year.

Canal, Irrigation and Distribution.

98. The total area irrigated during the year was 733,817 acres as against 793,739 acres in the previous year. The increase of 16,000 acres served by Government canals and 31,000 acres irrigated from other sources was more than counterbalanced by the decline of 74,000 acres under private canals and 31,000 acres under tanks, while the area irrigated from wells also shows a slight decrease. The increase of area irrigated from other sources is due to the area thus irrigated in Meiktila having been shown in the previous report as irrigated from private canals; the area shown in Meiktila under the latter head, however, showed in the year of report a more than corresponding decrease. Of the six districts which possess Government canals, Thayetmyo and Minbu showed little change. In Mandalay the Canal Tract increased by 4,000 acres, owing to a reduction of the waterlogged area by nearly 2,000 acres, and to extensions of cultivation, chiefly in the bed of the old Aungbinlé lake. From Shwebo an increase of 17,000 acres over last years' figures was reported; but those figures are said to have been only approximate. This increase is due to the opening of the Shwebo Canal, which during the year irrigated over 46,000 acres. The canal will eventually serve an area exceeding 330,000 acres. Kyaukse showed a decrease of more than 3,000 acres due to the unfavourable season and deficiency of water in the Panlaung and Zawgyi rivers, which supply the canal system. In Yamethin the scanty rainfall also caused a decrease of 2,000 acres in the irrigated area. Of the 59,592 acres irrigated in Lower Burma, 57,480 acres are under paddy cultivation and in Upper Burma the same crop is grown on 648,953 acres out of 674,225.

Area irrigated.

### Weather and Crops.

99. The rains began favourably for the most part and there was promise of a bumper paddy crop. In the autumn a prolonged break occurred which placed the crop in jeopardy. The final rains, however, were generally good and any danger of a serious shortcoming was removed. The loss on crops on high land which withered owing to the break in the rains was counterbalanced by the decrease of floods in low lands from the same cause, the general result being that the crop was about normal. In the north-west zone and in the central zone the rainfall was in some places more and in others less than the normal, in the dry zone about the same, while in the Delta zone it was appreciably less than normal. In Akyab the rains commenced early and gave promise of a very heavy crop, but a partial failure at the end of October interfered with the prospect and the crop was reduced to a normal one. Heavy floods destroyed the crops in Hanthawaddy District, while Pegu suffered less from this cause than in recent years. In Upper Burma the rainfall was capricious, but on the whole the season was not unfavourable.

Character of the season.

100. The cropped area for the season under report totalled 12,539,713 acres compared with 12,399,252 acres in the previous year. The principal increases were 28,000 acres each in Pegu and Amherst and 30,000 acres in Henzada, all due to extension of cultivation and nearly all in rice; 69,500 acres in Shwebo, also mostly in rice, and due to land being irrigated for the first time by the canal. In Myingyan there was an increase of 25,000 acres. The principal decreases were 61,000 acres in Magwe and 35,000 acres in Meiktila, due to the bad season. The fallow

Cropped area.

CHAP. IV.—  
PRODUCTION AND  
DISTRIBUTION.

area during the year under report aggregated 3,843,889 acres against 3,720,144 acres in the preceding year. The increases worthy of remark were 12,000 acres in Minbu, 18,000 acres in Yamèthin, 19,000 acres in Prome, 21,000 acres in Ma-ubin, 43,000 acres in Meiktila and 61,000 acres in Magwe. In fifteen districts there were decreases in current fallows amounting in all to 96,603 acres, the largest being 27,000 acres in Henzada and 22,000 acres in Shwebo. The crop failures amounted to 965,781 acres as against 955,978 acres in the previous year. The principal increase was 108,000 acres in Myingyan, while Hanthawaddy showed a decrease of 96,000 and Ma-ubin of 32,000 acres. Two crops were grown on 326,246 acres, an increase of seventeen thousand acres on the figure of 1905-06.

Area under  
various  
crops.

101. Of the total area under crops paddy was grown on nearly 9,300,000 acres, 9,000 acres more than in the previous year. The final forecast of the rice crop for the fifteen principal rice-producing districts in Lower Burma anticipated an outturn equivalent to 95 per cent. of the outturn in a normal year and the surplus available for export was estimated at 2,345,500 tons 220,500 tons more than the figure of 1905-06 and 108,500 tons more than that of 1904-05. Sessamum was grown on 959,000 acres, early sessamum showing an increase of 39,000 and late sessamum a decline of 8,500 acres. The area under jowar 855,000 acres, was practically the same as in the previous year. Sessamum is mainly and jowar entirely an Upper Burma crop. Ground nuts were cultivated on 78,000 as compared with 37,000 acres. This crop is grown chiefly in the Magwe and Myingyan Districts. In some places it is said to be displacing sessamum. The acreage under wheat and tobacco showed a reduction of about 10 per cent. in each case.

Experi-  
mental  
cultivation.

102. Arrangements for the distribution of imported seeds were made as usual. With the development of experimental stations, it will be possible to deal more systematically with the problem of introducing exotic plants by means of imported seeds. During 1906-07, 81 pounds of Havana and 78 pounds of Virginia tobacco seeds procured from America were distributed to 21 districts and to the Shan States. The results of the experiments are not encouraging except in one or two cases and in many instances it was reported that the seeds supplied failed to germinate. The remarkable advance within recent years in the cultivation of ground nuts is one of the greatest successes traceable to seed distribution. In 1902-03 there were only 3,866 acres under ground nut in the whole of Burma, of which Magwe District had 3,241 acres. In 1906-07 the total crop aggregated 78,743 acres, of which 42,542 acres were in Magwe, 31,337 in Myingyan and 1,789 acres in the Lower Chindwin. The crop seems likely to extend considerably in these districts, and in Meiktila, Yamèthin, Sagaing, Pakòkku and Thayetmyo, successful experiments have been made. Ground nut appears to be indicated as the coming crop of the dry zone and the mercantile community are doing everything by the erection of mills and other measures to cope with the increased crop. Ground nuts or pea nuts grow best on dry sandy soil. After the flower withers the stalk bends over forcing the pod underground, and in this position the peas ripen. The nuts are eaten as a dessert fruit and made into confectionery, but their commercial value is due to the oil extracted from them. This oil resembles olive oil and is largely used as a substitute for it as well as for soap manufacture and other purposes. The leaves and branches of the plant are greedily eaten by cattle, and form an excellent fodder. The hay is very nutritious, much increasing the milk of cows. The cake holds a high reputation as a food upon which cattle rapidly fatten. Experiments with exotic cottons were carried out on a small scale during the year under report. The failures of the experiments conducted over a series of years by the Burma Cotton Company at Myingyan are disappointing. Every precaution has been taken, but failure has always ensued. Careful experiments will be made on the Mandalay and Dry Zone Farms, and it is hoped that the possibility or impossibility of successfully growing exotic varieties of the cotton plant will soon be finally established. Wheat was tried at Kéngtūng and Hsipaw in the Shan States and in the Chin Hills, the result of the Chin Hills experiment being encouraging.

## Horticulture.

103. The Agri-Horticultural Society of Burmain Rangoon and the Tennessean Agri-Horticultural Society in Moulmein continued in existence during the year, but no report of the work of the latter Society has been published. The Rangoon Society had a prosperous season and the number of new members elected, 159, exceeded the figure of any previous year. Satisfactory progress was made in laying out the new gardens at Kandawgale and the western or ornamental portion was completed. A commencement was made with the construction of a water-tank and equipment of pipes and hydrants for connection with the Municipal water main. The work will be completed, it is hoped, during the current year at a cost of Rs. 19,000.

CLASS. IV.  
PLANTING AND  
DISTRIBUTION.  
Agri-Horticultural  
Societies.

104. The various experimental gardens in the Province have now been taken over by the Department of Agriculture. It is a question whether some of them are worth the time and money expended on them. The total expenditure under all heads on the maintenance and upkeep of the gardens amounted to Rs. 10,388 and receipts from sales of produce to Rs. 1,585. The net Government expenditure was thus Rs. 8,803. The reports received from these gardens, with the exception of those from Myitkvina and Taunggyi, contain little of interest. At Sinlumkaba the only fruit trees that give any promise are apples and pears. The Falam garden, in the Chin Hills, seems to be run on thoroughly practical lines. The usual successes and failures with exotic fruit trees are noted; but more practical experiments were also carried on. Potatoes are well established and are widely cultivated, while this year extensive experiments were carried out both in the experimental garden and at various centres with wheat and barley. The results of experiments with wheat were satisfactory, and endeavours are being made to induce the Chins to grow wheat. The results of the Katha garden are most disappointing. Experiment there is none: while, as a commercial concern, it cannot be called a success. Of the Myitkvina gardens, that at Myitkvina shows fair results. Peaches succeed excellently, as well as the Avocada pear, the loquat, orange, pomelo, walnut and nectarine. It is proposed to take steps to place the fruit, both of the garden and of private gardeners, on the Mandalay and the Rangoon markets. On the other hand it is difficult to see what useful object can be served by the retention of the garden at Sima. There is apparently no population either to buy produce or to copy experiments and the garden records few successes and no receipts. The Taunggyi Report is, again, very encouraging. The expenditure (Rs. 4,337) was somewhat high owing to the laying down of water-pipes and the replacement of old implements. As usual a number of probationers have been trained in the garden and those who qualified have been sent back to the Chiefs who deputed them. Useful experiments in the cultivation of fruits, vegetables and other products have also been carried out with varying success. A new development was originated by Major Macnabb, when Deputy Commissioner of Sagaing, *i.e.*, the district garden. The primary object of the new departure was the production of young trees for road-side planting: but one or two useful experiments, notably with cotton, were also tried.

Experimental  
gardens.

## Forests.

105. Of a total estimated forest area of 130,540 square miles on the 30th June 1907 a sixth, or 21,575 square miles, was reserved forest. The nett addition of 1,030 square miles to the latter area during the year of report represents the fresh area reserved during the year, 1,028 square miles, mostly in the Pegu and Southern Circles, after allowing for corrections of survey figures and for a small amount of disafforestation. At the beginning of the year areas aggregating 814 square miles were under settlement for the purpose of notification as reserved forests and 2,809 square miles more were taken in hand. A sum of Rs. 18,668 was expended during the year on settlements completed and in progress.

Forest  
Reserves.

106. Expenditure on the demarcation of forest boundaries amounted to Rs. 22,631, rather less than in 1905-06. Out of a total length of boundaries of

Demarcation  
and surveys.

**CHAP. IV.—** 17,516 miles, demarcation was still required in respect of 721 miles. Fifty-one square miles only of reserved forest in the Thaungyin Division were surveyed during the year on the 4-inch scale by Survey of India Party No. 20. The cost of this survey was Rs. 18,281. Five hundred miles of boundary surveys on the same scale were carried out in the Southern Circle by the Forest Survey Department. Survey work was also done by local Forest Officers. The expenditure on survey of all kinds fell from 1.73 lakhs to less than Rs. 44,000. Three thousand three hundred and sixty four square miles of reserved forest in Pegu Circle and 1,383 square miles in Tenasserim Circle still remain to be surveyed.

**Working-plans.**

107. During the year of report working-plans were sanctioned by Government for 131 square miles of reserved forest and 2 square miles of unclassified forest in the Thayetmyo District. At the end of the year the total area for which plans have been completed amounted to 4,208 square miles, of which all but 2 square miles consisted of reserved forest. The compilation of working-plans was in progress in respect of a further area of 2,395 square miles, 630 square miles having been undertaken during the year. The theory is that plans should be prepared eventually for the whole forest area, estimated at 130,540 square miles. Plans of operation were sanctioned for all divisions and were generally worked up to.

**Roads and Buildings.**

108. Rs. 69,198 were spent on new buildings, chiefly officers' quarters and forest rest-houses, and Rs. 34,744 on repairs. Quinquennial schemes of road construction were sanctioned and there was a considerable increase of activity under this head. The length of new roads rose from 569 to 740 miles and of roads repaired from 950 to 1,327 miles, while expenditure increased in a corresponding degree, the total being Rs. 54,679 against Rs. 31,024 in the previous year.

**Forest offences.**

109. The number of forest offences reported during the year declined from 3,722 to 3,553. Out of 3,431 cases disposed of 3,204 ended in conviction and only 227 in acquittal. The decrease in the number of cases came mainly under the head of unauthorised felling and appropriation of timber and forest produce, but there were also slight decreases in cases of injury by fire and illicit grazing, while miscellaneous offences rose in number. Thousand two hundred and forty one cases were taken into Court of which 1,030 ended in conviction. There was an important prosecution in the Pegu Circle for illicit extraction of timber from the Mdzali reserved forest. The accused, Maung Pe of Bassein, was sentenced to six months' simple imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 500, 188 logs were seized and his three elephants worth about Rs. 15,000 were confiscated and made over to the Forest Department. The rules relating to the composition of forest offences were revised during the year.

**Protection of forests.**

110. The area in which fire protection was undertaken fell from 8,213 to 8,153 square miles, chiefly owing to contraction in the Northern Circle. Fires were much less numerous, affecting only 371 as compared with 832 square miles. No fires of outstanding importance were reported during the year. The total cost of the operations rose by fifteen thousand rupees to 2.90 lakhs. Out of 21,574 square miles of reserved forest only 490 square miles were open to all animals and a small further area to browsers only. Grant-holders under settlement and contractors working in the forests are allowed free grazing and about Rs. 3,000 were collected in fees from the public. Considerable work was done in cutting climbers and felling ficus-infested trees.

**Plantations and experimental cultivation.**

111. The area of regular plantations maintained by the Forest Department fell from 5,829 to 5,611 acres owing to curtailment of the Mergui Rubber Plantation. Only 22 acres were in Upper Burma. Fifty-two acres in Thayetmyo were under catch, 1,914 acres in Mergui under rubber and the rest under teak. Plantations on hill-clearings, mostly of teak, were also practically confined to Lower Burma. The area (72,988 acres) increased roughly by 2,400 acres, but the extension of *taung ya* plantation has been restricted under the orders of Government and new

plantations are only being formed for reproductive purposes or where it is desired for forest purposes to maintain villages in the vicinity of a reserve. The question of the tendency of complete fire-protection in certain forests to stifle the natural reproduction of teak is engaging the attention of forest officers. Extensive flowerings of bamboos have taken place recently, especially in Upper Burma. These flowerings, which occur periodically at uncertain intervals, cause the death of the tree, thus lightening the cover over large areas. The general effect of this clearance is favourable to the reproduction of teak and efforts are being made to take advantage of the opportunity by assisting nature as far as possible. Cultural operations of various kinds were in progress throughout the province as in former years and many interesting experiments were carried out. Much work was done on the Mergui rubber plantation and Rs. 54,151 were spent on it, bringing the total expenditure up to date to Rs. 2,28,514. A favourable report was received on samples of rubber from the plantation submitted for analysis. As the experiment has accomplished its object in showing the possibility of rubber cultivation in Mergui it is proposed to make arrangements for leasing the plantation. Rs. 3,257 were spent on the experimental rubber garden at Mergui. Tapping of *Hevea* trees was continued and 1,328 lbs. of dry rubber obtained fetched Rs. 219. The receipts of the garden amounted to Rs. 6,717. A scheme for the establishment of a rubber plantation in the Northern Arakan Hill Tracts was sanctioned. Altogether 1.28 lakhs were spent during the year on plantations and experiments and the revenue accruing was Rs. 11,608.

Case IV, -  
Furrows  
and  
discharge  
7102.

112. The number of trees girdled increased from 71,856 to 84,670. The total quantity of timber of all kinds extracted amounted roughly to 22 million cubic feet as compared with 26 million in the previous year: 3.8 million were worked by Government, 17.7 million by purchasers and over 400,000 each by free grantees and right-holders. In accordance with the policy of Government the proportion of timber worked by the Forest Department has decreased appreciably. The reduction of the outturn did not affect teak as the amount of teak worked out, 11.8 million cubic feet, was 700,000 cubic feet in excess of the figure of 1905-06. The contraction was mainly under the head of unreserved woods and is accounted for in Upper Burma by the disorganisation of the timber trade owing to the prevalence of plague in Mandalay, the principal market for this class of timber. The amount of fuel extracted also declined from 17 to 14 million cubic feet. Efforts to find remunerative markets for *pyingado*, *pyidauk* and other special woods were continued, but no notable development was reported.

Extraction  
and sale of  
timber.

113. Nothing definite has yet resulted from Mr. Sindall's experiments in manufacturing paper from bamboo pulp, although enquiries by firms interested continue to be received. The tannin factory was closed throughout the year. The question of the continuance of the experiment is under consideration. Various experiments with sleepers were made. A list of useful timber found in Teasserim has been printed and a depot for the sale of seasoned timber has been established in Mandalay with a view to fostering a demand for indigenous woods.

Miscellaneous.

### Mines and Quarries.

114. Applications were received during the year ending the 31st March 1907 for 4 exploring licenses, 34 prospecting licenses and 9 mining leases, while two applications were made for the renewal for a further period of prospecting licenses already granted. During the same period 9 exploring licenses, 27 prospecting licenses and 3 mining leases were issued, and 5 existing prospecting licenses were renewed. A lease was granted to the Burma Mines Railway and Smelting Company, Limited, over an area of about 2,496 acres in the State of Tawngpeng in the Northern Shan States for mining for silver, copper, lead and zinc. The Company is building a railway and is carrying on its operations with energy. Under another mining lease further petroleum-bearing areas in the Yenangyaung Township of the Magwe District were granted to the Burma Oil Company. The third lease related to the

Grant of  
new concessions.

CHAP. IV.—  
PRODUCTION AND  
DISTRIBUTION.

grant to the Burma Development Syndicate, Limited, of some 3 square miles of land in Maliwun Township, Mergui District, for tin-mining operations. Two prospecting licenses were granted to the Burma Mines Railway and Smelting Company of Mandalay. One was for iron ore at Twinngè, Maymyo Subdivision, and the other for prospecting iron and minerals containing iron, in Thóndaung, Maymyo Subdivision. The discovery of gneissic granite near the Pegu-Moulmein Railway line in the vicinity of Kyaikto may prove to be of considerable importance as the stone is valuable for building purposes and for ballast on the Railway, and it may also be found suitable for use in the construction of the Rangoon River training works.

Petroleum.

115. The total yield of petroleum diminished by about 4½ million gallons to 137 million gallons valued at 84 lakhs of rupees. Increased output from the Burma Oil Company's extended and deep borings in the Magwe District was counteracted by restricted production in the Pakókku and Myingyan Districts. During the year work was commenced on an important project, which has long been talked of, namely, the construction of a pipe-line to convey oil from the Yenangyaung field (which is already connected by a pipe-line with the Singu and Yenangvat field) to Rangoon. It is anticipated that the completion of this work will lead to a large increase in the output. The Company have been granted a prospecting license for an area of just over 20 square miles in the Myingyan District, which may be the beginning of a new development of oil-production in the Province. In the Pakókku District the Burma Oil Company, the Rangoon Oil Company and the Minbu Oil Company own the largest concessions. The first named Company bought all the oil produced by the two other Companies. The field shows signs of exhaustion, though a good well was struck towards the close of the year of report. In the Magwe District, during the year, there has been increased activity in the oil-field, consequent on the advent of the Rangoon Oil Company and Messrs. Jamal Brothers, who have purchased a number of well-sites. The Rangoon Oil Company have completed one well; four others are nearing completion and preparations have been made to start drilling on three other sites. The Burma Oil Company are the largest producers of oil in the Yenangyaung field. They have also made several purchases and are now working about 250 hand-dug wells. The question of extending the Yenangyaung field by including the site in which the villages of Bemè and Twingôn stand was under consideration at the end of the year. The question is a difficult one by reason of the vested interests which the *twinsas* or native well-owners possess in these sites. In Akyab and Kyaukpya the output remains small, and showed a decrease on the previous year's results.

Gold.

116. The Burma Gold Dredging Company, Limited, continued to dredge for gold in the River Irrawaddy near the Confluence. A second steam dredger was at work during the year, and a third, of an improved type, was under construction at the Company's dockyard at Mankin. As the stretch of river bed now being worked has not turned out as remunerative as was expected, the Company has applied for a further concession above the Confluence where the bed of the river is said to contain more gold. The quantity of gold won during the year was 2,300 ounces, valued at Rs. 1,32,750, as compared with 620 ounces in the previous year. Several prospecting licenses for gold were issued during the year as well as one exploring license covering 80 miles of the Shweli river, but there are at present no certain indications of the existence of gold in paying quantities elsewhere than in the Irrawaddy River near Myitkyina. As in previous years alluvial gold washing on a small scale without the aid of machinery was carried on in many different places throughout the country.

Rubies.

117. No new ruby-bearing locality was discovered and, with the unimportant exception of a few workers in Myitkyina District who paid Rs. 440 in license fees, the mining industry was monopolised by the Burma Ruby Mines Company and its licensees in the Mogòk valley of the Ruby Mines District. The value of rubies extracted (including sapphires and spinels) amounted to Rs. 14,18,246,

nearly Rs. 27,000 more than in the previous year, while the income of the Company from royalties came to Rs. 2,65,200 from some 13,000 native miners as compared with Rs. 1,81,932 from 9,000 miners. The explanation given for the increase of royalties is that some of the native miners succeeded in finding remunerative workings outside the Mogók valley, notably at Kyatpyin. The drainage tunnel under construction in the Mogók valley, which is expected greatly to facilitate mining operations, is nearing completion. It was extended 1,433 feet at a cost of Rs. 1,28,233 during the year and was 3,363 feet long at the end of February 1907. The profits of the Company during the year were £21,978 and a dividend of one shilling per share was distributed against £12,067 and six pence per share in the previous twelve months.

CHAP. IV—  
PROVINCE AND  
MOUNTAIN  
TILES.

118. 2,214½ cwts. of jade valued at Rs. 1,17,929, were extracted in the Myitkyina District. The decrease in the quantity extracted was due to the fact that during the year labour was scarce at the mines, the Kachin miners having been attracted to the Hukong valley and the Laisai mines by better prospects in connection with the extraction of rubber and amber. There was also a great decrease in the value of the stones extracted. More amber was produced in the same district, but the quality and the price fell off. Fewer licenses were issued for tourmaline mining, but the price of the stone rose considerably. Over 2 lakhs' worth of tin was extracted in the Mergui District. An officer of the Geological Survey of India was deputed to Mergui during the year to report on the state of tin-mining and the methods employed in that district, and his investigations when completed should be of assistance in the development of the tin-mining industry. No new coal beds were discovered during the year, but the Thitchauk mine in the Upper Chindwin District continues to show promise and a mining lease has been issued since the close of the year.

Other  
minerals.

119. Clay, laterite, limestone, sandstone, and gravel were extracted as usual in large quantities. The supply of these stones is practically inexhaustible and the output depends mainly on the demands of the Public Works Department, the Railway and Municipalities for building and road-making purposes. Granite was extracted in three districts. Marble continued to be quarried in the Mandalay District, where it is used chiefly for making the carved figures of Buddha met with everywhere in Burma. There was a decreased output this year, possibly due to the prevalence of plague in Mandalay.

Quarry  
stone.

### Manufactures.

120. There is no indication of any change during the year of report in the nature of the staple industries of the Province and there is nothing new to be said on the subject. According to the census of 1901 rice mills supported over 41,000 people, of whom four-fifths were workers, and saw mills 8,000, of whom three-fourths were workers. Of the home industries cotton-weaving and spinning were by far the most important, supporting nearly a quarter of a million persons. Over 90 per cent. of the actual workers were women. Carpenters and sawyers with their families numbered each about 70,000. Tailoring supported 58,000, the sexes being nearly equally divided. Goldsmiths, silk-weavers, mat-maker, cheroot-rollers, blacksmiths and potters come next in order of importance, and after them turners and lacquerers and makers of felt or wooden shoes. Except in the case of skilled artizans the census figures were probably below the actual numbers at the time and since 1901 there has no doubt been a general increase in the number of persons employed in manufactures. The industries which come within the scope of the Indian Factories Act, 1881, are mentioned in the next paragraph.

Principal  
industries.

121. The provisions of the Indian Factories Act, 1881, which is in force in Lower Burma only, were extended during the year to nine rice mills, seven saw mills, one cotton mill, one flour mill, and one soap factory, while one bread factory disappeared from the returns. The most important concerns are rice

Principal  
industries.

CHAP. IV.—  
PRODUCTION  
AND DISTRIBUTION.

mills (137) and saw mills (74) besides five foundries and three ice factories. The soap factory is a new venture. The number of operatives employed fell from 31,531 in 1905 to 30,866 in 1906. The decline was most marked in the Rangoon Town District. This decrease may be attributed partly to the prevalence of plague and partly to the fact that many factory hands took the opportunity of low rates of passage to revisit their homes in India. The figures for Akyab show that in that district the average daily number was only 503 in 1906 as compared with 1,252 in 1905. This falling off is explained by the fact that owing to the small demand for Akyab rice in the Europe market, seven factories in the district did no work during the year. The sanitary arrangements in factories throughout the Province are generally reported to be satisfactory. The reports indicate that while the conditions are not ideal and there is room for improvement, factory owners do their best to provide suitable accommodation and pure water and to keep their premises in a sanitary condition. No serious abuses are reported. In Rangoon and the suburban district of Hanthawaddy, and at Moulmein, the health of the mill operatives was good. At Bassein and Akyab there were outbreaks of cholera of some severity, but in both cases the disease was prevented from assuming epidemic proportions. At Akyab the completion of the new Municipal water-supply project is expected to result in improved conditions in the mills when a sufficient supply of good water is assured. The wages of factory operatives compare favourably with those of outside labour, and their condition is generally speaking one of prosperity. The number of women and children employed in factories in Burma during the year was 652 and 313 respectively as compared with 649 and 159 in 1905. The employment of children is almost entirely confined to Rangoon and its suburbs, where 256 children received certificates during the year. Women and children are never employed except on light work. Fencing of machinery is generally reported as adequate. The defects discovered during the year were mostly of a minor character and have been remedied. There were 153 accidents of which six were fatal. In Moulmein a boy died as the result of being scalded whilst cleaning out a boiler. The engine-driver was prosecuted under section 287, Indian Penal Code. He was acquitted, but the Board of Examining Engineers cancelled his certificate. The other five fatal accidents appear to have been due mainly to carelessness on the part of the deceased. There were no prosecutions under the Factories Act during the year.

### Trade.

122. Excluding Government transactions the aggregate sea-borne trade of Burma for the year ending on the 31st March 1907 once more surpassed all previous records. The total of 48·43 crores exceeded the figure of the previous year, which itself constituted a record by no less than 570 lakhs or 13·36 per cent. as compared with an advance of 1·3 per cent. in 1905-06. There was a moderate improvement amounting to 4 per cent. in the foreign trade and a notable increase of 25 per cent. in the coasting trade. In the foreign trade, exports of Indian produce, chiefly rice, showed contraction, but the deficit under this head was more than counterbalanced by the growth of imports. In the coasting trade, imports as well as exports expanded, especially the latter, owing to larger shipments of rice. Of the total value the coasting trade represented 48 per cent. against percentages of 44 and 38 in the two previous years. Eighty-two per cent. of the entire trade passed through the port of Rangoon, Moulmein being second with 8 per cent.

123. Foreign imports at Rangoon amounted to 929 lakhs out of a total for all ports of 956 lakhs. This figure was 119 lakhs in advance of that of the previous year. Under articles of food and drink there was a decline of 9·39 lakhs. A fall of 4 lakhs in the value of spirits imported was due to heavy clearances from bond at the end of the previous year. Importations of provisions showed a falling off from the high figure of 1905-06. More salt to the value of 9·63 lakhs against 8·33 lakhs was imported. English salt resumed the lead over the German product and Spain entered the field of competition for the first time. Shipments of sugar declined from 36·71 lakhs to 30·33 lakhs owing to a large decrease in

Maritime  
Trade—  
Total value.

Foreign  
Imports—  
Rangoon.

imports of continental sugar partly counterbalanced by a substantial improvement in respect of Java cane sugar. An advance of 52·8 lakhs in imports of metals and manufactures of metals included 16 lakhs under unmanufactured metals and 30·23 lakhs under Railway plant and rolling-stock. The advance under the former head was chiefly owing to higher prices and the latter increase was due, first, to a change in the system of classification under which stores for the use of Railway Companies which are the lessees of State-owned lines are now treated as private merchandise for statistical purposes, thus bringing the practice into accordance with the treatment for fiscal purposes of railway stores imported by Companies, and secondly, to increased importations of rails, carriages and locomotives for the new Rangoon Electric Tramway and for the extensions of the Burmah Railways. This trade is practically restricted to imports from the United Kingdom. The comparative position of the United Kingdom in the Hardware and Cutlery trade continued to decline in favour of Austria and Germany, but under metals the share of the United Kingdom amounted to 66·47 lakhs or four-fifths of the trade, against 40·45 lakhs in 1905-06. In the importation of Machinery and millwork and railway plant and rolling-stock the United Kingdom meets with no serious competition. Imports of kerosene oil from America rose from 5·55 lakhs to 8·95 lakhs. An increase of 44 lakhs under Yarn and textile fabrics was mainly accounted for by larger importations of cotton piece-goods counterbalanced in part by a decline under Twist and Yarn due to the high prices ruling in the home markets. The fluctuations of the market affected imports from the United Kingdom and from other countries, but except in the case of coloured, printed and dyed goods the United Kingdom practically controls the market. Imports of silk piece-goods also rose by 6 lakhs to 54 lakhs, but shipments from the United Kingdom continue to decline and this trade is now being monopolised by Japan. Silk piece-goods to the value of about 3 lakhs were imported overland from Siam. Imports of raw silk declined by 17 per cent. owing, it is said, to the high prices current in Hongkong. About 30 per cent. of the raw silk in Burma is brought overland from Western China and is not subject to customs duty. The trade in cigarettes continued to expand from 8·83 to 9·72 lakhs. 8·17 lakhs' worth came from the United Kingdom, but cigarettes of American origin and cigarettes manufactured in England from American tobacco are included in this total. The value of matches imported—mainly from Japan—rose from 10·60 lakhs to 12·16 lakhs, the latter figure constituting a record.

124. The value of the aggregate foreign import trade in merchandise of the subordinate ports showed a marked advance from 15½ to 26½ lakhs due chiefly to importations of machinery and iron and steel building materials for the new white rice mills erected at Akyab and Bassein. Owing to this cause the import trade of Bassein rose from the vanishing point to 9 lakhs of rupees and that of Akyab from something under 2 lakhs to more than 4 lakhs. Imports of kerosene oil into Akyab entirely ceased. On the other hand a quantity of salt in bulk was consigned to the port. Moulmein and Victoria Point showed a slight improvement as regards the import trade, while imports into Mergui and Tavoy fell off.

125. The value of the foreign export trade from Rangoon declined by a sum of 90½ lakhs to 12 crores 16 lakhs. A further decline was recorded in the exports of pulse, which consist chiefly of peas and beans, from 21·25 lakhs to 14·82 lakhs. The fall was confined to shipments to Europe and is attributed to injurious reports as to suitability of Burma beans as food for cattle. Exports to Japan and the Straits Settlements increased. Twenty-one million cwts. of rice valued at 911 lakhs were exported as compared with 25 million cwts. and 1,013 lakhs in 1905-06. The most noticeable feature in the rice trade for the year was the great demand from India on account of scarcity in Eastern Bengal. Prices in consequence ruled higher and the trade with the Straits Settlements and Java declined by 1 million and 1½ million cwts., respectively, as these countries could obtain their supplies at a cheaper rate from Saigon. For the same reason exports to China and Hongkong did not expand to any appreciable extent, notwithstanding the fact that there was a severe famine in China. Japan also took nearly four million cwts. less

CHAPTER IV.—  
PRODUCTION  
AND DISTRIBUTION.

than in the previous year, but this is attributed to bumper crops and to the large stocks of rice remaining in the country at the close of the war. Towards the end of the year there was a revival of the trade with Japan and several Japanese steamers entered in ballast and cleared with full cargoes of rice. Exports to Continental Europe were in excess of the total of the preceding year, by over two million cwts. A very large business was done during the last two months of the year as stocks of rice in Europe are said to be somewhat depleted. There was a noticeable increase in shipments to Holland, Germany and Austria-Hungary. Exports of catch rose from 54,464 cwts. valued at Rs. 8.49 lakhs to 95,451 cwts. valued at Rs. 15.53 lakhs, of which the United Kingdom appropriated Rs. 9.54 lakhs. Shipments during the two preceding years had been below the average and stocks in Europe were consequently on a low level, which led to heavy exports during the year under review. There was a large output of catch in Burma and in spite of the larger demand, prices did not advance to any extent. Catch is principally used for dyeing the nets and sails of fishing boats. The invasion of the markets of the Farther East by the Burma Oil Company, Limited, during the years 1904 and 1905, in defence of their position in India terminated after satisfactory arrangements had been made with their competitors, and the exports of kerosene oil to foreign countries have in consequence practically ceased. There was no appreciable variation in the export trade in paraffin wax, the value of which amounted to 9.59 lakhs. The total of other kinds of mineral oils exported rose from a few thousand gallons to 819,639 gallons owing to the shipment of 800,000 gallons of Benzine to Rotterdam. This new development promises to continue, and should be considerably assisted by the recent decision of the Suez Canal Committee to rescind the rule preventing the passage of Benzine in bulk through the Canal. The export of liquid oil fuel is at present on a small scale, but the Burma Oil Company, Limited, have considerably enlarged their refinery for the manufacture and supply of this commodity to the Admiralty, and it is anticipated that large shipments will be made in future years. The cotton crop was a good one and exports increased, but owing to a fall in prices the value, 28.24 lakhs, showed little variation. The United Kingdom took 84 per cent. of the exports and Italy followed with 6.5 per cent. Japan obtained its requirements at a cheaper rate from China and in consequence the exports to Japan fell from 45,154 cwts. to 2,857 cwts. India also took less cotton owing to good local crops, the shipments amounting to 22,708 cwts. against 39,519 in the previous year. There was a slight fall in the quantity of hides exported, but the value advanced from 49.02 to 54.14 lakhs. Owing to the rise in prices an impetus has been given to the trade in hides with Western China and a fair quantity entered Burma *via* Bhamo. Over 14,000 cwts. of hides, valued at Rs. 5.91 lakhs, were also imported from Calcutta for re-export to foreign ports. There was a marked decline in exports of hides to the United Kingdom and an increase in exports to the United States; this was due to more accurate information having been supplied by shippers, as formerly there were reasons to believe that a large proportion of the trade shown against the United Kingdom was really intended for the United States. Skins to the value of Rs. 2.66 lakhs were shipped to India, principally to Madras, where these skins are cured preparatory to re-export to the United States. Rice bran exported during the year fell from 181,352 tons, valued at Rs. 52.36 lakhs to 132,398 tons valued at Rs. 44.19 lakhs, of which the United Kingdom absorbed Rs. 26.32 lakhs, the Straits Settlements Rs. 10.05 lakhs and Germany Rs. 7.32 lakhs. The trade in seeds, consisting almost entirely of ground nuts, deserves special notice in view of its rapid growth during the past few years. In 1902-03 the trade was valued at a little over a thousand rupees, in 1905-06 at Rs. 7.31 lakhs and in 1906-07 at Rs. 16.68 lakhs. Export of ground nuts rose from 106,578 c. ts. valued at Rs. 7.31 lakhs in 1905-06 to 243,575 cwts. valued at Rs. 15.96 lakhs, or by 110.83 per cent. Ground nuts are chiefly used for the production of oil and during the past two years the bulk of the shipments were consigned to Hongkong and the Straits. Shipments of teak declined from 36,385 tons valued at Rs. 49.82 lakhs to 30,321 tons valued at Rs. 43.99 lakhs or by 16.66 per cent. in volume and 11.30 per cent. in value. The United Kingdom took 21,027 tons and Germany 3,887 tons. The supply of first class timber was limited and this probably accounts for the decline in the exports to countries in

Europe where the timber is required for shipbuilding purposes. There was a large increase in exports to India, but the timber was of an inferior quality and the average price was only Rs. 83 per ton against Rs. 145 per ton in the foreign trade. The share of the British Empire in the total trade of Rangoon increased from 52.48 to 56.26 per cent. of the aggregate trade of the port. The value of the import trade with the Empire advanced by Rs. 97.37 lakhs or by 17.46 per cent., while that of the export trade fell slightly by Rs. 6.89 lakhs or by 1.26 per cent.

CHAP. IV.—  
PRODUCTION  
AND DISTRIBUTION.

126. The value of the aggregate foreign export trade in merchandise of the subordinate ports also showed an improvement, the advance amounting to Rs. 46.53 lakhs or 22.5 per cent. as compared with the previous year. The outports accounted for about one-fourth of the total shipments of rice from Burma and the bulk of the shipments went to the Continent, practically nothing being shipped to the United Kingdom. Unlike Rangoon, the increase was mainly under the head of rice, of which substantial shipments were made from Moulmein and Bassein. At Moulmein high prices induced cultivators to part early with their grain, resulting in the bulk of the 1907 crop being marketed and shipped before the close of the financial year. White rice was for the first time shipped from Bassein during the year of report. Exports of rice from Akyab have contracted considerably during the past two years in consequence of the inferior quality of cargo rice shipped in 1904-05 and the demand now is principally for white rice. The decline was also due to a partial failure of the crops in certain districts in the Arakan Division. The increase in the trade of Moulmein is satisfactory in view of the fact that the navigation of the river gave trouble and several steamers had to leave this port with part cargoes of rice and complete their loading at Rangoon. There appears to be every prospect that the trade of Bassein will increase; it possesses a splendid natural harbour with easy access from the sea. Exports of teak from Moulmein declined owing to a falling off in the quantity and quality of timber brought in from the forests. The bulk of the shipments was consigned to the United Kingdom.

Foreign  
Exports—  
Minor Ports.

127. The remarkable expansion in the coasting trade of the Province has been briefly referred to in paragraph 122. Imports rose by 85 lakhs to 9.96 crores and exports by 390 lakhs to 13.67 crores. The figures for subordinate ports were 205 and 220 lakhs, representing increases of 11 and 26 lakhs respectively, the substantial improvement under exports being due to larger shipments of rice and paddy. The following remarks are confined to the Rangoon trade. There was a further satisfactory advance in the imports of coal from 329,177 tons valued at Rs. 38.92 lakhs to 394,496 tons valued at Rs. 49.65 lakhs. The increase is due to a more general use of Bengal coal by the local shipping companies and by the Burma Railways, and affected imports of foreign coal, which fell from 17,957 tons to 10,154 tons. The value of the trade in grain and pulse is the highest on record and advanced from Rs. 44.53 lakhs in 1905-06 to Rs. 51.96 lakhs or by 16.7 per cent. Imports of wheat-flour account for nearly half this trade and amounted to Rs. 25.21 lakhs, of which Bengal supplied Rs. 16.64 lakhs and Bombay Rs. 8.57 lakhs. The imports of pulse were valued at Rs. 11.31 lakhs and of rice at Rs. 9.40 lakhs. A marked increase took place in importations of gram, which were valued at Rs. 4.72 lakhs against 30 lakhs in the previous year. Imports of jute, which consist principally of gunny bags and rope and twine from Bengal, advanced from Rs. 85.54 lakhs in 1905-06 to Rs. 1,04.80 lakhs in 1906-07. Imports of oils amounted to 3,085,553 gallons valued at Rs. 55.87 lakhs as compared with 4,027,314 gallons valued at Rs. 62.72 lakhs in the previous year. The trade in oils was overdone in 1905-06 and large quantities remained in stock at the close of the year and demand in Burma was consequently weaker. The trade consists principally of castor, cocoanut, ground nut and til-seed oils from the Madras Presidency. There was a marked decline in imports of kerosene, castor and til-seed oils. The value of seeds imported declined from 306,712 cwts. valued at Rs. 28.88 lakhs in 1905-06 to 228,825 cwts. valued at Rs. 23.31 lakhs in 1906-07. This trade consisted chiefly of til-seed valued at Rs. 20.85 lakhs, the bulk of which came from the Madras Presidency. Shipments of spices rose in

Coasting  
Trade.

COAR. IV.—  
PRODUCTION  
AND DISTRI-  
BUTION.

value from Rs. 53'60 lakhs in 1905-06 to Rs. 59'85 lakhs in 1906-07, and consisted mainly of betel-nuts valued at Rs. 53'54 lakhs, the bulk of which came from Bengal. Imports of tobacco declined from 16½ million lbs., valued at Rs. 37'05 lakhs in 1905-06, to 14½ million lbs. valued at Rs. 31'22 lakhs in 1906-07. Good crops in Burma led to the fall in the imports from India and to the marked increase in the exports to foreign countries. There was a decline from 99 to 92 lakhs under cotton manufactures owing to an increase in the imports from foreign countries. Of the total value of piece-goods imported from India, Bombay contributed Rs. 24'03 lakhs, Madras Rs. 17'71 lakhs, and Bengal Rs. 7'15 lakhs. Hides and skins valued at 9 lakhs were landed at Rangoon. The excess of 6 lakhs over the figure of the previous year is explained by the fact that large consignments were exported to foreign countries from Calcutta *via* Rangoon. The abnormal expansion of the export coasting trade of Rangoon was almost wholly due to increased shipments of rice amounting to 641,986 tons valued at 5'84 crores as compared with 301,980 tons valued at 2'38 crores in 1905-06. On account of the famine in Eastern Bengal heavy shipments of rice and paddy amounting to 458,000 tons as against 34,000 tons in the previous year were made to Calcutta and Chittagong. Exports to Bombay fell by 100,000 tons, while shipments to Madras showed a further improvement. High prices ruled throughout the year and the average value of husked rice works out to Rs. 4-12-9 per cwt. as compared with Rs. 3-4-8 and Rs. 3-15-7 in 1902-03 and 1905-06 respectively. Exports of teak rose from 45,918 tons valued at 37'38 lakhs to 56,699 tons valued at 46'98 lakhs. Shipments of raw cotton declined from nearly 10 to 6 lakhs owing to a reduced demand in India consequent on improved local crops.

Transfron-  
tier trade.

128. The inland trade of Burma with foreign countries and with the tributary States and tribes on the external frontiers prospered during the year and showed a rate of expansion not much below that of the sea-borne trade. The total value of the trade amounted to four crores 88 lakhs, of which 238 lakhs represented imports and 250 lakhs exports. These totals were 11'5, 1 and 23'7 per cent. respectively in excess of the corresponding figures for the previous year. All countries shared in the increase, Western China to the extent of Rs. 8,13,000, Northern Shan States Rs. 9,40,000, Southern Shan States Rs. 19,04,000, Northern Siam Rs. 9,62,000, Southern Siam Rs. 2,23,000 and Karema about two lakhs.

Trade  
routes—  
Western  
China.

129. The trade with Western China amounted to 81 lakhs, an increase of 11'13 per cent. Imports rose from 35 to 37 lakhs chiefly owing to expansion of trade by the Momauk, Mansi, Nanhlaing and Waingmaw routes. The establishment of an Agency in Bhamo by Messrs. Fabricius & Co. has stimulated the trade in hides, which increased by Rs. 2,62,000. Consignments of silver also advanced by two lakhs on account of the large demand for jadestone and amber. The decrease of about two lakhs in raw silk was due to the high prices ruling in China and to the scare caused by the severe outbreak of plague in Mandalay. The decrease under opium of about one and a half lakhs is due to the fact that the quantity of the drug allowed to be transported per man has been reduced. Exports increased from 37 to 44 lakhs. There was an improvement in respect of almost every commodity, the most striking being cotton, raw (Rs. 67,000), twist and yarn, Indian (Rs. 1,25,000), piece-goods, European (Rs. 1,24,000), and silver (Rs. 2,97,000).

Northern  
Shan States.

130. The total trade with the Northern Shan States rose from 119 to 129 lakhs. Imports were valued at 67 lakhs, the increase of three and a half per cent. being principally under hides (Rs. 1,70,000), lac (Rs. 85,000) and teak timber (Rs. 2,53,000). There was a decrease of about two lakhs in dry tea, but an increase in the quantity of wet or pickled tea, owing to remarkably low prices of the latter, the best tea being sold at Rs. 19 to Rs. 23 per 100 viss as against Rs. 33 to Rs. 35 and the inferior kind at Rs. 12 per 100 viss. The Burmans prefer using the wet tea to the dry tea, as the former is cheaper. In exports an advance of 13'09 per cent., chiefly under twist and yarn, European. Iron and silver raised the total

to 62 lakhs. The abnormal increase in iron is due to the large exports of railway materials to Bawdwin for the Burma Mines Railway and Smelting Company, Limited. The decline in the exports of opium is due to the same cause that affected the trade by the Western China route.

131. The trade with the Southern Shan States, which totalled 162 lakhs, was 13.32 per cent. greater than in the preceding year. Imports representing nearly 63 lakhs showed a decrease of .48 per cent. and exports an increase of 25.9 per cent. The trade on the whole was prosperous, but it was greatly hampered by plague and by wild rumours regarding that epidemic. There was a marked decrease in imports under cattle owing to the prevalence of cattle disease, and in silk piece-goods and silver. The decline under these heads was partly counterbalanced by the enormous increase in imports of sticklac and of cattle hides. In exports, with the exception of apparel, there was an increase in almost every article. European piece-goods, betel-nuts, gold and silver account for the principal increases. The abnormal increase in silver was due to timber merchants having exported money to work the forests in the Southern Shan States.

132. The trade exchanged with Northern Siam, amounting to 61 lakhs, showed an increase of 18.64 per cent. Imports (34 lakhs) increased by 10.78 per cent. and exports (27 lakhs) by 30.15 per cent. There was a large increase in the imports of teak timber and silver and in exports of cotton and silk piece-goods and silver. The recent removal of the registration office from Tadanku to Thingan-Nyinnaung has resulted in better registration, to which the increase is largely attributed.

133. The total trade with Southern Siam was valued at 14.38 lakhs, a rise of 18.32 per cent., chiefly under imports of silver. The increase is due to causes similar to those which caused the increase in the trade of Northern Siam.

134. Trade with Karenni increased in value five per cent., from 38 to 40 lakhs. Imports, which represented nearly 24 lakhs of the trade, declined owing to a diminished trade in teak, while the large expansion of exports was due to heavy consignments of silver from Burma.

### Public Works.

135. During the year under review, an important change was made in the Administrative Control of the Public Works Department by the appointment the second Chief Engineer as Joint Secretary to the Local Government. This change, which was introduced from the 1st November 1906, has been found greatly to facilitate the disposal of work in the Secretariat. An Executive Engineer was added to the superior staff in order to provide for the deputation of an officer to the Andaman Islands for the execution of public works in the Settlement. The total outlay on public works from all sources during the year 1906-07 amounted to nearly 139 lakhs, being over 6 lakhs behind the figure of the previous year. The decrease is more than accounted for by a contraction from 114 to 105 lakhs in the expenditure incurred on Provincial Civil Works. It must be borne in mind, however, that the outlay in 1905-06 was exceptional as the average for the five years preceding the year of report comes to 94 lakhs only.

#### (i) Roads and Buildings.

136. Ten thousand three hundred and sixty-eight miles of made roads as distinguished from *kachcha* tracks were open to traffic at the end of the year. Of this total 1,792 miles were metalled and 8,576 miles unmetalled. One hundred and twenty-five miles of metalled and 2,729 miles of unmetalled roads were maintained by local authorities and the balance by the Public Works Department. The figures show an addition of 63 miles of metalled and 213 miles of unmetalled roads during the year. The aggregate expenditure on

**CHAP. IV.—  
PRODUCTION  
AND DISTRIBUTION.**

communications amounted to 18.80 lakhs on original works and 22.85 lakhs on maintenance. A lakh and three quarters more were spent on repairs, but the outlay on new roads showed a shrinkage to the extent of more than 4 lakhs of rupees. Nearly 3 lakhs more were spent on unmetalled roads, but the cost of new metalled roads fell off by nearly 7 lakhs.

**Metalled  
roads.**

137. In the Mandalay Division six miles of new roads were opened to traffic at Maymyo and a new road from Mandalay to Lamaing was under construction. Considerable progress was made with the remetalling of the Thabeitkyin-Mogoke road, which serves the Ruby Mines, fifty-five miles out of sixty being completed. In the Minbu Division some progress was made with the metalling of the Minbu-Salin road and with two short lengths in the Pakokku District. In the Magwe District a short road from Thittabwe to Nyaungghla was under construction. In the Tenasserim Division good progress was made with the steel bridge over the Sittang river at Toungoo which will connect the hill station of Thandaung and the country east of the river with the Railway. Some improvements were carried out on the Toungoo-Thandaung road and a new road from Oktwin to Yetho was under construction in the Toungoo District. Some new bridges were built in the Tavoy District and the work of metalling the Tavoy-Mergui road was in progress. In the Southern Shan States fair progress was made with the metalling of the Thazi-Taunggyi and Taunggyi-Hopon roads, but work on the former was hampered by the heavy cart traffic. In the Pegu Division the road from Penwègôn to Anambaw on the Sittang river, which was wrecked by floods, was reconstructed, and the road from Pegu to Tandawgyi up the right bank of the Pegu river was nearly completed. A new road from Hlegu to Paunggyi was completed, the Pegu-Thazôn road was raised and three other roads in the Pegu District were demarcated with boundary pillars. The Rangoon-Prome, the Hlawga-Taukkyan and the Hlawga-Hlainggôn roads were demarcated, a metalled foot-path from Minhla to Mônvo and a short feeder road to Inywa Railway Station were practically completed. A considerable amount of new bridging was under construction in the Tharrawaddy District and good progress was made in the conversion of two raised foot-paths into cart-roads from Shabintha to Ywathaya and from Thônzè to Panzwe and Sakhangyi. In the Irrawaddy Division the Kangyidaung-Bogayet road was completed and a section of the Prome-Taungup road was metalled. Metalling was also in progress on the Kamauksu-Aingthabyu, the Bassein-Kozu and the Bassein-Shwemyindin roads. A new bridge was built over the Kyônhan creek and the bridging on the Danubyu-Kyôn ni road was extended.

**Unmetalled  
roads.**

138. As in previous years much useful work was done throughout the Province in opening out and maintaining unmetalled roads and bridle-paths. Details of the very numerous works are not of sufficient interest to find a place in this report.

**Communi-  
cations—  
Miscella-  
neous.**

139. The construction of the steel pin truss bridge over the Namtu river at Hsipaw was pushed on, the superstructure being well advanced by the close of the year. Three wire-rope ferries were in course of erection on the Chinese Frontier road in the Bhamo District connecting up the Military Police posts of Lweje and Pankam. The erection of another at Saw in the Pakokku District was commenced. A number of inspection bungalows, rest-houses and caravanserais were constructed during the year.

**Buildings—  
Imperial.**

140. Apart from Military works which are dealt with in paragraph 80, very little of the Public Works expenditure in Burma is debitable to Imperial Funds. Certain alterations and improvements were carried out at the Diamond and Slipper Island Wireless Telegraph Stations, which are an Imperial charge, and the total expenditure under the head Imperial Civil amounted to Rs. 8,141.

**Buildings—  
Provincial.**

141. The expenditure from Provincial Funds on civil buildings amounted to 46.56 lakhs, of which repairs and upkeep accounted for 6.32 lakhs. The outlay on original works was some 5½ lakhs less than in the previous year. Over nine lakhs

were allotted to Police and a similar amount to Medical buildings, while Law and Justice swallowed up over six lakhs, Administration nearly 5½, Telegraphs 2½, Jails 1½, Educational 1½ and Post offices 1 lakh. Progress was made with various important building operations in Rangoon. An extensive addition to the Secretariat buildings completing the original quadrilateral design of which the front and back blocks were occupied 13 years ago, were practically finished, the new wings were connected with the main south facade and the several offices accommodated in them were provided with electrically-operated punkahs, partitions, and other necessaries according to requirements. Sundry improvements were also made in the old General Public Offices in Strand Road. Fair progress was achieved with the works comprised in the project for the new General Hospital at Rangoon. The structural work of the main building and paying-patients block was nearing completion, the out-patients department was practically completed and quarters were built for the Resident Medical Officer, the matron, nurses and the sergeant. The construction of the new Chief Court was advanced a stage. The inner walls were carried up to the first floor level, and the ground floor, which is made of reinforced concrete on rolled steel beams was completed. The entire foundations for the clock tower have been piled with *thitya* piles, 15 inches to 18 inches diameter, driven into hard soil, 3 feet apart. Good progress was made with the extension of the Currency Buildings at Rangoon. The conflicting interests of the Currency and Customs Departments caused some delay, but the disagreement has now been satisfactorily settled. A commencement was also made with the new Press building. Outside Rangoon new buildings were in course of construction all over the country. A number of new court-houses were provided for the better accommodation of existing Courts and for Judges of the recently constituted Judicial Services. Government School buildings were also in progress at various centres. The reconstruction of the spire of the Mandalay Palace was completed at a cost of nearly Rs. 65,000. Six new post offices, seven combined post and telegraph offices, two sub-post offices and four small telegraph offices were built during the year. The new jail at Moulmein is the most important jail work that was under construction during the year. When completed this jail will accommodate 527 prisoners, of whom 15 will be females, 12 civil prisoners and 40 undertrials. A new feature is the provision of dormitory cells for 120 prisoners, and the Hospital accommodation will be very complete. In the Southern Shan States nearly three lakhs of rupees were spent in moving the Kengtung post to a healthier site at Loimwe, which is about 5,000 feet above the sea. The most important Civil Police work under construction was the Training School for Probationary Assistant Superintendents and Sub-Inspectors at Mandalay. The project comprises quarters for the pupils and instructors together with the necessary auxiliary buildings and a parade ground. It is estimated to cost three lakhs of rupees, the buildings being of a permanent type. The Secretariat Camp offices at Maymyo were completed and official residences for Government servants were built at various stations.

142. Nearly 15 lakhs were spent by the Public Works Department on miscellaneous works not coming under the head of roads and buildings. Of this amount 3.71 lakhs were a charge on Provincial Funds. Nearly 1½ lakhs were expended on improvements to towns and the remainder on the construction and maintenance of various minor works. Work on the Rangoon Town Lands Reclamation Scheme progressed satisfactorily, the outlay having been about 6½ lakhs of rupees. Road-making was undertaken at various civil stations, notably at Maymyo, and jungle-clearing was also carried out at one or two places. The Hlawga water-works were completed and handed over to the Rangoon Municipality on the 1st July 1906. A supplementary estimate amounting to Rs. 1,42,662 was sanctioned for special repairs to the dam, the work being undertaken partly by the Public Works Department and partly by the Municipality: the portion taken in hand by the Public Works Department was finished and made over to the Municipality. Roadside arboriculture received attention. Working-plans for the planting of various roads were prepared and some planting was done. Now that

CHAP. IV.—a Manual of Arboriculture for the guidance of District Officers has been prepared by an Officer of the Forest Department, successful planting may be anticipated and progress will be more rapid than in the past.

(ii) *Railways and Tramways.*

Railways—  
Construction.

143. The Provincial Railway system was worked throughout the year by the Burma Railways Company. No addition was made to the 1,340.15 miles of line on the metre gauge open for traffic, but a further advance was made towards the completion of the new lines under construction. On the Pegu-Martaban branch, 121.27 miles long, 99 lakhs out of an estimate of 122 lakhs, and on the Henzada-Kyangin extension, 65.66 miles long, 38 lakhs out of a total of 62 lakhs had been expended by the end of March 1907. The East Daga loop line between Bagayét and Neikban stations on the Bassein-Henzada Railway was sanctioned at an estimated cost of 40 lakhs and Rs. 35,000 were spent on it, but work was afterwards postponed pending the settlement of certain questions of alignment. The detailed survey of the 2 feet 6 inches gauge line from Bhamo across the Chinese frontier to Têngyüeh (122½ miles) was completed; the prospects of this line appear to be promising. A reconnaissance survey beyond Têngyüeh to Talifu (250 miles) was started in February 1907 and was in progress at the end of the year. A number of surveys were also undertaken both by Government and by the Burma Railways Company in respect of projected extensions of the existing system. The detailed survey of a line from Moulmein to Ye (94 miles) was completed. A reconnaissance survey for a branch from Moulmein to Kawkareik (43½ miles) was finished and a detailed survey from Moulmein to Myawaddy (85 miles) was in progress. The location of a branch metre gauge line from Thazi into the Southern Shan States (110 miles) was also in hand; this line had been surveyed before for a 2½ feet gauge railway, but it is now desired if possible to have a metre gauge line. A detailed survey for a metre gauge line from Maungdaw to Buthidaung (17 miles) was completed during the year. These surveys were carried out by Government. The following proposed lines were partially surveyed by the Railways Company:—Henzada-Danubyu-Pantanaw (55½ miles) with a chord Danubyu to Wetchaung (23 miles), Shwebo-Ye-u (22 miles) and Myingyan-Natogyi (19 miles). Sanction was also obtained for the survey of a line from Nattalin eastwards to the left bank of the Irrawaddy river opposite Kyangin. On the open line various important works were completed or in progress during the year. Among these may be mentioned the doubling of the line from Hlawga to Wanetchaung and from Thingangyun to Dabein, the addition of a third storey to the Railway Offices in Rangoon, the construction of a new ferry steamer and the provision of additional locomotives and rolling-stock.

Railways—  
Interruptions  
and acci-  
dents.

144. Breaches of the railway line due to floods were less frequent and less serious than in the previous year. On the 6th September 1906 a bridge at mile 102 on the Promeline was damaged by a block of logs, and for three days vehicles had to be hand-shunted across and engines could not pass. In June 1906 the Mu Valley section was breached in many places between miles 540 and 503 and communication was interrupted for a fortnight. Another breach lasting for a day only occurred in the same section in September 1906. There was a comparatively large number of accidents on the line during the year including five serious collisions and five derailments. Wreckers, by tampering with the line, succeeded on one occasion in derailing a passenger train and on another in wrecking a goods train. In the first case a fireman died of injuries received, and the driver and guard as well as 14 passengers were slightly injured. In the second case the driver and a fireman were injured. Altogether railway accidents caused the death of two railway servants, and injuries, slight for the most part, to seven railway employees and 18 passengers.

Railways—  
Finance and  
traffic.

145. The capital outlay on the Burma Railways system during the year 1906-07 amounted to nearly 45 lakhs against 24 lakhs in 1905-06 and the total capital outlay up to the end of the year stood at 14 crores 7 lakhs. The gross earnings

of the year rose by 2½ lakhs roughly to 160 lakhs, but unfortunately working expenses increased by a larger sum (3.37 lakhs) so that the net earnings of the line, roughly 59½ lakhs, were more than a lakh behind the figure of the previous year, and the ratio of expenditure to receipts rose from 61.51 to 62.75 per cent. The aggregate train mileage, 5,194,543 miles, exceeded the mileage run in 1905-06 by nearly 350,000 miles, but the earnings per mile run were less.

(146. No addition was made during the year of report to the existing number of Tramways in the Province. The steam tramway, nearly 8 miles long, over which the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company run one passenger train daily each way between Thaton and Dvayzeik in connection with their launch service to Moulmein, earned Rs. 40,690 or about Rs. 3,000 less than in the previous year, more than two-thirds of the receipts being due to freight on goods.) The rolling-stock consists of 4 locomotives, 8 passenger carriages, 2 luggage vans and 69 goods trucks. It is thought that the opening of the Pegu-Moulmein Railway may seriously affect traffic on this line. For the year ending the 31st December 1906 the total earnings of the Rangoon Steam Tramways reached Rs. 2,75,763-1-6, the total number of miles run, 328,180, and the total number of passengers carried, 3,433,540, as compared with earnings during 1905, Rs. 2,51,334-9, number of miles run, 257,134, and number of passengers carried, 3,214,097. At the end of December 1906, the Electric Tramways service from the Suratee Bazaar to Kemmeline was opened for traffic and the Steam Tramways service from the Suratee Burra Bazaar to Ahlone was discontinued. The electrification of the system was completed in March 1907. In Mandalay the existence of plague continued to affect adversely the earnings of the Electric Tramways. The number of passengers carried, 2,619,285, was less by nearly two hundred thousand than the figure of the previous year and the mileage run, 543,587 miles, also shows a falling off. The Shan State Section of the Tramways was opened during the year. The promoters of the Madaya Light Railway, in consultation with the Municipal Committee, framed a draft agreement in connection with the proposed Madaya Tramways Extension, which they submitted to Government for sanction.

### (iii) Canals.

(147. The Pegu-Sittang and Sittang-Kyaikto Canals, respectively 45½ and 14 miles long, remained open for traffic throughout the year. All other canals in Burma are primarily irrigation works and, with the exception of the Shwetachaung in Mandalay District, are not used to any extent for traffic. 202,695 tons of goods and rafted produce valued at 104 lakhs were carried on the Pegu-Sittang Canal and 28,943 tons worth 12 lakhs, on the Sittang-Kyaikto Canal.) Traffic on both waterways increased and the expansion on the shorter canal was quite remarkable, as only some nine thousand tons were carried in the previous year. The improvement was mainly under the heads paddy and rice, vegetables and fruits and miscellaneous. The Lower Burma canals earned Rs. 1,99,042 and Rs. 10,847 respectively, while maintenance charges amounted to Rs. 97,212 and Rs. 16,227. Navigation charges on the Shwetachaung brought in six thousand rupees. Nearly a lakh and a half were spent in new works and repairs on the two Lower Burma navigation canals and leaving out of account the initial cost there was a loss of revenue on their working.

### Irrigation.

148. The Mandalay and Shwebo Canals were the only major irrigation works which earned revenue during the year 1906-07. 46,282 acres were irrigated from the Mandalay Canal as compared with 41,839 acres in the previous year and 44,639 acres were served for the first time from the newly constructed Shwebo Canal. The results on the Mandalay Canal have not come up to expectations owing mainly to the slow rate at which land covered by heavy jungle is being occupied and cleared for cultivation and in a smaller degree to water-logging in the Aungbinle Lake and on the Patheingyi and Tamokso

Navigation  
Canals

Major  
Works,  
Imperial—  
(i) Com-  
pleted  
works.

CHAP. IV.—a Manual of Arboriculture for the guidance of District Officers has been prepared by an Officer of the Forest Department, successful planting may be anticipated and progress will be more rapid than in the past.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

(ii) *Railways and Tramways.*

Railways—  
Construction.

143. The Provincial Railway system was worked throughout the year by the Burma Railways Company. No addition was made to the 1,340·15 miles of line on the metre gauge open for traffic, but a further advance was made towards the completion of the new lines under construction. On the Pegu-Martaban ranch, 121·27 miles long, 99 lakhs out of an estimate of 122 lakhs, and on the Henzada-Kyangin extension, 65·66 miles long, 38 lakhs out of a total of 62 lakhs had been expended by the end of March 1907. The East Daga loop line between Bagayet and Neikban stations on the Bassein-Henzada Railway was sanctioned at an estimated cost of 40 lakhs and Rs. 35,000 were spent on it, but work was afterwards postponed pending the settlement of certain questions of alignment. The detailed survey of the 2 feet 6 inches gauge line from Bhamo across the Chinese frontier to Têngyüeh (122½ miles) was completed; the prospects of this line appear to be promising. A reconnaissance survey beyond Têngyüeh to Talifu (250 miles) was started in February 1907 and was in progress at the end of the year. A number of surveys were also undertaken both by Government and by the Burma Railways Company in respect of projected extensions of the existing system. The detailed survey of a line from Moulmein to Ye (94 miles) was completed. A reconnaissance survey for a branch from Moulmein to Kawkareik (43½ miles) was finished and a detailed survey from Moulmein to Myawaddy (85 miles) was in progress. The location of a branch metre gauge line from Thazi into the Southern Shan States (110 miles) was also in hand; this line had been surveyed before for a 2½ feet gauge railway, but it is now desired if possible to have a metre gauge line. A detailed survey for a metre gauge line from Maungdaw to Buthidaung (17 miles) was completed during the year. These surveys were carried out by Government. The following proposed lines were partially surveyed by the Railways Company:—Henzada-Danubyu-Pantanaw (55½ miles) with a chord Danubyu to Wetchaung (23 miles), Shwebo-Ye-u (22 miles) and Myingyan-Natogyi (19 miles). Sanction was also obtained for the survey of a line from Nattalin eastwards to the left bank of the Irrawaddy river opposite Kyangin. On the open line various important works were completed or in progress during the year. Among these may be mentioned the doubling of the line from Hlawga to Wanetchaung and from Thingangyun to Dabein, the addition of a third storey to the Railway Offices in Rangoon, the construction of a new ferry steamer and the provision of additional locomotives and rolling-stock.

Railways—  
Interruptions  
and accidents.

144. Breaches of the railway line due to floods were less frequent and less serious than in the previous year. On the 6th September 1906 a bridge at mile 102 on the Prome line was damaged by a block of logs, and for three days vehicles had to be hand-shunted across and engines could not pass. In June 1906 the Mu Valley section was breached in many places between miles 540 and 593 and communication was interrupted for a fortnight. Another breach lasting for a day only occurred in the same section in September 1906. There was a comparatively large number of accidents on the line during the year including five serious collisions and five derailments. Wreckers, by tampering with the line, succeeded on one occasion in derailing a passenger train and on another in wrecking a goods train. In the first case a fireman died of injuries received, and the driver and guard as well as 14 passengers were slightly injured. In the second case the driver and a fireman were injured. Altogether railway accidents caused the death of two railway servants, and injuries, slight for the most part, to seven railway employees and 18 passengers.

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Finance and  
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Can. IV—  
Probes  
Ties and  
Distances  
1107.

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Navigation  
Canals.

### Irrigation.

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Major  
Works,  
Imperial—  
(i) Com-  
pleted  
works.

CHAP. IV.—  
PRODUCTION AND  
DISTRIBUTION.

distributaries. Drainage schemes are under consideration. On the Shwabo Canal much work remains to be done on the distributaries and water-courses. On Major Irrigation Works the bulk of the receipts represent water rates plus the difference between the "dry" and "wet" rates assessed as land revenue. During the year receipts amounted to 2.89 and 1.16 lakhs on the Mandalay and Shwabo Canals respectively and working expenses to Rs. 92,000 and Rs. 52,000, the surplus revenue being equivalent to 3.85 and 1.4 per cent. of the capital outlay to date, which comes to 51 and 46 lakhs. Surplus revenue on the Mandalay project showed a substantial rise of Rs. 83,000.

Major  
Works—  
(ii) Works  
under con-  
struction.

149. The head weir and undersluices of the Ye-u Canal were completed. Two trial lines for the main canal were laid out and various minor works were constructed. The expenditure during the year was Rs. 1,41,971 and the total outlay to the end of the year amounted to 6 lakhs against an estimate of 35 lakhs. On the Mōn Canals very little progress was made by Messrs. Burn & Co., the contractors, in the construction of the head works, and this slow progress has been due chiefly to the insufficient arrangements made for obtaining labour. A satisfactory advance was made, however, on the excavation of the North and South Canals, and on the construction of cross drainage works. Eight and a half lakhs were spent during the year and on the 31st March 1907 the capital outlay exceeded seventeen lakhs, the estimated cost of the work being 43.99 lakhs.

Minor  
Works—  
Provincial.

150. The total area irrigable from the Minor Irrigation works in the dry zone of Upper Burma is roughly 645,000 acres, but the area actually irrigated in any year is usually very far short of this maximum. With some important exceptions these works were constructed before the annexation of the Upper Province, but they have been much improved in the course of time by the Public Works Department. During 1906-07 only 246,733 acres were irrigated as compared with 287,766 in the previous year and the receipts consisting of a varying share of the land revenue assessment declined by about Rs. 10,000 to 9.07 lakhs, while working expenses increased by about Rs. 22,000 to 7.83 lakhs, resulting in a net revenue of 1.24 lakhs. 3.19 lakhs were expended on new works and 1.96 lakhs on repairs. The most important works were carried out on the Nyaungyan-Minhla Tank, the Meiktila Lake, the Ngapyang Canal and the Shwetachaung, the outlay amounting to 52,44, 29 and 23 thousand rupees respectively, while about Rs. 33,000 were spent on repair works on the Salin Canals. The total net revenue for all these minor irrigation works as far back as accounts go amounted at the end of the year to 14.65 lakhs.

## CHAPTER V. REVENUE AND FINANCE.

### REFERENCES—

- Land Revenue Administration Report for the year ended the 30th June 1907.  
Excise Administration Report for the year ended the 31st March 1907.  
Salt Administration Report for the year 1906.  
Note on the Administration of Stamp Revenue for the year ended the 31st March 1907.  
Note on the working of the Income-tax Act for the year ended the 31st March 1907.  
Report on the Maritime Trade of Burma for the year 1906-07.  
Forty-first 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 1907, and the four preceding years, Volume II, Table 7.  
Fourteenth 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.

### Gross Revenue.

151. The sum total of all receipts of the year preceding the 1st April 1907 paid in to the credit of Imperial, Provincial and Local Funds was in round numbers 10 crores 26 lakhs of rupees, or £6,840,000 sterling, calculated at the rate of 15 rupees per sovereign. Of this amount the Imperial revenue amounted to 335 lakhs, or £2,233,000 sterling, a decrease of 62 lakhs as compared with the receipts of the previous twelve months, mainly due to a nominal deficit of 52 lakhs under Land Revenue caused by the transfer from Imperial to Provincial in connection with the new Settlement of a contribution 53 lakhs in excess of the figure of 1905-06. Provincial Funds received 472½ lakhs or £3,150,000 sterling an increase of nearly 52 lakhs over the receipts of 1905-06 owing to the enhanced contribution mentioned with reference to Imperial Receipts; while the various District (Cess), Port and Municipal Funds covered by the expression Local Funds collected no less than 218 lakhs, or £1,453,000 sterling, the large capital loans raised during the year by the Rangoon Port Trust and the Rangoon Municipality being the chief cause of the increase of 35 lakhs above the total collections made within the previous year. The gross expenditure under all heads rose by 43 lakhs to 730 lakhs, or £4,867,000 sterling. Under Provincial the net excess over the expenditure of 1905-06 came to over 52 lakhs the largest increase being over four lakhs under Police and nearly five lakhs, under Medical and the largest decrease nearly 9 lakhs under Civil works. The five years' Provincial settlement expired on the 31st March 1907. During its continuance the gross revenues of the Province have risen from 9 crores 69 lakhs to 10 crores 26 lakhs and the gross outlay from 6 crores 36 lakhs to 7 crores 30 lakhs. During the same period Provincial receipts have grown from 340 to 473 lakhs and Provincial expenditure from 373 to 453 lakhs.

### (a) IMPERIAL REVENUE AND FINANCE.

#### Land Revenue.

152. Receipts credited to the major head Land Revenue are divided equally between Imperial and Provincial Funds, but this equation is seriously interfered with owing to the fact that adjustments under the Provincial Settlement are made under this head. The gross land revenue of the Province increased from nearly 383 to 386 lakhs, but the Imperial share underwent a reduction from 120 to 68 lakhs because the contribution from Imperial to Provincial revenues exceeded the figure for 1905-06 by 53.74 lakhs, including the lump sum initial grant of 50 lakhs transferred from Imperial to Provincial Funds to enable the Province to start the new Provincial Settlement under favourable conditions. The Report on the Land Revenue Administration deals with the agricultural year which closed on the

Land Revenue receipts

30th June and in consequence the statistics of revenue there given differ from those exhibited in the Financial Accounts of the Province for the financial year ending on the 31st March. The great bulk of the revenue is, however, assessed and collected during the nine months common to both years and in most years the explanations of variations given in the departmental report are equally applicable to the fluctuations shown in the Accounts. The figures quoted in the remainder of this paragraph are taken from the Land Revenue Report and relate to the agricultural year. The figures relating to *Ordinary Land Revenue*, that is revenue levied on land under occupation in Lower Burma and under at last partly successful cultivation in Upper Burma have been given in paragraph 17 and it is unnecessary to repeat them here. Receipts from capitation tax rose by about Rs. 70,000 to 50·27 lakhs. A large increase of Rs. 91,857 in Akyab was due to energetic enforcement by the Deputy Commissionere of the decision to assess systematically the Chittagonian coolies who visit Akyab District annually to work as agricultural labourers. A million and a quarter persons were assessed, the increase of nearly 25,000, being rather better than the average of the past few years. The number of households assessed to *thathameda* in Upper Burma rose by 14,600 to nearly 750,000, but in spite of this expansion collections (46 lakhs) were less by some Rs. 40,000 than those of 1905-06. The falling off in collections was chiefly due to reduction of rates in connection with settlements in Shwebo and Meiktila Districts. Remissions rose from 42 to 60 thousand rupees owing mainly to crop failures in Pakokku and Myingyan. Receipts from land rate in lieu of capitation tax increased from Rs. 94,199 to Rs. 96,453. There was a remarkable decline of over 2½ lakhs in the fishery revenue, the proceeds of which amounted to 26 lakhs. The decrease was mainly in receipts from leased fisheries. Under this head there were increases aggregating five lakhs in the two years 1901—1903, smaller advances of three quarters of a lakh roughly in each of the next two years and a decline of a like amount in 1905-06. About half the revenue comes from the Irrawaddy Division, which was mainly responsible for the falling off. The immediate cause was the effect on auction prices of the two preceding bad seasons. With increased activity in the oil-fields, the total receipts classed as Miscellaneous Land Revenue rose by nearly one and a quarter lakhs to close on 25 lakhs. The increase in miscellaneous land revenue from about 11½ lakhs in 1900-01 to the amount realized in 1906-07 is almost entirely due to the increased output of oil. All other heads but the rent of town lands and fines under the village law show an actual decrease and the increase under the former head is less than Rs. 22,000.

### Canal (Navigation and Irrigation) Revenue.

153. Mention has been made in paragraphs 147 to 150 above of the amount of revenue derived from canals and irrigation works during the financial year 1906-07. Receipts from canals used for navigation purposes only are wholly Provincial; revenue derived from the Minor Irrigation Works is included in the land revenue assessment and dealt with accordingly, while receipts from Major Irrigation Works are wholly Imperial.

### Sources of Imperial Revenue other than the Land.

Customs.

154. Duties on imports other than salt and on exports, which constitute all but a fraction of the receipts collected by the Customs-houses of the Province, are entirely an Imperial asset. During the financial year 1906-07 they amounted to nearly 123 lakhs, or 5·37 lakhs less than the receipts for the previous twelve months, mainly by reason of continued duty-free exports of rice to India due to scarcity in Bengal as well as to a decline in the rice trade with the Straits Settlements partly counterbalanced by an improvement in import duty. Provincial receipts, contributed mainly by overtime and holiday fees, amounted to the small sum of Rs. 84,913.

Opium.

155. Receipts credited to the major head Opium, which is wholly Imperial represent the cost of opium, at Rs. 8-8-0 a seer, supplied by the Government of Bengal for distribution to the licensed opium shops in Burma. They amounted

to 5'77 lakhs as compared with 6'08 lakhs in the previous year. The reduction is attributed to the progressive restriction by Resident Excise Officers of the quantity sold to each purchaser to the amount which he requires for his personal use. CHAP. V.—  
REVENUE  
AND  
FINANCE.

**156.** Revenue falling under the Major Head Salt was divided equally between Salt Imperial and Provincial Funds. The total collections (Rs. 16,96,196) credited to this head during the calendar year 1906, with which the Report on the Administration of Salt Revenue deals, showed a decrease of Rs. 1,11,216. The loss of revenue is accounted for by a diminution of over a lakh and Rs. 27,000 respectively in the receipts from import duty on salt and on salt-fish, counteracted in part by a rise of Rs. 22,000 in the amount of Excise duty on salt manufactured in Burma. The fall in customs duty realised was not due to a diminution of imports but to a decline in the amount of salt withdrawn from bond. To what extent the diminished consumption of foreign salt and salted fish in the year under report is to be attributed to the expansion of the supply of local salt is not clearly established, but it is certain that increased supply of the local article must affect imports. The estimated consumption of salt in the Province amounted to 1,986,044 maunds of which local salt accounted for 721,664 maunds against 620,211 maunds in the previous year. The percentage of consumption of local salt has been fairly constant in recent years at about 30 per cent. but the percentage for 1906 showed a marked rise and an examination of the figures for previous years indicates that the tendency is for the consumption of local salt to increase until checked by enhanced taxation as it was in 1898 and 1901. There appears to be some danger that unless the duty is raised a permanent displacement of foreign by local salt may occur. The system of direct taxation on output was introduced into the Kyaukpyu District from the 1st January 1906 and is now in force in the seven districts of Lower Burma in which salt is produced on a considerable scale. As has happened before in similar circumstances the change of system in Kyaukpyu was accompanied by some dislocation of the industry and consequent loss of revenue. In the other six districts the industry flourished under the new system. (In Akyab, Sandoway and Thatôn the policy of concentrating manufacture and restricting the issue of licenses came into force.) In these three districts and in Upper Burma, where the levy of compensation duty on the vessels employed is still in force, only 96,700 maunds were produced as compared with 123,989 maunds in 1905.) The excise duty on local salt remained unchanged at 8 annas a maund and the only alteration in the rates of compensation duty took the form of a slight enhancement of the fees levied in the Sagaing District. Practically the same quantity of foreign salt was imported during the year, but only 1,264,380 maunds (46,447 tons) paid duty, 3,904 tons less than the figure of the previous year. The bulk of the salt imported into the Province came from England and Germany, the former country retaining the leading position which it had regained in the previous year. Imports from Aden fell by nearly a lakh and for the first time consignments amounting to 157,888 maunds were received from Spain. Over 10,000 maunds were shipped from Liverpool to Akyab. The supply of local salt in Arakan is ordinarily sufficient to meet the demand, but in the last two years foreign salt has been taken owing no doubt to shortage of the outturn from the Kyaukpyu District. Various questions regarding the enhancement of the excise duty and the introduction of improved arrangements for assessing and collecting the revenue based on outturn have been under consideration and some difficulty has been experienced in arriving at final conclusions. With a view to the settlement of these questions a special officer has been deputed to visit salt-producing localities in Madras and afterwards to report fully on the conditions of the Burma industry in conjunction with an officer of the Madras Salt Department.

**157.** Excise receipts continued to be divided in the proportion of two shares to Excise Imperial and one share to Provincial Funds. The gross receipts from Opium and Excise fell from 89'10 to 82'38 lakhs and charges also declined from 16'05 to 15'59 lakhs so that the net revenue was 6½ lakhs below that of 1905-06. Of

the total receipts over 46 lakhs were from Opium. Under the head of Opium there has been a decrease of nearly two and a quarter lakhs of rupees in consequence of the smaller issues of Government opium to the licensed shops. Under Excise the revenue from license fees for the vend of imported liquors fell from Rs. 11,46,924 to Rs. 9,38,041. There was a decrease of more than two lakhs in the fees under this head in Rangoon Town, caused by some general depression in trade arising from the outbreak of plague and other causes, and in part, it is said, by combination amongst bidders at the auction sales. A further reduction of nearly two lakhs occurred in auction fees for licenses for country fermented liquor other than *tari*. Most of the licenses are issued in the Delta, and there had been a large amount of speculative bidding in 1905-06, when many of the foreign liquor shops were closed, and replaced by country liquor shops. Outstill revenue decreased by Rs. 44,000 with the introduction of the contract distillery system and duty on distillery spirit fell from Rs. 3,45,493 to Rs. 2,72,227, notwithstanding the new issues in the contract distillery areas and the increase from Rs. 6 to Rs. 7 from the 1st April 1906 in the duty on spirit issued as foreign spirit. The falling off in duty is explained by the abnormally large issues made shortly before the close of 1905-06 in order to escape the increased duty. The *tari* revenue shews a satisfactory increase of about half a lakh of rupees. No important changes were made during the year 1906-07 in the system of opium administration in force in Burma. Two of the three opium shops in Mandalay Town were closed at the beginning of the year; elsewhere the number of shops and the arrangements for vend were continued as in the previous year. Greater attention has been given to the sales at the shops by the officers in charge, with a view to the prevention of the hawking of shop opium, and in consequence there is again a decrease from 78,386 to 74,731 seers in the total quantity of opium sold. Little or no advance has been made in the suppression of opium-smuggling into the Province. Larger seizures of illicit opium were made in most districts, although the total quantity seized was below the figure for the previous year, in consequence of specially large captures in one or two districts in 1905-06. The Excise staff in Upper Burma was reorganized towards the close of the year, the establishments in the frontier districts being strengthened, and the staff in the interior districts being reduced or abolished. The effect of the re-organization will be more apparent in 1908-09. Additions are urgently needed to the staff in several districts in Lower Burma, and proposals which had already been made in this direction are now being revised and resubmitted. Further important measures are shortly to be introduced for the registration of non-Burman opium consumers, for the restriction of each consumer to the nearest shop for his supplies, and for the better prevention of smuggling and hawking. In Excise, as distinct from opium, the chief feature of the year has been the introduction of the contract distillery system into Burma on the 1st November 1906. The object in view in introducing the new system is to replace in the outstill areas the crude outstill spirit manufactured under no sufficient control by plain distillery spirit made in licensed distilleries, and issued on payment of fixed rates of duty. The change in system was made in outstill tracts in five districts of the Tenasserim Division and on the whole the new arrangements have worked smoothly and without any great disarrangement of the revenue. A further reduction was made in the year in the large number of *tari* licenses in the Prome District, and elsewhere some of the smaller *tari* shops were closed without any adverse effect on the total fees realized. Rules were issued during the year for the sale by medical practitioners and pharmacists of medicated wines which contain not more than 42 per cent. of proof spirit.

## Stamps.

158. Receipts falling under the Major Head Stamps are mainly a Provincial asset, the Imperial share being one-fourth. They do not include postage and telegraph stamps. After inclusion of the contributions in respect of the unified postage and receipt stamps, the gross receipts from stamps in 1906-07 showed, in round figures, an increase of Rs. 2,41,000 above those for the preceding year, as compared with an increase of Rs. 4,26,000 (including the contribution on account of unified stamps) which occurred in that year. If all figures in respect of receipt

stamps are deducted, the gross receipts for 1904-05, 1905-06 and 1906-07 are Rs. 31,36,127, Rs. 35,47,284 and Rs. 37,99,674. It is probable that the increase of Civil Courts in 1905-06 caused an exceptionally large increase. The receipts from Court-fee stamps in the year of report formed 62 per cent. of the total, a proportion little smaller than that of 1905-06. Expenditure rose by only Rs. 2,691 to a total of Rs. 1,28,385. There were increases in the charges for discount and vend establishment for Court-fee stamps, and for refunds under the Stamp Act, but expenditure on discount and other vend expenses under the Stamp Act decreased. The cost of general supervision amounted to Rs. 23,997, less than that of the previous year by Rs. 563 owing to smaller expenditure on contingencies; and the cost of stamp papers supplied by the Central Depot declined from Rs. 30,608 to Rs. 28,126. The Superintendent was authorised to transfer surplus stocks of stamps from one local depot to another. Local depôts were also directed to work down to stocks not exceeding twice the minimum stock. Both these measures probably reduced indents on the Central Depot. The increase of nearly Rs. 1,86,000 from over 22 lakhs to over 24 lakhs in the receipts on account of judicial stamps compares unfavourably with the increase of over Rs. 4,12,000 recorded in the previous year, but the expansion in the earlier period was unusually large. The average increase of the three preceding years was little over a lakh and a half. The reduction in the increase was distributed in somewhat similar proportions between the two items of Court-fee stamps and stamped copy-sheets. If contributions and actual receipts on account of receipt stamps are included non-judicial stamps yielded in 1906-07 Rs. 14,39,437, that is Rs. 19,203 more than in 1905-06. The check in the expansion of this branch of the revenue may be ascribed generally to the unfavourable seasons of 1905 and 1906 and the resulting arrest of trade. The only items contributing more than a quarter of a lakh to the total revenue under this head are impressed stamps (sh ets) and impressed labels which yielded respectively about 7½ and 4 lakhs. Receipts from impressed sheets remained practically stationary, but those from impressed labels recovered over Rs. 29,000 out of the decrease of nearly Rs. 89,000 which took place in 1905-06. The amounts of discount on Court-fee stamps and non-judicial stamps increased by Rs. 773, and decreased by Rs. 3,953 respectively. These changes are far from proportionate to the alterations in the sale-proceeds of the stamps themselves because rates of discount on non-judicial stamps are higher than on judicial, and also, it would seem, because Court-fee stamps on the sale of which no discount is due, e.g., when issued singly by the *ex-officio* vendor above the value of Rs. 50, are sold more frequently than similar non-judicial stamps. The decline in the number of cases in which duty and penalty were levied by courts on unstamped or insufficiently stamped instruments and in the revenue derived from them, was arrested in its third year and there was a slight increase in both number and amount. There was also a slight increase in the number of cases dealt with by Collectors. The increase in the duties and penalties realised was large, being Rs. 34,946, but most of it was due to two sums of Rs. 18,530 and Rs. 11,812 charged on instruments presented for adjudication to the Collector, Rangoon. Prosecutions for offences against the stamp law were somewhat less frequent and the amount of fines imposed diminished.

159. Though the Indian Income-tax Act, 1886, was in force throughout the whole of Burma and the Shan States, the tax was collected only in Lower Burma and in Mandalay town. The tax was introduced into Northern Arakan District during the year of report for the first time. The inclusion of this district brought an addition of only Rs. 292 to the provincial collections. Receipts collected under the Act were shared equally between Imperial and Provincial Funds. The total collections rose from 15'29 to 15'42 lakhs. The outstanding feature of the year was the notable increase in the total of securities held in the Province, the interest of which is liable to taxation. Government securities showed a moderate rise from 44 to 54 lakhs while the holdings of local securities increased by no less than 86 lakhs, from 155 to 242 lakhs. The expansion is due to investments by the public in Rangoon Municipal and Port Trust loans. The number of companies whose profits were assessed rose from 56 to 62, but the collections declined from

CHAP. V.—  
REVENUE  
AND  
FINANCE.

2.77 to 2.35 lakhs. Receipts from "Other sources" that is, chiefly assessments on private persons, amounted to 7.69 lakhs, showing an insignificant improvement. In Rangoon a falling off of nearly Rs. 10,000 is ascribed to the "adverse influences of plague to depression due to other causes in various trades, and to reaction after a period of inflated prices." Objections to assessments were a good deal less numerous, owing partly, it is said, to useful work done by the Chetty assessor, of whom a second was entertained.

Forests.

160. The gross revenue collected by the Forest Department during the forest year ending on the 30th June 1907 amounted to 86.39 lakhs or about 8 lakhs below the total for the previous twelve months. The income from timber and other produce extracted by Government agency fell from 44.83 to 35.51 lakhs, more than accounting for the decline in the gross revenue. The falling off was due to contraction of Government operations in the Pegu and Northern Circles, to the sale in the previous year of a large accumulation of timber worked out in former years in the Pegu Circle and to unfavourable drift operations in the Pegu and Tenasserim Circles. The expenditure incurred on the operations of the Department declined from 38.64 to 36.35 lakhs and the surplus revenue shared equally between Imperial and Provincial Funds fell from 55.82 to 50.05 lakhs. The saving under expenditure was due to abandonment in the Northern Circle and to restriction in the Pegu Circle of the extraction of timber by Government agency.

Imperial  
Expenditure.

161. Except under the heads Land Revenue and Customs, where expenditure is debited entirely to Provincial Funds, Imperial and Provincial Funds contribute to the charges incurred under the various budget heads in the same proportion as they benefit by the revenue accruing thereunder and these contributions form the bulk of the Imperial expenditure, so far as it is dealt with in this report. During the financial year ending March 1907 the total Imperial expenditure rose from 53.80 to 57.24 lakhs. Outlay amounting to 14 lakhs was incurred on Military works representing an increase of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  lakhs. There were also small increases under other heads counterbalanced in part by the saving of over a lakh on the Imperial share of Forest charges.

### (b) REVENUE AND FINANCE OTHER THAN IMPERIAL.

#### Provincial Revenues.

Provincial  
Receipts.

162. Provincial Funds derive the great bulk of their receipts from the heads which are shared with Imperial Funds. The revenue under the remaining heads, which are either entirely Provincial or are shared with Local Funds, amounted to only 28.2 lakhs in the year 1906-07 and fluctuations under these heads do not materially affect the Provincial Budget. The total Provincial Receipts for the year of report amounted to 47.2½ lakhs, showing an increase of 52 lakhs, which was principally accounted for by increases of 5½ lakhs and 1.78 lakhs under Land Revenue and Stamps respectively and decreases of 2 lakhs under Excise and 2½ lakhs under Forests. Explanations of these variations have been given in the preceding paragraphs relating to Imperial Receipts under the same heads. (Under Minor Works and Navigation the increase of Rs. 58,000 was chiefly caused by increase in traffic on the Pegu-Sittang and Sittang-Kyaikto Canals. Further extension of the system of collecting revenue by village headmen caused a rise of Rs. 39,000 under Contributions.) Under Police the decrease of Rs. 49,000 occurred owing to receipts on account of steam-boilers having been credited to Local on the creation of the Steam-boiler Inspection Fund as an Incorporated Local Fund from 1st April 1906, to Municipal and Cantonment Funds having ceased to contribute towards Police charges and to decrease in receipts from gambling fines. The falling off under Marine, amounting to Rs. 62,000, was due to the reduction in the rate of Burma Coast Light dues under the orders of the Government of India.

Provincial  
Expenditure.

163. The total expenditure met out of Provincial Funds during the financial year 1906-07 amounted to 453½ lakhs of rupees or £3,022,000 sterling and was less than the total receipts (by nearly 20 lakhs) for the first time during the settlement

which expired at the close of the year of report. The total shows an expansion of 6·7 lakhs over the figure of 1905-06. Medical expenditure rose by 4·80 lakhs to 17·56 lakhs owing chiefly to heavier expenditure incurred on plague-preventive measures undertaken by Government and on grants-in-aid to local bodies for the purpose of carrying out such measures. The main cause of the advance from 103·28 to 107·58 lakhs in the cost of the Police Force was the gradual introduction of the Police Commission reforms. Land Revenue and Courts of Law change amounted to 62½ and 39½ lakhs roughly, increases of over two and nearly three lakhs respectively being due for the most part to new appointments of Extra Assistant Commissioners and Myodks. The educational activity aroused by His Excellency Lord Curzon shows no signs of abatement and Provincial expenditure on the Department rose from 14·40 to 16·25 lakhs. The reduction in the outlay on Forests from 19·69 to 18·46 lakhs has already been commented on. The disappearance of Post Office expenditure was due to the imperialization of Postal charges from the 1st April 1906. The substantial reduction of expenditure on Civil Works by nearly 9 lakhs, from 114 to 105 lakhs, occurred under Original Works, Civil Buildings and Communications, and is attributed to smaller outlay on District Courts in the Province, on the Rangoon General Hospital, on new Public offices and clerks' quarters in Rangoon as well as on the construction of road in the Province. The decrease would have been more but for the heavier outlay on repairs in the current year.

CHAP. V.—  
REVENUE  
AND  
FINANCE.

### Local Funds.

164. Incorporated Local Funds in Burma in the year 1906-07 consisted of 20 District Cess Funds in Lower Burma, 16 District Funds in Upper Burma and the Burma Steam Boiler Inspection Fund. No change took place in the number of District Cess Funds during the year. The aggregate balance at credit of these funds on 1st April 1906 stood at Rs. 12,81,054. The total receipts during the year amounted Rs. 29,99,308 and the total expenditure to Rs. 27,57,754, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 15,22,608 on the 31st March 1907, being Rs. 2,41,554 higher than the opening balance. There was a net increase of Rs. 1,37,147 in receipts in 1906-07 as compared with the previous year. This was due chiefly to increases under Provincial Rates, Civil Works by Civil Officers and Contributions from Provincial to Local, partly counterbalanced by reductions under Police. The net decrease in expenditure as compared with the previous year was Rs. 49,760. Increases occurred chiefly under Medical, Civil Works by Civil Officers and contributions from Local to Provincial, while there were decreases chiefly under Post Office, Marine, and Civil Works by Public Works Officers. The increase under Medical was mainly due to larger outlay in connection with the bubonic plague. Under the orders of the Government of India all postal charges were imperialized with effect from 1st April 1906 and from the same date District Cess Funds were relieved of all Marine charges. The number of District Funds was the same as in the previous year, namely, 16. The aggregate balance at credit of the funds on the 1st April 1906 was Rs. 2,77,509; the total receipts of the year amounted to Rs. 5,66,621 and the total expenditure to Rs. 5,84,151, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 2,59,379 or Rs. 18,130 less than the opening balance. The accounts show an increase of Rs. 1,11,159 in receipts as compared with the previous year, resulting from increases mainly under Police, Civil Works by Civil Officers and Contributions from Provincial to Local, partly counterbalanced by a decrease under Miscellaneous. On the expenditure side there was a net increase of Rs. 1,46,944 as compared with the previous year, which occurred chiefly under Civil Works by Public Works and Civil Officers in consequence of more funds having been available for outlay out of the contribution of one lakh sanctioned by the Local Government for special expenditure on Public Works. The Burma Steam-boiler Inspection Fund was created as an Incorporated Local Fund with effect from 1st April 1906. The Fund closed with a credit balance of Rs. 13,066 on 31st March 1907, the receipts for the year 1906-07 having been Rs. 41,101 and expenditure Rs. 28,035.

Incorporated  
Local Funds.

165. In the category of Excluded Local Funds there were in the year of report 7 Cantonment Funds, 17 Town Funds, the Rangoon Port Trust and 6 minor Port

Excluded  
Local Funds.

Funds, 4 Pilot Funds, the Rangoon Police Reward Fund and the Educational Syndicate Fund. The total income of all the Cantonments, excluding debt heads, amounted to Rs. 1,80,825 and the expenditure to Rs. 1,55,867. The corresponding figures for 1905-06 were Rs. 2,29,662 and Rs. 2,02,909, respectively, so that in the year under report the total income shows a decrease of Rs. 48,837, and the expenditure a decrease of Rs. 47,042. Of the 16 Town Funds mentioned in the previous report, one, namely, Kyaiklat, was constituted a Municipality during the course of the year so that at the end of the year the total number actually stood at 15. In the year under report two new Town Funds were established at Yenangyaung and Kyônpyaw and one Town Fund, Wakèma, was constituted a Municipality, so that the total number of Town Funds at the end of the year was actually 16, as against 15 in the preceding year. The total income of the funds shows a decrease of Rs. 54,630, as compared with that of the previous year, the figures being Rs. 4,42,282 for 1905-06 and Rs. 3,87,652 for 1906-07. The expenditure was less by Rs. 21,674, the total for 1905-06 being Rs. 4,35,687 and that for 1906-07, Rs. 4,14,013. The large decrease in Receipts is due to the transfer of the Kyaiklat and Wakèma Town Funds, with large income to the list of Municipalities. Exclusive of the Rangoon Port Trust, the affairs of which are dealt with separately in paragraphs 83 and 84 the receipts of the 6 minor Port Funds amounted to 3.31 lakhs and expenditure to 3.69 lakhs, involving a reduction in the closing balance. The number of Pilot Funds was four. The pilotage receipts are credited to these funds, from which the earnings of pilots, the cost of maintenance of pilot vessels and other expenses are disbursed. The receipts of the Rangoon Police Reward Fund, consisting of fines recovered from policemen, amounted to Rs. 1,075 as against Rs. 738 in the previous year. The fund is utilized in rewarding policemen for good conduct, for arresting criminals and obtaining convictions, etc. The expenditure on this account amounted to Rs. 1,092 during the year under report as against Rs. 722 in the previous year. The total income of the Educational Syndicate Fund amounted to Rs. 49,991, of which Rs. 16,500 is on account of contribution from Government, and Rs. 500 from the Rangoon Municipality towards the Bernard Free Library. The remaining income consisted chiefly of fees for examination by the Educational Syndicate. The balance at the end of the year was better than that of the previous year by Rs. 5,823.

### Road and Education Cesses.

166. No special cesses are levied in Burma for the construction and maintenance of roads and the provision of education.

### Municipal Revenues.

167. The Rangoon Municipality does not bank with Government and its transactions are not therefore shown in the Government accounts. The gross income for the year was Rs. 50,26,371. Excluding items under the head "Extraordinary and Debt" the general income of the Municipality in 1906-07 was Rs. 30,03,564 as against Rs. 26,08,452 in 1905-06. The increase is due chiefly to the principal *ad valorem* taxes being increased during the year, from which source a sum of Rs. 2,43,314 was realised in excess of the figures for the previous year, and to the grant received from Government of Rs. 1,58,719, towards expenditure incurred by the Municipality in connection with the Hlawga water-works and plague operations. The total expenditure during the year was Rs. 46,79,686. Eliminating charges for works paid for from loans, and the figures under advances, deposits and other suspense accounts, the total of Rs. 29,67,956 is obtained as the ordinary expenditure during the year as against Rs. 28,56,592, in the year before. The increase during the year of review is chiefly due to the contribution of Rs. 55,351 to the Reclamation fund as the share of the Municipal tax on reclaimed areas and to the increased charges on account of plague, education and conservancy. Under the head of public health and convenience the expenditure in 1906-07 amounted to Rs. 24,51,315, or Rs. 3,34,392 more than in the previous year. This excess was chiefly due to capital expenditure of Rs. 8,07,207 incurred as against Rs. 5,40,942 in 1905-06, and was principally connected with the water supply and drainage improvement

schemes which are being carried out under the supervision of the Special Engineer. The outstanding loans on the 1st April 1906 amounted to Rs. 1,13,94,000 which include Rs. 18,00,000, on account of loans for reclamation works. A four per cent. loan of Rs. 9,14,000 was raised during the year mainly for water works and for the construction of a cattle market.

CHAP. V.—  
REVENUE  
AND  
FINANCE.

166. With the exception of Moulmein all the 43 minor Municipalities in the Province bank with Government. The opening balance on the 1st April 1906 amounted to 6.95 lakhs and the gross receipts of the year to 35½ lakhs, of which 5½ lakhs came under the head of extraordinary and debt. The ordinary income of the 42 municipalities dealt with in the Report for 1905-06 was 32½ lakhs and that of the newly constituted Municipality of Wakema during the year of report was Rs. 25,000 so that there was a decline of nearly 2½ lakhs in the ordinary revenue of the original forty-two. The absence of the causes which swelled the receipts of Mandalay in the previous year accounted for the falling off. Grants and contributions (2.78 lakhs) did not vary much from the figure of 1905-06. Considerable grants were made by Government to some of the principal Municipalities for the improvement of the towns. Rs. 50,000 was contributed to Mandalay and Rs. 22,500 and Rs. 20,000 respectively to Prome and Moulmein to meet special outlay on measures for dealing with plague. The total ordinary expenditure during the year was just over 33 lakhs and the closing balance at credit of the funds 8.32 lakhs. If the ordinary expenditure of Wakema during the year (Rs. 38,000) be left out of account, the charges of the year of report exceed those of 1905-06, 32 lakhs, by about Rs. 70,000. No large expenditure was incurred on water-supply and drainage except at Akyab, where the initiation of the water-works project cost Rs. 45,000. Plague charges amounted to 3.28 lakhs against sums of 1.03 and 1.84 lakhs debited on this account to hospitals and dispensaries and 'conservancy' respectively in the previous twelve months. Expenditure on roads fell off from 5.75 to 4.70 lakhs possibly owing to heavy charges due to Plague. Fresh Government loans of one lakh for settlement of outstanding liabilities on the Moulmein water-works and of Rs. 20,000 and Rs. 25,000 respectively for Public Works at Thayetmyo and Pakokku were sanctioned during the year. The loan liabilities of Minor Municipalities rose from 21.04 to 24.28 lakhs, 3.52 lakhs being drawn against Government loans. The outstanding debt of Moulmein at the end of the year amounted to 11 lakhs, of Mandalay to 5.03 lakhs, of Akyab to 2.30 lakhs and of Prome to 1.29 lakhs. The debts of other Municipalities were inconsiderable.

Other Municipalities.

### Other Funds.

169. As in the previous years only one Trust Fund was in existence, namely, that of the Official Assignee. It does not bank with the Government and its accounts are not shown in the Government accounts. There were four Educational Endowment Funds, *viz.*, Jardine, Maung Ohn Ghine, Renoung and Coplestone funds. These funds do not bank with Government treasuries and their accounts are not shown in the Government books.

### Paper Currency.

170. The returns for the year 1906-07 show a very substantial expansion in the circulation of currency notes. The total value of the notes in circulation rose from 184 to 271 lakhs. As hitherto, ten rupee notes, which numbered 352,780, were most popular and Rs. 100 notes, numbering 201,025 were next in favour. Rs. 5 notes (15,004) are still by no means popular. The fluctuations in the circulation of notes of the higher values are almost wholly dependent upon the requirements of the local banks. Out of the total increase of circulation of over 87 lakhs only 14½ lakhs is due to an increase in circulation of large denomination notes, *i.e.*, Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 10,000. It is clear therefore that the increased circulation is not due to an increase in Bank reserves, but to a rise in the active circulation of the lower denomination notes among the people. The popularity of the note circulation is shown by the extensive use made of notes in the Delta districts. In several of these districts a very large proportion of the land revenue is paid in notes, and the use of notes for this purpose is increasing.

## CHAPTER VI.

### VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

#### REFERENCES—

- Report on the Sanitary Administration of Burma for the year 1906.  
Notes and Statistics on Hospitals and Dispensaries in Burma for the year 1906.  
Notes and Statistics on Vaccination in Burma for the year 1906-07.  
Twelfth issue of Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India, 1906-07, Tables Nos. XIII (Vital Statistics), XIV (Hospitals) and XVI (Vaccination).

#### Births and Deaths.

Number of  
births and  
deaths.

171. There was no alteration during the year in the areas in which registration of births and deaths was in force, but orders were passed for the extension from the 1st January 1907 to non-Municipal towns and rural areas in Upper Burma to the registration of births, hitherto confined, in that section of the Province, to Municipal Towns. Throughout the country the statistics compiled are no doubt to some degree inaccurate, and the registration of births is probably less accurate than that of deaths. The number of births in Lower Burma fell from 191,226 to 180,025. The decrease was more or less general throughout each division except Tenasserim and no convincing explanation of it is forthcoming. It is suggested that the compilation of the returns by Civil Surgeons may have conduced to greater accuracy, but this explanation of the reduction appears to be of doubtful validity. Some influence is also ascribed to the actual mortality from plague and especially to plague having brought about a scare which resulted in an exodus from the country of the female members of Native Indian families. The generally unhealthy condition of the year may also have adversely affected the birth rate. On the other hand it is not thought that any cause has been at work which has had a direct influence on fecundity or is likely to be permanent. Of the total of 190,380 births registered in the whole Province 98,377 were male and 92,003 female. It is impossible to state the birth rate for the year of the Province as a whole. In Upper Burma, results can only be quoted for the towns; thus in a population of 303,014 the birth rate was 34.17. In Lower Burma, a total population of 710,206 residents in towns exhibits a birth rate of only 25.80; but, if the town and rural population of Lower Burma be included so as to make a population of 5,568,479 the birth rate is found to be 32.33. This percentage is slightly below the average rate for the five previous years, which was 32.85. These figures would argue better results in rural areas without the aid of compulsory registration than in rural areas with it; but, if the populations of the three towns—Rangoon, Akyab and Moulmein (where the proportion of the sexes is largely affected by a floating population of coolies) be omitted, it is found that the average rate for the remaining towns is 33.52. In the case of Mandalay, the rate of 34.46, which was slightly above that for the previous year (33.32), seems to show that the severe epidemic of plague and cholera had no obvious effect upon fecundity; although, on the other hand, it is presumable that the vigour with which registration enquiries were pushed by the Health Officer in the interests of plague measures must have resulted in improved registration. In Rangoon, the return of 17.16 differs little from that of last year, 17.19. The Rangoon birth rate is, of course, infinitely below the results that might be expected; but the population concerned not only represents a manufacturing population, where male labour predominates, but is of a very fluctuating character. In his report on Vaccination, the Health Officer, Rangoon, comes to the conclusion that there is considerable weakness in the registration of births. In the case of Akyab, which also has a cooly population greatly subject to fluctuation, the birth rate is below even that of Rangoon, namely, 15.50 for the year. In the Arakan Division, it is noteworthy that not only is registration of births far below a reasonable standard in the districts of Akyab and Kyaukpyu, but that the rates (26.46 and 29.88) have declined when compared with the average of the five previous years. It is unlikely that this result can be ascribed solely

to the influence of malaria upon the birth rate. In a population of 5,568,479 under registration in Lower Burma, the number of deaths rose from 138,850 to 151,193, representing a death rate of 27.15 against 22.83, the mean for the five previous years and 22.36 in 1904, previous to the introduction of plague. In Upper Burma, in a population of 2,917,501, the deaths were 76,493; yielding a death rate of 26.22 against 19.84, the mean of the five previous years, and 18.69 in 1904. There is thus, in Lower Burma, an increase of 4.12, and, in Upper Burma, of 6.38 above the quinquennial mean. Consequently, had the death rate for 1906 been in accordance with the quinquennial mean, there would have been in the parts of the Province under registration a total of 43,440 less deaths than actually occurred. This calculation, however, accepts the incorrect premiss that registration of deaths has not improved with lapse of time, and takes no note of the inter-censal increase of the population. If the latter factor be taken into account, the death rate for 1906, in Lower Burma, was 24.10 and, in Upper Burma, 23.74. Of the total number of infants whose birth was registered in the towns of Upper Burma, 379,91, and in Lower Burma, 249,27 per mille, died under one year of age. When the total area returning both birth and death rates is included in the calculation, the average rate sinks to 22.71; thus exhibiting the evil influence upon infantile life of urban conditions. In fact, the mortality increases with the total population of the town concerned. Thus, in towns having populations between 5,000 and 10,000 the rate is 23.644; in towns between 10,000 and 20,000, 27.853; in towns of 20,000 and above, 33.656. The mortality of male infants must, in all countries, be expected to be greater than that of females in the first year of life; thus, in Great Britain 27.5 per mille of males under one year of age die in excess of females. But the returns in Burma show that no less than 47.79 more males per mille die than females. In no other Province in India was such a result obtained in 1906. Apart from the question of the proportion of deaths of infants of each sex the excessive mortality of infants of both sexes, especially in towns, is a fact beyond dispute and any measure which may tend to reduce the evil is heartily welcome. So far as mortality results from ignorant and defective treatment of infants the remedy lies largely with the people themselves. That some steps are being taken by the Burmese Community to improve matters is shown by the formation of a Burmese Society for the Prevention of Infantile Mortality. No connection can be traced between the price of food-grains in any area and the birth and death rates.

172. The year under review must be described as generally unhealthy. An increase occurred in the number of deaths from each of the principal diseases. Plague was the cause of 8,637 deaths during the year as compared with 3,692 deaths in 1905. In Lower Burma the towns of Rangoon, Moulmein, Prome, Bassein, Toungoo and Henzada, and in Upper Burma, Mandalay, Myingyan and Pyinmana were seriously affected by this disease. With some exceptions, the smaller towns and rural areas in the Province have hitherto escaped severe outbreaks of plague. So far as experience in Burma has shown, the measures which appear to the Lieutenant-Governor to be most likely to be of permanent service in dealing with plague are the cleansing of towns and the improvement of general sanitary conditions, the destruction of rats, and inoculation. Large numbers of rats were destroyed during the year, but the expenditure amounted to two lakhs and a half and it seems doubtful whether any substantial diminution of the rat population has been effected. The cultivation in Maymyo of the Danysz virus, by which it is said that rats have elsewhere been exterminated, is being tried. Facilities for inoculation against plague are freely offered, and in some places the people have readily availed themselves of this means of protection. The total expenditure on plague increased from 3.65 lakhs to 4.52 lakhs, of which amount Rs. 2,56,453 were met from Municipal Funds, Rs. 61,273 from Town Funds, Rs. 1,33,674 from District and District Cess Funds and Rs. 1,073 from Provincial Revenues. 7,872 deaths from cholera were reported as compared with 5,347 in 1905. Out of 52 towns only 16 reported no cases of cholera. The rate of mortality from this disease in several towns is said to be exceedingly high for the present day in view of the recognised etiology of the disease. The report of the Sanitary Commissioner

Causes of death.

CHAP. VI.—  
VITAL STA-  
TISTICS AND  
MEDICAL  
SERVICES.

contains remarks regarding the pollution of river-water which are doubtless well-founded, but the subject is one which involves serious practical difficulties. The effective control by registration or otherwise, for sanitary purposes, of the immense boat traffic in Burma is not practicable, but something can no doubt be done by the local authorities of riverine towns to preserve the immediate source of their water-supply from contamination. It is believed that the importance of this matter is not overlooked by Municipal Committees. Deaths due to small-pox rose from 6,161 to 8,540, of which 637 only occurred in Upper Burma. The severe epidemic in Rangoon, which was mentioned in the previous year's report, continued during the early part of 1906. In the four months from the 20th January to the 19th May 3,630 cases and 997 deaths from small-pox were registered in Rangoon alone, and many other districts in Lower Burma were similarly affected. A draft Bill to make further provision for compulsory vaccination is under consideration, but the problem of rendering vaccination compulsory without at the same time interfering unduly with the liberty of the subject is one of great difficulty. The opinion of the Sanitary Commissioner that inoculation is largely responsible for the spread of small-pox is doubtless correct, but it is clear that inoculation cannot be prohibited in places where there is not a complete and efficient system of vaccination to offer in its place. Outside of the municipal towns it cannot yet be said that universal facilities for vaccination exist, and so long as that is the case the people must be permitted to resort to inoculation if they so desire. Proposals are now under preparation for providing a full staff of vaccinators sufficient to serve the entire population in one or two districts in Lower Burma. If these proposals take shape, inoculation would then be prohibited in those districts, and the same system would be gradually extended throughout the Province. Deaths due to fevers numbered 75,844, 21,422 in Upper Burma and 54,422 in Lower Burma. The total shows an increase of over six thousand which may be attributed to the generally unhealthy conditions of the year. Malaria is responsible for a large proportion of the fever mortality and preventive measures such as the improvement of marshy grounds and other operations for the extermination of mosquitoes were undertaken in various stations which suffer from malaria. Deaths from dysentery and diarrhœa (11,159) were also more numerous than in 1905 (9,241) and though the mortality (4,024) from respiratory diseases remained practically unchanged in Lower Burma the number of deaths in Upper Burma rose from 1,648 in 1905 to 2,544.

### Emigration and Immigration.

173. The number of immigrants who arrived in Burma during the year rose from 239,000 to over 360,000. On the other hand the number of emigrants who left the country also increased from 176,000 roughly to 320,000. The net addition to the population from this cause (40,718) was below the figure of the previous year (62,837). No clear explanation of the increased activity is forthcoming. Probably it was due, partly at any rate, to the continued prevalence of reduced passage fares.

### Medical Relief.

Attendance  
at Hospitals  
and Dispen-  
saries.

174. There were 213 hospitals and dispensaries open in the Province at the end of 1906 as compared with 208 in 1905. Of these 44 were special, maintained chiefly for the treatment of members of the police force, 19 were railway institutions, and of the remainder 79 were maintained by Local Funds, 52 from Provincial Revenues and 14, of which 10 received aid from Provincial or Local Funds, by private subscription or guarantee. The total attendance of in and out-patients for 1906, excluding the figures for special and Railway institutions, was 1,016,320 or 6,535 less than in the previous year. The decrease under in-patients amounted to 6,362. It is, however, more than accounted for by a decline of 9,640 in the number of patients treated in the Segregation Camp Hospital at Rangoon. This result was brought about by the abolition of the custom of treating outgoing passengers for diseases other than plague and by demanding more discrimination in the observance of rules as to the detention of suspects. Compared with the previous year, increases have occurred under Europeans and Eurasians and

Hindus, while there was a decrease under Mahomedans and Burmese. In the Rangoon General Hospital, a marked decrease occurred both in in-patients and out-patients, which the Civil Surgeon attributes to the extremely unsatisfactory character of accommodation in the existing out-patient department, but the explanation hardly accounts for the variation from the previous year's figures. On the other hand the attendance at the Pazundaung Dispensary has increased so much as to cover this deficiency. The inspection of the Rangoon General Hospital showed that the nursing and menial staff was much below requirements, and a scheme for its re-organisation was submitted to Government. Small-pox occupied an important place in the list of diseases treated in the Province during the year, there having been no less than 2,674 admissions. Regarding the prevalence of venereal diseases and of tubercle in the Province, it is found that Rangoon and Moulmein report a decrease under all heads of venereal diseases, whilst Bassein and Falam show a slight increase. The Civil Surgeon, Maymyo, particularly calls attention to the prevalence of venereal diseases in the area under his charge. In Rangoon, Bassein and Falam increased attendance is shown under tubercular diseases. It is noteworthy that there has been exhibited considerable increased activity in operative surgery—a total of 25,893 operations being performed against 24,536 in 1905. Of these, the large number of 3,053 were performed by the staff of the General Hospital, Rangoon. Operations on the eye, which particularly require encouragement in this Province (there being neither a specialist nor a special ophthalmic hospital) show a moderate increase; but the outturn is still far below the possible maximum. Midwifery operations also increased in number; but as in the Province, at the present moment, there is no lying-in hospital under official administration, there is evidently much scope for development in this branch of surgery. The net expenditure on medical relief under all heads (excluding investments) amounted to Rs. 10,26,752, an increase of Rs. 1,49,604 over the total of 1905. Local and Municipal Funds contributed 38.66 per cent. of the total expenditure during 1906 against 43.61 per cent. in 1905, whilst the Government contribution increased from 48.79 per cent. in 1905 to 52.85 per cent. during the current year. The increase of expenditure is due to the entertainment of additional staff and to the promotion of medical subordinates. One Commissioned Medical Officer, two Civil Assistant Surgeons and one Military Assistant Surgeon were added to their respective cadres. Though the sanctioned establishment of Hospital Assistants was 326 the work had to be conducted with 290, as no more could be obtained. The presence of plague in the Province, the denial of ordinary leave for several months, and the necessity for employing Hospital Assistants upon duties that are exclusively sanitary, in the absence of trained Sanitary Inspectors, tended to increase the strain on this hard-worked class of medical subordinates. One lakh eight thousand three hundred and twenty-four in and out-patients were treated at Military Police institutions against 101,995 in 1905, whilst a total of 81,296 patients were treated at Railway Hospitals against 74,600 during the previous year. Many plans and estimates were received and scrutinized in connection with Hospitals and Dispensaries. Line plans for improvement of certain existing Hospitals were prepared during tours of the Inspector-General. The necessity for action is chiefly due to original faults of construction in Hospitals built at a time of development of the country when hasty erection was essential for Police or Military purposes, and afterwards transferred for the use of the Civil population.

175. A falling off in the number of patients treated in the Rangoon Leper Asylum is due to a scare resulting from an outbreak of beri-beri. In the Moulmein Leper Asylum there was an increase of 20 in-patients. During the year 1906 funds were placed at the disposal of the Inspector-General for the replacement of the antiquated surgical equipment of operation rooms in the interests of modern aseptic surgery. The new equipment which is being gradually received through the Secretary of State will prove a great boon to the Province and will also directly encourage Medical Officers in their efforts to carry out surgical operations under modern conditions. Electro-therapeutic treatment is practically an unused method in this Province. Representations on this subject have been received by Government

CHAP. VI.—  
VITAL STATISTICS AND  
MEDICAL SERVICES.

Miscellaneous

CHAP. VI.—  
VETAL, STA-  
TISTICS AND  
MEDICAL  
SERVICES.

sympathetically and it is trusted that the diagnostic and therapeutic value of electricity in the treatment of disease will not be further neglected. Sanction was obtained for the entertainment of two Lady Assistant Surgeons and they have been placed in charge of out-patient dispensaries in Rangoon and in Mandalay. In connection with Nursing the inauguration of the "results-system midwives" on the principle successfully adopted in the Madras Presidency has been advised and 22 local bodies have signified their assent to the scheme. The sanction of Government for the opening of the Medical School was received and action was taken to secure candidates for training as Hospital Assistants at Rangoon. The opening of the Medical School was not effected during the calendar year.

### Sanitation.

Expenditure.

176. Out of a total income of nearly 124 lakhs collected for local purposes in the towns and districts of the province over 44 lakhs were spent on sanitation. Municipalities spent Rs. 38,42,214 out of Rs. 74,91,807, Town Funds Rs. 1,25,113 out of Rs. 4,36,202 and District and District Cess Funds Rs. 2,87,938 out of Rs. 44,63,775, the balance of Rs. 1,82,126 being met from Provincial revenues. As might be expected expensive sanitary works and schemes of water-supply are confined to the larger towns. The sums mentioned do not include the cost incurred by private persons on the construction of tanks and the digging of wells, undertaken as works of merit, nor do they take into account the value of the work, in the aggregate considerable, done by villagers themselves under the direction of their headmen for the sanitary improvement of their villages. It is clear that sanitation in Burma is a matter which demands much attention and sanitary reform is a pressing need in every town and district in the Province.

Water  
supply.

177. The progress of water-supply schemes in Municipal Towns has been already referred to in paragraph 78 and the action taken in certain smaller towns is mentioned in paragraph 142. Preliminary schemes for improvement of the water-supply were under consideration for Shwebo, Pinyinana, Myingyan, Pakokku, Minbu, Thayetmyo, Mònywa and Mingin.

Conservancy  
and drain-  
age.

178. Action taken during the year for the improvement of conservancy and drainage has been referred to in paragraph 78. The Sanitary Commissioner had under consideration the possible extension to other towns of the Shone and Ault pneumatic system of drainage which has been at work in Rangoon for some years. Successful experiments were also carried out in the construction of "filter trench latrines" or "filter pits," a kind of improved cesspit for use in the poorer towns.

Sanitary  
Board.

179. The Sanitary Board met four times during the year and advised on various matters, the most important of which was the Mandalay water-supply scheme. The Board did not accept the scheme submitted to them and suggested further consideration of other possible schemes.

### Vaccination.

180. The expenditure from all sources on vaccination during the 12 months prior to the 1st April 1907 amounted to Rs. 1,27,528 or Rs. 13,664 more than in the preceding year. It was met to the extent of 41.36, 40.90, 15.57 and 2.17 per cent. respectively by the Government, Local Funds, Municipalities and Native States. The average cost for each successful case of vaccination, including the production of vaccine at Meiktila, works out at Re. 0-6-1 against Re. 0-4-9 in the preceding year. The total outturn of work amounted to 411,131 cases (or 39.24 per mille of the census population) against 471,420 cases for the previous year. These figures exhibit a very large deficit of 60,289 cases, which coupled with the expenditure for educating Native Superintendents of Vaccination and improving the equipment of the Meiktila Vaccine Depot, accounts for the increased cost of successful cases. The falling off is due partly to "Plague Scare" and partly to stricter supervision of the vaccinators' work. The staff employed consisted

of 244 vaccinators, 3 more than in 1905-06, supervised by 32 Native Superintendents compared with 16 in the previous year. At the end of the year, 13 districts still remained without the supervision of a subordinate inspecting officer. The total successful vaccination rate for the whole province in primary cases excluding those classed as "unknown" was 90.65 per cent. and in re-vaccination cases 52.39 per cent. against 90.80 and 53.25 per cent. respectively for 1905-06. Whilst vaccinators reported a success of 90.65 per cent. of primary vaccination, Civil Surgeons on their inspections found the average to be 89.20 (against 90.25 in the previous year) and Native Superintendents of Vaccination 88.28 (against 87.22). By the former agency 60,290 cases were verified and by the latter 56,372. Medical Subordinates performed 18,521 vaccinations against 17,507 in the previous year, with 90.12 per cent. of success in the known primary cases and 59.34 per cent. in re-vaccination. Except in Rangoon, where the Municipality maintains its own depôt, all the vaccine lymph used in the Province was obtained from the Government Depôt at Meiktila. The question of the extent to which the spread of small-pox is due to the practice of inoculation was under consideration and it was decided first to provide complete facilities for inoculation in certain selected districts and thereafter to prohibit inoculation in those districts.

CHAP. VI.—  
VITAL STATISTICS AND  
MEDICAL SERVICES.

## CHAPTER VII.

### I N S T R U C T I O N .

**REFERENCES—**

Third Quinquennial Report on Public Instruction in Burma for the years 1902-03 to 1906-07.

Report on the Irrain Reformatory School for 1906.

Twelfth issue of Judicial and Administrative Statistics for British India for 1906-07 and preceding years, Tables X (Education), XI (Reformatory Schools), and XII (The Press).

#### General System of Public Instruction.

(See paragraphs 427 to 460 of the Report on the Administration of Burma for the year 1901-02.)

#### Education.

Number of schools and scholars and expenditure.

181. The number of colleges and schools of all descriptions during the year closing on the 31st of March 1907 was 21,575. These were attended by 398,598 pupils, of whom 62,749 were girls. Public institutions numbered 6,210 and included 227,128 pupils. Private institutions, which rose to a total of 15,165 with 171,470 pupils, were all of an elementary kind, and out of this total only 88 were girls' schools. In comparison with those of the previous year the figures for public and private institutions show increases of 2 per cent. as regards numbers and 3 per cent. as regards attendance. The percentage of male scholars to the male school-going population now stands at 41.96 as against 40.9 in the previous year: that of female pupils to the female school-going population is now 8.14 as against 7.51 in 1905-06. The total expenditure on education was Rs. 34,87,233, of which Rs. 21,92,782 was 'direct,' a rise of something over 2 lakhs as regards the latter form of expenditure, the increase in 'indirect' charges being trifling. Provincial Funds spent Rs. 4,73,897, or Rs. 1,14,879 more than in the previous year, on institutions managed by Government, and Rs. 72,765 on institutions managed by District or Municipal Boards. In the last item there was a slight decrease. The total amount expended on education from Provincial Funds was 16 lakhs, bearing a percentage to the total expenditure on education of 46.16, an increase of roughly 3 per cent. on the percentage of the previous year. Nearly three lakhs were expended upon buildings and grants for furniture and apparatus. The imperial grants of 4 and 2 lakhs continued, and against them must be set down Rs. 5,51,361 of the total expenditure from Provincial Funds. Fees have risen from 8½ to over 9 lakhs and account for 26.21 per cent. of the total expenditure on public instruction.

Primary Education.

182. The term 'primary schools' includes schools teaching English as well as purely vernacular schools. The number of primary public schools increased by 274 with a rise of 7,472 pupils. The most noticeable item in the increase is the multiplication of Government Primary schools, the number of which has risen to 28 as against 9 in 1905-06. Among the 28 are included 5 Anglo-Vernacular institutions, 19 Vernacular and 4 girls' schools. Of the 3 Municipal Primary schools shown last year one has been abolished and one raised to the status of a Secondary school. The number of girls' Primary public schools under private management has risen by 33, entailing an increase of 1,135 in the number of pupils attending such schools. Similar boys' schools have increased by 224, with a rise of 5,625 in attendance. Among the new aided schools must be reckoned 124 "Rs. 500" vernacular schools which were established during the year, and for the building of each of which Government contributed Rs. 500. The number of pupils in primary public schools approaches one-half of the total number under instruction in the Province, and even of those returned as under secondary instruction 43,030 have to be deducted as being in the primary departments. Thus the figures for primary education really stand as follows:—

Pupils in 'public' primary institutions ...	...	...	171,657
In 'private' institutions ...	...	...	171,470
In primary departments of secondary schools ...	...	...	43,030
		Total ...	386,157

In other words comparatively few of the population advance beyond the primary stage. Of those attending public primary schools 153,607, or the vast majority, are in the lower primary stage only. On the other hand 2,598 were learning English. The total expenditure upon primary schools was Rs. 6,31,637, of which nearly 3 lakhs came from Provincial Funds, and over 2 lakhs from District Funds.

CHAP. VII.—  
INSTRUCTION.

183. Secondary schools increased by 63; out of the total of 569, 461 are vernacular. This total also includes 65 girls' schools. The increase of 63 is distributed thus:—

Secondary  
Education.

High Schools (Boys and Girls) ... ..	5
Boys' Middle English schools ... ..	3
Boys' Middle Vernacular schools ... ..	55
Girls' Middle Vernacular schools ... ..	1
	—
Total ... ..	64
Less Girls' Middle English ... ..	1
	—
Total ... ..	63

The total number of pupils was 52,962, of whom 43,030 were in the primary stage and 21,903 were learning English. The figures all mark increases as compared with those of the previous year. Government secondary schools numbered 20, a rise of 7 on the total of 1905-06: of these 8 are vernacular schools. Municipal school figures have declined by one, owing to the transfer to Government of the Anglo-Vernacular institution at Paungdè. Secondary public schools under private management have increased by 57, with a rise in the number on the rolls of 5,161. In Government High Schools for boys the number on the rolls was lower by 96, though the number of schools was unchanged. In High Schools generally the total of pupils was only 707 higher than last year, although there were 5 more schools. In the Matriculation Examination out of 251 candidates only 105 passed; this however is a very considerable improvement on the results of the previous year. Among the successful candidates there was only one girl. In the High School examination for Europeans 17 girls and 11 boys passed out of 36 and 28 respectively presented. In the Middle English examination 1,974 boys and 330 girls passed out of 4,035 and 531 respectively presented. The total expenditure on secondary schools rose to over 13 lakhs, of which a little over 4 came from Provincial Funds, 2½ roughly from Municipal Funds, something over 1½ from private sources and 5 lakhs from fees, the balance being met from District Funds.

184. The Government College and the Baptist College, Rangoon, were, as in previous years, the only Colleges taking the University course or part of it. The former had 111 students on the roll, presented 60 for the F.A., and 16 for the B.A. Examinations, and passed 16 and 8 respectively in these tests. The Baptist College had 24 on the roll, and presented 10 for the F.A., of whom three passed. In the Law Class at the Government College there were 19 students, but none took the examination for B.L. Expenditure on these Colleges was Rs. 78,214 or nearly Rs. 9,000 more than in 1905-06.

Collegiate  
Education.

185. The erection of the engine sheds at the Insein Engineering School was continued and the machinery was installed. The construction of the new school building and hostel was begun. The number of students on the roll in the year was 63. Other technical schools exist at Rangoon and Toungoo and the number on the roll in such schools amounted to 193, exclusive of Kindergarten departments which are not properly 'technical' classes. A certain amount of 'technical' instruction, however, is given in ordinary schools. The subjects taught include drawing, cooking, carpentry, lace-making, sewing, etc.

Technical  
Education.

186. The number of Normal Schools remained the same, but the total of scholars declined by 76. Government institutions, which number five as in the previous year are responsible for more than a fair share of this decrease

Training  
Schools.

CHAP. VII.—  
INSTRUCTION.

Their rolls show only 305 scholars against 366 in 1905-06; while in the seven aided schools there were 237 students against 252 last year. Of the total number 165 were girls. In the training school examination for masters 159 out of 261 passed, 104 in the Upper Grade; in that for mistresses 28 passed out of 36 candidates. The total expenditure was Rs. 98,838 against Rs. 93,843 in the preceding year.

European  
Education.

187. The number of European schools remained the same, namely, 18; but the attendance of European and Eurasian pupils at schools of all descriptions, which in the previous year showed an increase of 222, declined from 3,559 to 3,406. This diminution took place in the secondary stage; for the attendance of the Primary School rose from 158 to 164, while that of Arts Colleges decreased only by one. In the Normal Schools there were 50 boys as against 37 in the previous year. As for passes 16 candidates were successful in the Matriculation, and 28 in the High School Examination for Europeans; but only 4 passed the F.A. and none the B.A. Examination.

Education of  
Special  
Classes.

188. The total number of Mahomedans under instruction fell from 11,505 to 10,965, but it is encouraging to find that the number in attendance at public schools continues to increase, however slowly. There were 6,804 pupils in such schools against 6,680 in the previous year, a gain of 124 pupils. On the other hand in private institutions attendance decreased from 4,625 to 4,161. Only seven Mahomedans attended the Arts College and none of them passed either the B.A. or F.A. examination. Education is rapidly spreading among the Karens. The number of schools increased from 937 to 1,030, and the attendance from 25,753 to 28,580. As in the previous year, one pass was obtained in the Entrance Examination of the Calcutta University. The large and increasing number of girl pupils is a noticeable feature of Karen education. There were 9,696 girls under instruction as against 8,501 in 1905-06. The recent rapid advance in the education of Shans was well maintained, attendance having more than quadrupled in two years. During the past year the number of Shan private schools rose from 178 to 302 and attendance from 2,325 to 4,228. The number of Talaing schools and pupils is gradually declining, perhaps because the race is becoming more and more Burmanised, and losing its separate nationality. There were 202 schools with 4,113 pupils against 200 schools and 3,929 pupils in the previous year. Of the other indigenous races the Chins and Kachins may be mentioned, though they are but little affected by educational influences. The former have four schools (including a Government Vernacular school at Falam) with a total attendance of 400, 71 of whom are learning English. The latter show a school attendance of only 233, all vernacular. The number of schools specially devoted to the education of Chinese is very small. The Chinese rapidly become assimilated to the Burman population and usually attend the ordinary Vernacular and Anglo-Vernacular schools. During the year there were only two Chinese public schools, one Government and the other aided, with a combined attendance of 97. In addition, two private institutions, attended by 90 pupils, appear in the returns, but many others no doubt exist of which no definite information is to hand.

Female  
Education.

189. The rapid and continuous progress of female education in the province deserves special notice. Attendance at public institutions has shown an average annual increase of 12 per cent. during the last five years; for the year under report the total amounted to 58,665 as against 53,050 of 1905-06. The number of girls in schools of all kinds rose from 57,905 to 62,794 or 8.21 per cent. of the total female school-going population, a percentage which compares very favourably with that of any other province in India. Only a small proportion of these, however, were in Secondary stages: 10,914, the figure given in the annual returns, is somewhat misleading as it includes girls in the primary stages of Secondary schools. The true number of girls in Middle and High Standards is 1,107 as against 1,028 last year. Seventeen out of 36 passed the High School Examination for Europeans, held for the first time this year, 32 out of 42 candidates passed the 8th Standard, one passed the Entrance and one the F.A.

190. The total number of boys remaining in the Insein Reformatory School at the end of December 1906 was 80, of whom 47 were illiterate on admission: 59 out of 60 passed the various standards of the Primary School, while one boy obtained a pass in Standard VII. Thirty-four boys were engaged in canework, carpentry and tinwork, and 30 in tending the Reformatory garden. Seventy-seven punishments were inflicted during the year. The nett expenditure amounted to Rs. 12,570 against Rs. 12,525 in the previous year, an average of Rs. 157 for each boy.

CHAP. VII.—  
INSTRUCTION.  
Insein Reformatory School.

### Literature and the Press.

191. Publications registered under the Printing Presses and Books Act, 1867, during the calendar year 1906 showed a remarkable increase in number from 140 to 263. Of these works 104 were written in Pāli-Burmese, 89 in Burmese and 29 in Pāli. One hundred and seventy-four were concerned with religious subjects and 20 were educational. Works of fiction decreased from 9 to 2, and there were only two books of poetry (in Burmese) issued during the year. These figures show the growth of Burmese religious literature, and the paucity of works on other subjects. The religious literature deals only with Buddhism. It consists of prayers, sermons, moral and religious instruction, rules of monastic life, and expositions and commentaries on the *Abhidhamma* or metaphysics. These religious books are intended for the edification of Burmese Buddhist and other students of Buddhism, and are neither polemical nor proselytizing in character. They do not concern themselves with the principles and doctrines of other religions, but treat only of the tenets of Buddhism. As regards the works on other subjects, none of them contain political matter, and they are consequently free from seditious thoughts and aspirations. But the dramatic works teem with expressions of the most vulgar and obscene character. They have no literary merit whatever, either as regards style, matter or method, and are of an ephemeral nature. Works on astrology, astronomy and medicine by native authors do not indicate any original research. They are merely reproductions of or compilations from old treatises, and do not contain any important discoveries or theories. From the standpoint of Western knowledge these books cannot be said to have any scientific value. As to poetry, the metre generally employed is called *pyo*, the words being arranged in sets of three feet, each foot containing four syllables, where the fourth syllable of the first foot corresponds in sound to the third syllable of the second foot, and to the second syllable of the third foot. Sometimes this metre is not strictly followed, and variations of it are employed, the form of poetical prose being also adopted. Burmese works of fiction are not generally based on the realities of life as is usually the case with European novels, but are full of ideal extravagances.

Publications registered.

192. Seventy-eight printing presses were at work in the Province during the year 1906-07, six more than in the previous year. Thirty-eight newspapers and 49 periodicals were issued from these presses as compared with 37 and 46 in 1905-06. Of the newspapers twenty were published in English and ten in Burmese. Seven daily newspapers were published, four in English, two in Burmese, and one in Chinese. All except one Mandalay English paper appeared in Rangoon. The most important daily papers are the "Rangoon Gazette," published in the morning, and the "Rangoon Times," an evening paper. The circulation of the former was 1,500 and of the latter 3,050 copies. The two Burmese daily papers had a circulation of 800 and 1,000 copies respectively, and the Chinese paper issued 400 copies. A number of newspapers of no great importance are also published in English and Burmese at intervals varying from three times a week to once a month. There is besides a weekly paper in Tamil and a bi-weekly Gujerati paper, as well as several Karen newspapers. A considerable number of the Burmese and Karen newspapers as well as most of the periodicals other than Government publications are of a religious character, and many of them are published by the American Baptist Mission Press, Rangoon.

Presses, Newspapers and Periodicals.

## Literary Societies.

(See paragraphs 487 to 489 of the Report on the Administration of Burma for the year 1901-02 and paragraph 282 of the Report on the Administration of Burma for the year 1904-05.)

## Arts and Sciences.

CHAP. VII.—  
INSTRUC-  
TION.

193. The Annual Provincial Art Competition was held in February 1907 in Rangoon. The Exhibition is becoming more widely known and specimens for competition were received from Mandalay, Bassein, Thayetmyo and the Shan States as well as from places represented in previous years. Entries for the silverware and wood-carving prizes were more numerous than heretofore; but there were very few specimens of ivory-carving and lacquerwork. The general standard of workmanship was well maintained, and several of the silver betel boxes and bronze statuettes shewed artistic merit of a high order. There was an encouraging advance in the picture and photograph exhibitions both as regards number of exhibits and quality of work displayed.

## CHAPTER VIII.

### ARCHÆOLOGY.

#### REFERENCE:—

Report of the Superintendent, Archæological Survey, Burma, for the year 1906-07.

195. The operations of the Archæological Department in Burma received much attention during the year under review. Suggestions for the framing of rules and directions for the administration of the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, 1904, were received from the Director-General of Archæology, and the Local Government formulated proposals as to the arrangements which appeared to be most suitable, having regard to local conditions and the present state of archæological research in the Province. Briefly summarized, the proposals include the preparation of lists of ancient monuments to be declared by notification to be protected monuments, and the framing of rules under sections 15 and 20 of the Act to regulate the right of access to the Palace at Mandalay, to restrict excavation in certain districts, and to preserve the ownership of Government in all objects discovered in the course of excavation. The advice of the Director-General of Archæology was sought with regard to these proposals. In the meantime the compilation of lists of the monuments in each division in Burma was proceeded with and nearly completed by the end of the year. The administration of pagoda funds and the formation of trusts was also the subject of discussion during the year, but the Local Government did not accept the view of the Superintendent that executive interference by Government officers in these matters was desirable. The number of buildings maintained by Government was increased from 45 to 59, the well-known bell at Mingun in the Sagaing District being included in the category. The preparation of revised district lists of monuments worthy of preservation was still in progress, but had not reached completion by the end of the year. Further advance was made with the architectural survey of Mandalay Palace, and the Superintendent completed an article on Burmese Epigraphy for incorporation in the Journal of Indian Archæology. No new survey or excavation work was undertaken, but a report was prepared on the work done at Pagan in the cold weather of 1905-06. A large number of drawings and photographs were executed by the survey staff. The total expenditure incurred on archæological works during the year 1906-07 amounted to Rs. 1,25,930 as compared with Rs. 72,123 in the previous year. The work of reconstructing the spire of the palace of the Burmese Kings at Mandalay was completed at a total cost of Rs. 65,173, of which Rs. 64,873 were spent during the year. Over thirteen thousand rupees were also expended on the restoration and repair of the Palace buildings and Rs. 6,840 on the construction of a set of models of the buildings. Expenditure amounting to Rs. 28,039 was incurred on various works at Pagan. The cost of the Department, exclusive of expenditure on works, amounted to Rs. 24,183, an increase of nearly Rs. 4,000, due to enhancement of the Superintendent's salary, cost of his Indian tour and special expenditure on photographs.

## CHAPTER IX. MISCELLANEOUS.

### Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

(See paragraph and 493 of the Report on the Administration of Burma for the year 1901-02.)

### Ecclesiastical.

195. The ecclesiastical record of the year was uneventful. After remaining vacant for seven years, owing mainly to the number of chaplains being insufficient for work to be done, the riverine chaplaincy in Upper Burma was filled. The Chaplain's house at Maymyo was completed in the course of the year. The pay of senior chaplains who have completed five years in that grade was raised to 1,000 a month. At the same time future entrants into the service were debarred from the grant of exchange compensation allowance, the scale of pay applicable to them was raised accordingly and the special rules relating to privilege leave and furlough were modified, as regards future entrants, so as to assimilate them to the ordinary rules.

### Stationery.

196. The bulk of the paper used for official purposes continued to be supplied from India. All supplies of stationery were, as usual, obtained from the Controller of Stationery, Calcutta. The cost of stationery supplied to General Departments and Presses during 1906-07 is Rs. 1,12,425 and Rs. 2,05,521 respectively against Rs. 1,09,447 and Rs. 1,95,485 in the previous year, showing an increase of Rs. 13,014 in the aggregate.