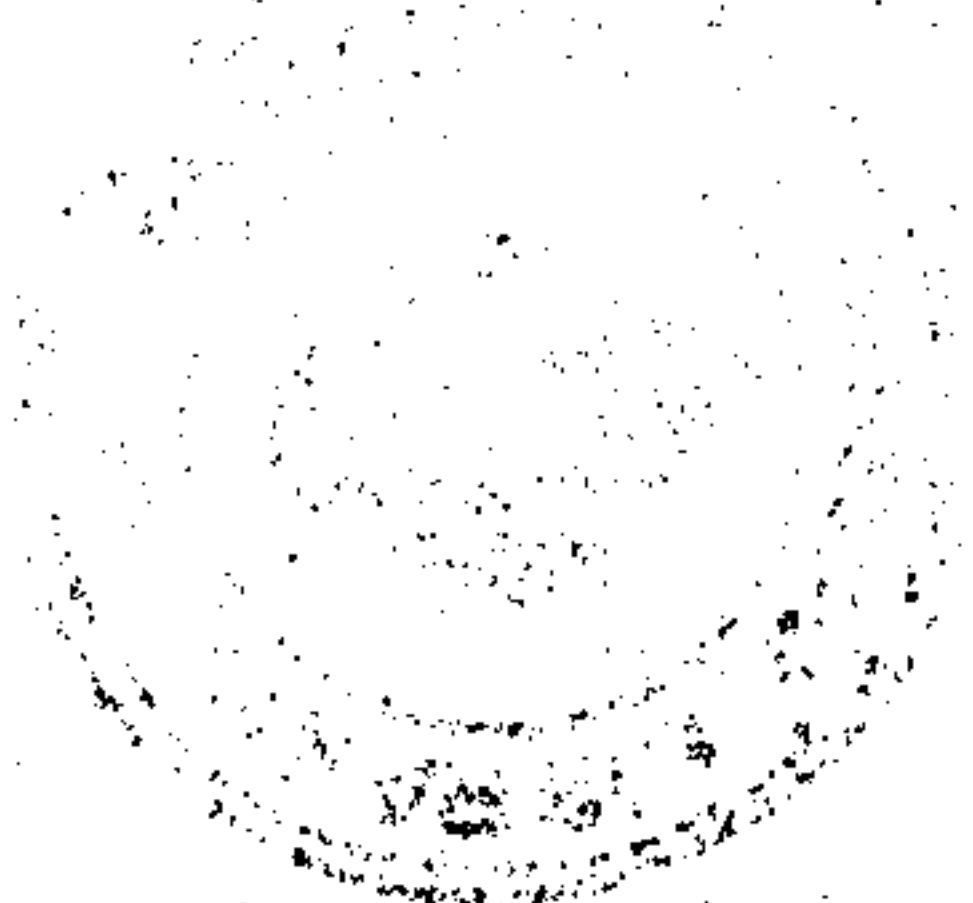


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**ADMINISTRATION REPORT**

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1942-1943 A. D.

[EIGHTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT]

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# CONTENTS.

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## CHAPTER I.

### 1 General.

|  | PAGE |
|--|------|
| Situation and Area                             | 1    |
| Physical Features                              | "    |
| Population                                     | 2    |
| Distribution                                   | "    |
| Religion                                       | "    |
| Literacy                                       | 3    |
| Position of Women                              | "    |
| Travancore compared with other States          | "    |
| Historical Sketch                              | "    |
| The Calendar                                   | 4    |
| The Currency                                   | 5    |
| The Anchal                                     | "    |
| THE RULING FAMILY                              | "    |
| HONOURS CONFERRED BY HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA | 6    |
| TOUR OF HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA              | "    |
| The British Representative                     | 8    |

## CHAPTER II.

### War Efforts.

|                            |    |
|----------------------------|----|
| The State Forces           | 9  |
| War Supplies               | "  |
| War Technicians            | 10 |
| Recruitment to War Service | 11 |
| The War and the People     | 12 |
| The Contribution of Women  | "  |

## CHAPTER III.

### System of Government.

|                             |    |
|-----------------------------|----|
| The Ruler                   | 13 |
| The Chief Executive Officer | "  |
| Administration              | "  |
| Taxation                    | 14 |
| Application of Revenue      | 15 |

|  | PAGE |
|--|------|
| <b>THE LEGISLATURE</b>   |      |
| Early Constitution   | 15   |
| The Present Legislature  | 16   |
| The Sri Mulam Assembly   | "    |
| The Sri Chitra State Council   | "    |
| Franchise  | 17   |
| System of Voting   | 18   |
| Powers of the Legislature  |      |
| <b>CHAPTER IV.</b>   |      |
| <b>Finance.</b>  |      |
| Revenue  | 19   |
| Expenditure  | 21   |
| <i>Chart showing the Revenue and Expenditure</i>                           |      |
| <i>Diagram showing the proportion of the Revenue Receipts of the State</i> |      |
| <i>Diagram showing the proportion of expenditure of the State</i>          | 27   |
| Assets   | 28   |
| Liabilities  |      |
| <b>CHAPTER V.</b>  |      |
| <b>Main Heads of Revenue.</b>  |      |
| <b>LAND REVENUE</b>  |      |
| Basis of Land Rights   | 29   |
| Fixity of Rights   | "    |
| Principles of Taxation   | 30   |
| Revenue Settlement   | "    |
| Classification of Tenures  | 31   |
| Method of Assessment   | "    |
| Form of Tax-payment  | 32   |
| Land Revenue Administration  | "    |
| Extent of Cultivation  | "    |
| Distribution of Land and Extent of Cultivation                             | 33   |
| <b>CAPITAL REVENUE</b>   |      |
| Sale Proceeds of Land  | 33   |
| Demand, Collection and Balance   | "    |
| Coercive Action  | "    |
| Revenue Cases  | 34   |
| Registry of lands  | "    |
| Lands for Landless Classes   | "    |
| Conversion of Dry Lands into Wet Lands                                     | 35   |
| Land Acquisition Work  | "    |



CONTENTS

|                                   | PAGE |
|-----------------------------------|------|
| Markets                           | 35   |
| Inspection of State Boundaries    | 35   |
| Land Records Maintenance          | 36   |
| Jamabandi                         | 37   |
| Miscellaneous                     | 37   |
| <b>SURVEY</b>                     |      |
| Work of the Department            | 37   |
| Special and Cadastral Surveys     | 37   |
| Lithography of Maps               | 37   |
| Land records Maintenance          | 37   |
| Survey School                     | 37   |
| Receipts and Expenditure          | 38   |
| <b>INCOME TAX</b>                 |      |
| Administration                    | 38   |
| Assessment Proceedings            | 38   |
| Demand, Collection and Balance    | 38   |
| Appeals and Revision Petitions    | 38   |
| <b>EXCISE DEPARTMENT</b>          |      |
| <b>SALT REVENUE</b>               |      |
| Control                           | 39   |
| System                            | 39   |
| Home Salt                         | 40   |
| Foreign Salt                      | 39   |
| Salt Consumption                  | 39   |
| Bye-products of Salt              | 41   |
| <b>EXCISE REVENUE</b>             |      |
| Sources of Revenue                | 39   |
| Excise System                     | 39   |
| Abkari Policy                     | 39   |
| Abkari Contract                   | 42   |
| Arrack                            | 39   |
| Toddy                             | 43   |
| Tree Tax                          | 39   |
| Trees Tapped                      | 39   |
| Foreign Liquor                    | 39   |
| System of Sale of Opium and Ganja | 44   |
| Consumption of Opium and Ganja    | 39   |
| Tobacco—System of Supply and Sale | 39   |
| Tobacco Consumption               | 45   |
| Excise Offences                   | 39   |

|   | PAGE |
|---|------|
| <b>CUSTOMS REVENUE</b>                      |      |
| Import duty                                 | 45   |
| Export duty                                 | 47   |
| Duty on Matches                             | "    |
| Sugar Control                               | 48   |
| Miscellaneous                               | "    |
| Receipts and Expenditure                    | 49   |
| <b>FOREST REVENUE</b>                       |      |
| Historical Survey                           | 50   |
| Forest Policy                               | "    |
| Reserved Forests                            | 51   |
| Reserved Lands and Fuel and Fodder Reserves | "    |
| Lease of lands for food production          | "    |
| Working Plans                               | 52   |
| Forest protection                           | "    |
| Regulation of grazing                       | 53   |
| Sylviculture                                | "    |
| Experiments                                 | 54   |
| Exploitation of Timber                      | "    |
| Minor Forest Produce                        | 55   |
| Elephants                                   | "    |
| Ascu treatment                              | 56   |
| Miscellaneous                               | "    |
| Receipts and Expenditure                    | "    |
| Game Department                             | "    |
| <b>STAMPS</b>                               |      |
| General                                     | 57   |
| Manufacture of Stamps                       | "    |
| Receipts and Expenditure                    | 58   |

## CHAPTER VI.

### Justice and Crime.

|                         |    |
|-------------------------|----|
| <b>JUDICIAL SYSTEM</b>  | 59 |
| Recruitment             | 61 |
| Security of Service     | "  |
| Shifting of Courts      | "  |
| <b>CRIMINAL JUSTICE</b> |    |
| Tribunals               | "  |

|                                 | PAGE |
|---------------------------------|------|
| <b>CRIMES</b>                   | 62   |
| Offences                        | 59   |
| Women Offenders                 | 59   |
| Juvenile Offenders              | 59   |
| Public Servants                 | 59   |
| Preventive and Miscellaneous    | 59   |
| <b>MAGISTRATES' COURTS</b>      | 59   |
| Original Work                   | 59   |
| Bench Magistrates' Courts       | 63   |
| Stipendiary Magistrates' Courts | 59   |
| Appellate Work                  | 59   |
| Revisional Work                 | 64   |
| <b>SESSIONS COURTS</b>          | 59   |
| Original Work                   | 59   |
| Appellate Work                  | 59   |
| <b>HIGH COURT</b>               | 59   |
| Appellate Work                  | 59   |
| Appeals                         | 65   |
| Miscellaneous                   | 59   |
| <b>EXTRADITION</b>              | 66   |
| <b>CIVIL JUSTICE</b>            | 66   |
| Number of Civil Courts          | 66   |
| Civil Litigation                | 66   |
| <b>ORIGINAL LITIGATION</b>      | 67   |
| Village Panchayat Courts        | 67   |
| Munsiffs' Courts                | 67   |
| District Courts                 | 67   |
| Execution of Decrees            | 68   |
| <b>APPELLATE JURISDICTION</b>   | 69   |
| District Courts                 | 69   |
| High Court                      | 69   |
| Quality of Work of the Courts   | 70   |
| Government Suits and Appeals    | 69   |
| <b>CHAPTER VII.</b>             |      |
| <b>The Legislature.</b>         |      |
| Meetings                        | 71   |
| Enactments                      | 71   |
| Bills                           | 73   |
| Financial Business              | 74   |

|   | PAGE      |
|---|-----------|
| Questions                               | 74        |
| Resolutions                             | 75        |
| <b>CHAPTER VIII.</b>                    |           |
| <b>Protection.</b>                      |           |
| <b>POLICE</b>                           |           |
| Strength, Recruitment and Discipline    | 76        |
| Rewards                                 | "         |
| Health, Education and Training          | 77        |
| Crimes                                  | "         |
| Counterfeiting Coins and Currency Notes | "         |
| Detection and Prevention of Crime       | "         |
| Habitual Criminals                      | 78        |
| Security for Good Behaviour             | "         |
| Criminal Intelligence Bureau            | "         |
| Finger Print Bureau                     | 79        |
| Registration of Motor Vehicles          | "         |
| Public Conveyances-Licences and Badges  | "         |
| Motor Accidents                         | 80        |
| Hackney Carriages                       | "         |
| Cinematograph Act                       | "         |
| Miscellaneous                           | "         |
| Receipts and Expenditure                | "         |
| <b>JAILS—THE CENTRAL PRISON</b>         | <b>81</b> |
| Strength                                | "         |
| Convicted Prisoners                     | "         |
| Discipline                              | 82        |
| Education of Convicts                   | "         |
| Health and Mortality                    | "         |
| Miscellaneous                           | "         |
| Employment of Prisoners—Jail Service    | "         |
| Cost of Maintenance                     | 83        |
| Receipts and Expenditure                | "         |
| The Temporary Prison at Alleppey        | "         |
| <b>LOCK-UPS</b>                         | <b>84</b> |
| <b>REGISTRATION</b>                     | <b>"</b>  |
| Registry Offices                        | "         |
| Number of Documents Registered          | "         |
| Value of Transactions                   | "         |
| Classes of Documents                    | 85        |

CONTENTS

ix

|  | PAGE |
|--|------|
| Chitties                                   | 85   |
| Miscellaneous                              | 86   |
| Receipts and Expenditure                   | "    |
| WEIGHTS AND MEASURES                       | "    |
| <b>CHAPTER IX.</b>                         |      |
| <b>Production and Industry.</b>            |      |
| SEASON AND RAINFALL                        | 87   |
| AGRICULTURE                                | "    |
| General                                    | "    |
| General Agricultural Conditions            | 88   |
| Research—Plant Pathologist                 | "    |
| Milk Recording Scheme                      | "    |
| Village Project Scheme                     | 89   |
| CROPS—Paddy                                | "    |
| Cocoanut                                   | "    |
| Tapioca                                    | "    |
| Sugar-cane                                 | 90   |
| Dry Farming                                | "    |
| Fodder crops                               | "    |
| Fruit Culture                              | "    |
| Rural Development                          | 91   |
| Control of Plant Pests and Plant Diseases  | "    |
| Cattle Breeding                            | "    |
| Agricultural Education                     | "    |
| Veterinary Aid                             | 92   |
| Marketing                                  | "    |
| Receipts and Expenditure                   | "    |
| INDUSTRIES AND GEOLOGY                     | 93   |
| Minerals                                   | "    |
| Prospecting                                | "    |
| INDUSTRIES                                 | "    |
| Ceramic Factory, Kundara                   | "    |
| Rubber Factory                             | "    |
| Sugar Manufacture                          | 94   |
| Travancore Plywood Industries              | "    |
| Sales Depot                                | "    |
| Paper Manufacture                          | "    |
| New Industries                             | 95   |
| S. M. R. V. Technical Institute, Nagercoil | 96   |
| Government School of Commerce, Alleppey    | "    |
| Madras Government Technical Examinations   | "    |
| Industrial Schools                         | 97   |
| Miscellaneous                              | "    |
| Receipts and Expenditure                   | "    |

|  | PAGE |
|--|------|
| <b>FACTORIES AND LABOUR</b>                    |      |
| Labour Laws and Labour Welfare                 | 97   |
| The Factories Act                              | 98   |
| The Trade Disputes Act                         | 99   |
| Workmen's Compensation Act                     | 99   |
| Trade Unions Act                               | 99   |
| <b>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD</b>              |      |
| Constitution and Strength of the Board         | 99   |
| Business transacted at Meetings                | 100  |
| Travancore Economic Journal                    | 99   |
| <b>JOINT STOCK COMPANIES</b>                   |      |
| Number of Companies                            | 99   |
| Companies Limited by Shares                    | 101  |
| Banking Companies                              | 99   |
| Associations not for Profit                    | 99   |
| Companies of Foreign Incorporation             | 102  |
| Inspections and Prosecutions                   | 99   |
| <b>CO-OPERATIVE DEPARTMENT</b>                 |      |
| General  | 99   |
| Number and Nature of Societies                 | 103  |
| Membership                                     | 104  |
| Finances                                       | 99   |
| Loans  | 105  |
| Credit Co-operative and Non-Credit Effort      | 99   |
| Chitties                                       | 99   |
| The Central Co-operative Bank Ltd., Trivandrum | 99   |
| Urban Banks                                    | 106  |
| Taluk Banks                                    | 99   |
| Agricultural Societies                         | 99   |
| Non-Agricultural Societies                     | 99   |
| Women's Societies                              | 107  |
| Societies for Backward Communities             | 99   |
| Other Societies                                | 99   |
| Non-credit activities                          | 99   |
| Disputes and Litigation                        | 108  |
| Non-official Supervision                       | 99   |
| Inspection and Audit                           | 99   |
| Cost of Working the Co-operative Societies Act | 109  |
| <b>PATENTS AND DESIGNS</b>                     | 99   |
| <b>UPLIFT OF BACKWARD COMMUNITIES</b>          | 110  |
| General  | 99   |
| Assignment of Lands on Concessional Terms      | 99   |
| Colonies                                       | 111  |

CONTENTS

xi

|                           | PAGE |
|---------------------------|------|
| General Ameliorative Work | 111  |
| Educational Concessions   | "    |
| Hostels, Orphanages, etc. | 112  |
| Industries                | "    |
| Expenditure               | "    |

CHAPTER X.

Public Works.

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Outlay  | 113 |
| Communications                                      | "   |
| Ryots' Roads  | 114 |
| Buildings   | 115 |
| Irrigation—Protective                               | "   |
| Productive Irrigation—The Kodayar Irrigation System | "   |
| Establishment                                       | "   |
| P. W. D. Workshops                                  | "   |
| P. W. D. Advisory Committee                         | 116 |
| Maramat Works                                       | "   |

RAILWAYS

WATER WORKS AND DRAINAGE

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| The Willingdon Water Works, Trivandrum | "   |
| Mofussil Water Works                   | 118 |
| Alleppey Water Works                   | "   |
| Nagercoil Water Supply Scheme          | 119 |
| Shencotta Water Supply Scheme          | "   |
| Trivandrum Drainage Scheme             | "   |

ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT

|                                       |     |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| General                               | "   |
| The Pallivasal Hydro-Electric Project | 120 |
| Trivandrum Electric Supply            | 121 |
| Other Electric Supply undertakings    | 122 |
| Trunk Telephone                       | "   |
| Radio and Broadcasting                | "   |

CHAPTER XI.

Commerce.

TRADE

|                   |     |
|-------------------|-----|
| Value of Trade    | 123 |
| Carriage of Trade | "   |



|         | PAGE |
|---------|------|
| Imports | 123  |
| Exports | 124  |

## CHAPTER XII.

## Medical Relief, Public Health and Vital Statistics.

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| <b>MEDICAL DEPARTMENT</b>                                  |     |
| System of Medical Aid                                      | 125 |
| Administrative Changes                                     | "   |
| Medical Institutions                                       | 126 |
| Medical Officers   | "   |
| Medical Relief   | 127 |
| Maternity and Child Welfare                                | "   |
| Nursing Staff  | "   |
| Anti-Rabi Treatment  | 128 |
| General Hospital, Trivandrum                               | "   |
| Women and Children's Hospital, Trivandrum                  | "   |
| Ophthalmic Hospital, Trivandrum                            | "   |
| Hospitals for Mental Diseases, Trivandrum                  | "   |
| Lepor Colony, Noornad                                      | 129 |
| Tuberculosis Hospital, Nagercoil                           | "   |
| Expenditure  | "   |
| <b>AYURVEDA DEPARTMENT</b>                                 |     |
| General  | 130 |
| Ayurveda Hospitals and Dispensaries                        | "   |
| Relief   | 131 |
| Government Ayurveda Hospital and Dispensary,<br>Trivandrum | "   |
| The Government Ayurveda Pharmacy                           | "   |
| The Ayurveda College                                       | 132 |
| Ayurveda High Schools                                      | "   |
| Expenditure  | "   |
| <b>PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT</b>                            |     |
| General  | 133 |
| <i>Graph showing Birth Rate</i>                            |     |
| Vital Statistics   | "   |
| Diseases   | 134 |
| <i>Graph showing Death Rate</i>                            |     |
| Cholera  | "   |
| Small pox and Vaccination                                  | 135 |
| Plague   | "   |
| Typhoid  | "   |



CONTENTS

XIII

|  | PAGE |
|--|------|
| Mosquito Control   | 135  |
| Fevers and other Diseases  | 136  |
| Filariasis Investigations and Control  | "    |
| Health Unit, Neyyattinkara   | "    |
| Maternity and Child Welfare Work   | 137  |
| School Medical Inspection  | "    |
| Public Health Education  | 138  |
| Rural Sanitation   | "    |
| Receipts and Expenditure   | "    |
| <b>CHAPTER XIII.</b>   |      |
| <b>Public Instruction</b>  |      |
| Historical Survey  | 139  |
| Educational System   | 140  |
| Educational Policy   | 141  |
| <b>THE UNIVERSITY OF TRAVANCORE</b>  |      |
| General  | "    |
| Institutions and Strength  | 142  |
| Convocation  | "    |
| The Central Research Institute   | 143  |
| Physical Education and the University Labour Corps   | 144  |
| Technical Training Scheme  | "    |
| Department of Publications   | 145  |
| <b>EDUCATION DEPARTMENT</b>  |      |
| Progress of Education--General Statistics  | "    |
| <i>Chart showing Number under Instruction in Departmentals<br/>and Private Institutions.</i> |      |
| English Schools  | "    |
| Malayalam and Tamil Schools  | 146  |
| Special Schools  | 148  |
| Training Schools   | "    |
| Technical Schools for Girls  | "    |
| Reformatory School   | "    |
| Sanskrit Schools   | 149  |
| Other Special Schools  | "    |
| The Sri Swathi Tirunal Academy of Music  | "    |
| Education of Special Classes   | 150  |
| Special Schools for Kshatriyas   | "    |
| Special Schools for Malayala Brahmins  | "    |
| Education of Mahomedans  | "    |
| Education of Backward Communities  | 151  |

|   | PAGE |
|---|------|
| Miscellaneous   | 151  |
| Hostels and Boarding Houses                                       | "    |
| Orphanages  | "    |
| Libraries and Reading Rooms                                       | 152  |
| Scouting  | "    |
| Scholarships and Stipends   | "    |
| Fee Concessions   | "    |
| <i>Chart showing Gross Expenditure, Receipts and Expenditure.</i> |      |
| Examinations  | 153  |
| Receipts and Expenditure  | "    |
| <b>CHAPTER XIV.</b>   |      |
| <b>Local Self-Government.</b>                                     |      |
| History   | 154  |
| Number, Composition, Area and Population                          | 155  |
| Finance   | "    |
| Work of the Municipalities  | 156  |
| Village Panchayats and Village Unions                             | "    |
| <b>CHAPTER XV.</b>  |      |
| <b>Hindu Religious and Charitable Institutions.</b>               |      |
| General   | 157  |
| Devaswoms—Major, Minor and Petty                                  | "    |
| Personal Deposit Devaswoms  | 158  |
| Instructional Institutions  | "    |
| Hindu Religious Libraries   | "    |
| Religious Discourses and Conventions                              | "    |
| Devaswom Fund   | "    |
| Devaswom Works  | 159  |
| The Working of the Hindu Religious Endowments Act                 | "    |
| Miscellaneous   | "    |
| Expenditure   | 160  |
| <b>CHAPTER XVI.</b>   |      |
| Food Control Measures   | 161  |
| <b>CHAPTER XVII.</b>  |      |
| <b>Miscellaneous.</b>   |      |
| ANCHAL (State Postal Department)                                  | 166  |
| Early History   | "    |
| Anchor Offices and Letter Boxes                                   | "    |
| Articles Posted   | "    |
| Delivery of Articles  | 167  |
| Value Payable and Insured Articles                                | "    |

CONTENTS

XV

|   | PAGE |
|---|------|
| Hundi Business                          | 167  |
| Savings Bank                            | 168  |
| Telephone Work in Anchal Offices        | "    |
| Anchal Mail Lines                       | "    |
| Sale Proceeds of used stamps            | "    |
| Miscellaneous                           | "    |
| TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT                    | "    |
| Extensions and Readjustments of Service | "    |
| Mileage, Fare and Traffic               | 169  |
| Parcels and Goods Transport             | "    |
| Amenities to Passengers                 | "    |
| Accidents                               | "    |
| Receipts and Expenditure                | 170  |
| MINT                                    | "    |
| General                                 | "    |
| Control                                 | "    |
| Minting                                 | 171  |
| Coins in Circulation                    | "    |
| Coins Out                               | "    |
| Receipts and Expenditure                | "    |
| GOVERNMENT PRESS                        | 172  |
| General                                 | "    |
| Machinery and Plant                     | "    |
| Out-turn                                | "    |
| Gazette                                 | 173  |
| STATIONERY                              | "    |
| PRESSES AND PUBLICATIONS                | 174  |
| Newspapers and Periodicals              | "    |
| Department of Information               | "    |
| Travancore Information and Listener     | 175  |
| ARCHAEOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT               | "    |
| General                                 | "    |
| Epigraphy                               | "    |
| Museum of Antiquities                   | "    |
| MUSEUM                                  | 176  |
| General                                 | "    |
| Additions                               | "    |
| Government Gardens and Zoo              | 177  |
| Zoo                                     | "    |
| Gardens                                 | "    |

|  | PAGE |
|--|------|
| SRI CHITRALAYAM                                      | 177  |
| Additions  | 178  |
| Visitors   | "    |
| THE SRI CHITRA HOME FOR THE DESTITUTE AND THE INFIRM | "    |
| THE PUBLIC SERVICE                                   | 179  |
| General  | "    |
| Recruitment General                                  | "    |
| Recruitment to Higher Division--The Civil Service    | "    |
| The Intermediate Division                            | 180  |
| The Lower Division                                   | "    |
| NEW CHURCHES AND MOSQUES                             | 181  |
| STATE LIFE INSURANCE—Public Branch                   | "    |
| General  | "    |
| Proposals  | "    |
| Policies   | "    |
| Claims   | 182  |
| Surrenders   | "    |
| Lapses and Revivals                                  | "    |
| Cash Loans   | "    |
| Receipts and Payments                                | "    |
| Funds  | "    |
| Expense Ratio  | "    |
| STATE LIFE INSURANCE -Government Servants' Branch    | 183  |
| General  | "    |
| Proposals  | "    |
| Policies   | "    |
| Claims   | "    |
| Loans against Policies                               | "    |
| Receipts and Payments                                | 184  |
| STATE SAVINGS BANK                                   | "    |
| General  | "    |
| Volume of Business                                   | "    |
| STATE PROVIDENT FUND                                 | "    |
| DEFENCE SAVINGS PROVIDENT FUND                       | 185  |
| INDEX  | 187  |

## CHAPTER I.

### GENERAL.

*M. E. 1118 (17th August 1942—16th August 1943.)*

Travancore (Malayalam—*Tiruvitamkur*) is the southernmost Indian State and occupies the south-west portion of the Indian peninsula. It forms an irregular triangle, with its apex

*Situation and Area.* at Cape Comorin, between  $8^{\circ} 4'$  and  $10^{\circ} 22'$  North Latitude and between  $76^{\circ} 13'$  and  $77^{\circ} 38'$  East

Longitude. Travancore is bounded on the north by the State of Cochin and the British District of Coimbatore. The British Districts of Madura, Ramnad and Tinnevely constitute its eastern boundary and on the west and south lie the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean. Travancore has an area of 7661.75 square miles, its extreme length from north to south being 174 miles and its extreme width, 75 miles.

The Western Ghats form a continuous mountain chain of varying altitude from north to south, isolating Travancore from the Madras Presidency on the east and conferring a distinctive-

*Physical Features.* ness on its history and culture. From the mountain heights walling in the State on the eastern boundary the country undulates to the west over hills of

dense vegetation till it reaches the cultivated plains which skirt the backwaters and the Arabian Sea. Extensive tea and cardamom plantations have sprung up on most of the higher elevations; pepper, rubber, ginger and turmeric flourish in the lesser uplands; and in both regions, there are reserved forests of valuable timber, both of virgin growth and of scientific planting. There are stretches of paddy cultivation terraced along the valleys, and paddy cultivation is also extensively carried on in the irrigated areas towards the south in Nanjinad and Edanad and in the fens and backwater reclamations in the north.

The broad coast-belt and the shores of the backwaters are covered with dense coconut plantations, while all over the plains are, in addition, around homesteads, a variety of trees such as the a



jack, the mango, the tamarind and the cashewnut. Tapioca is cultivated almost everywhere in the lower levels and the raising of yams, beans and gram is considerable. The State reserved forests cover an extent of slightly less than a third of the entire area and are well timbered with teak, black wood, ebony, jack, *anjili*, etc. The elephant, the leopard, the tiger, the bison, the bear, the sambur and a variety of small game are plentiful in the forests. Among the characteristic features of the country are the broad lagoons or backwaters forming a cheap high way for traffic from the extreme north to as far south as Trivandrum, connected by navigable canals along the entire littoral and numerous streams and rivers flowing westward to the sea. Extremes of temperature are unknown in the low country, the prevailing characteristic of which is a warm humidity. But the country cools as it climbs to the bracing heights of Peermade, the Cardamom Hills, the High Ranges and the Ponmudi Hills. Travancore receives a share of both the south-west and the north-east monsoons, the former in a larger measure than the latter. The south-west monsoon begins about the middle of Edavam (May-June) and the north-east monsoon commences in the month of Thulam (October-November). The rainfall is generally heavy, averaging about 89 inches *per annum*. Rice, fish and tapioca form the staple food of the people.

The population of the State, according to the decennial census of 1941 is 6,070,018 (3,045,102 males and 3,024,916 females), the increase in population for the decennial period (1931-41) being 974,045 or 19.1 per cent.

The average density of population in 1931 was 665 per sq. mile and it rose to 792 per sq. mile in 1941; if calculated on the area of land available for cultivation, the density of population

rises to 1,463 per sq. mile. Trivandrum, the Capital City, has a population of 1,28,365. The principal

towns are Alleppey, Nagercoil, Quilon, Kottayam, Changanacherry, Tiruvalla, Attingal and Parur. Villages and village life as prevalent on the East Coast are practically unknown except in parts of South Travancore. Elsewhere, the conditions are rural or semi-rural and the people live in detached homesteads, each nestling in its own tree-

planted and walled-in garden. Hinduism, the religion of the Ruling Family, is the predominant religion and its followers, divided into various caste groups constitute nearly three-fifths (3,671,497) of the entire

population while the denominations of Christians, including the Syrian Christians, represent nearly one-third (1,963,796), and the Mahomedans nearly one-fourteenth (434,150). There has long existed in the State a small body of European and American residents. The number of literates per 100 of the population is 47.1. The

*Literacy.* percentage of literacy for males is 58.1 and for females 36.0. Except among a small section of the population, the *Purdah* system is unknown in Travancore. Women generally enjoy great freedom in the State, and this fact coupled with their general education has brought about their active participation in affairs.

*Position of Women.*

From the point of view of progressive administration and of literacy, Travancore yields to no State or Province in India and in point of population and revenue is next only to Hyderabad and Mysore. Hyderabad which is nearly eleven times as large as Travancore is only a little over two and a half times as populous. Mysore, Gwalior and the neighbouring colony of Ceylon are nearly four times as extensive, but their population is, respectively, about one and one-third and three-fourths of and the same as that of Travancore. Baroda, though nearly of the same area, has only less than one-half of the population of Travancore.

*Travancore compared with other States.*

The early history of Travancore is in great part shrouded in tradition; but there is little doubt that the Maharaja is the representative of the Chera dynasty, one of the three great Hindu dynasties which exercised sovereignty at one time in south India. The English first settled at Anjengo which they obtained in 1684 on a grant from the Queen of Attingal which was subsequently ratified by the king of Travancore. Marthanda Varma, the son of the Queen of Attingal, became in 1729 the *Adhipathi* of Venad. He succeeded in crushing the *Uttuveetil Pillamars*, the feudal chieftains of eight *desams*, who had striven against the power of the Rajas for over a century. Thereafter he grew in strength and power and, having amalgamated Attingal with Venad on a treaty engagement that none but the offspring of the Ranis of Attingal shall succeed to the rulership of Travancore, proceeded on a campaign of conquest with his minister *Ramayyan Dalawa*

*Historical Sketch.*



and the Venad *Valia Capittan*, Eustachius Benedictus De Lannoy, a Flemish soldier who had been captured in a fight with the Dutch and whom the Raja had befriended and raised to that high position. By the time of Marthanda Varma's death in 1758, practically the whole of modern Travancore had been brought under his sway. He established order, settled the country and dedicated it to Sri Padmanabhaswami, and he and his successors, Rajas, or Ranis of Travancore, have since ruled as the *Dasas* or *Sevinis* of the Deity. In the wars in which the East India Company were engaged in the Carnatic and in Mysore in the eighteenth century, the Travancore State rendered military assistance to the Company. Travancore was reckoned as one of the staunchest allies of the British Power and was included in the treaty made in 1784 between the East India Company and the Sultan of Mysore. In view of the protection of the State from possible inroads by Tippu Sultan, an arrangement was come to in 1788 with the East India Company, and in 1795 a formal treaty was concluded by which the Company agreed to protect Travancore from all foreign enemies. In 1805 a new treaty was signed and an annual contribution of Rs. 7,96,430-8 as. was fixed mainly in lieu of the obligation assumed by the State towards the cost of maintaining a force by the Honourable Company for the defence of Travancore from foreign aggression and of the obligation under the Treaty of 1795 to provide an army for effective service in British India in times of war. The history of the State has been one of steady development and well ordered progress under a succession of able and enlightened rulers. His Highness Sri Chitra Tirunal the present Maharaja, has adhered to the traditions of his House, and has signalised his reign by a Proclamation throwing open the temple of Sri Padmanabhaswami and all the temples under his control and the temples under Government control to all Hindus including those hitherto described as untouchable and backward classes—a reform which has evoked universal appreciation.

The official year in Travancore is reckoned according to the Malabar Era or the *Kollam* Era said to date from *The Calendar*. the rebuilding of *Kollam* or Quilon 1118 years ago.

The year begins about the middle of August. The twelve months are named after the zodiacal signs, the longest month having 32 days and the shortest 29 days.



Travancore has its own coinage of the silver *fanam* (2.25 annas), the copper *chackram* (6.74 pies) and the *cash* (0.42 pie). It has been issuing also its own silver coin formerly called half-  
*The Currency.* rupee but now called the "Chitra" (14 *chackrams*) and a coin formerly called quarter-rupee (7 *chackrams*). The British Indian silver and nickel coins and currency notes are also in free circulation. The "Chitra" coins and the British Indian half-rupee are legal tender for an unlimited amount.

The State has its own postal service, known as the Anchal, and issues its own stamps. Its Anchal offices also transact  
*The Anchal.* savings bank business and issue *hundies* or money orders.

#### The Ruling Family.

His Highness Sri Padmanabha Dasa Vanchi Pala Sir Bala Rama Varmā Kulasekhara Kiritapati Manney Sultan Maharaja Raja Ramaraja Bahadur Shamsher Jang, Knight Grand Commander of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire, Maharaja of Travancore, was born on the 7th November 1912, and his succession to the *Musnad* was recognised by the British Government on the 1st September 1924. His Highness was invested with ruling powers on the 6th November 1931 (20th Thulam 1107). His Highness the Maharaja is entitled to a salute of nineteen guns, and to twenty-one guns within the State. The *Marumakkathayam* law governs the succession to the *Musnad* which, further, is confined to the offspring of the Attingal Ranis. Her Highness the Senior Maharani (born on the 19th November 1895) and Her Highness Maharani Setu Parvati Bayi (born on the 8th November 1896) were adopted into the Ruling family on the 31st August 1900. His Highness the Maharaja is the eldest son of Her Highness Maharani Setu Parvati Bayi. A daughter, the First Princess (Kartika Tirunal), was born to Her Highness on the 17th September 1916 and a second son, the Elaya Raja, on the 22nd March 1922. A daughter, the Second Princess, (Uthram Tirunal) was born to Her Highness the Senior Maharani on the 30th December 1923 and a second daughter, the Third Princess, (Kartika Tirunal) was born to Her Highness on the 23rd October 1926. A son (Avittam Tirunal) was born to the First Princess (Kartika Tirunal) on the 5th January 1938. A daughter (Bharani Tirunal) was born to the Second Princess (Uthram Tirunal) on the 15th February 1940. A daughter (Bharani Tirunal) was born to the Second Princess (Uthram Tirunal) on the 29th December 1941.

A daughter (Pooyam Tirunal) was born to the First Princess (Kartika Tirunal) on the 7th September 1942 and a daughter (Rohini Tirunal) was born to the Second Princess (Uthram Tirunal) on the 13th February 1943.

#### Honours conferred by His Highness the Maharaja.

In connection with the birthday of His Highness the Maharaja in November 1942, His Highness was pleased to confer the title of *Rajakaryapravina* on Mr. N. Krishnamurti, Private Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja, of *Rajyasevapravina* on Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, University of Travancore, and also on Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon, Electrical Engineer to Government; of *Rajyasevanirata* on Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai, Director of Public Health. His Highness was also pleased to award the Maharaja's Gold Medal to Mr. S. Chidambaram, Private Secretary to the Dewan, and to Mr. E. G. Salter, Director of Transport.

#### Tour of His Highness the Maharaja.

His Highness the Maharaja accompanied by Her Highness Maharani Setu Parvati Bayi proceeded on a short tour to Chidambaram. His Highness had accepted the invitation of the Annamalai University at Chidambaram and Her Highness the Maharani had accepted the invitation of the Andhra University at Guntur to address the graduates at their respective annual Convocations for the year 1942. The Annamalai University had resolved also to confer on Their Highnesses in person at the convocation, the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Letters (D. Litt.)

Their Highnesses left Trivandrum in a Special Saloon attached to the 'Trivandrum Express' on the morning of the 7th December 1942, the departure being private. The party accompanying His Highness consisted of Rajakaryapravina N. Krishnamurti, Private Secretary, three Aides-de-Camp and the Palace Medical Officer. No Special Tour Officer was appointed for the tour. The Private Secretary to His Highness was in charge of the arrangements. At Trichinopoly His Highness's saloon was detached from the 'Trivandrum Express' and attached to the 'Passenger-Shencotta' to proceed to Chidambaram. The party arrived at Chidambaram on the 8th December at 10-48 a. m. and Their Highnesses had a very enthusiastic reception on arrival at the Railway Station. The Pro-Chancellor,

Raja Sir Annamalai Chettiar of Chettinad and other members of the University, as also many officials and non-officials of the place were present. At a pandal specially erected for the occasion, at the Railway Station, two addresses were presented to Their Highnesses, one by the citizens and the other by the Trustees of the Devasthanams. His Highness made a brief joint-reply to the addresses.

Their Highnesses were the guests of Raja Sir Annamalai Chettiar and were accommodated in the Vice-Chancellor's bungalow at Annamalai Nagar during the stay at Chidambaram. Their Highnesses had a crowded programme of engagements during the two days' stay.

On the evening of the 8th December, Their Highnesses visited the University Campus, and then the temples.

On the morning of the 9th December, Their Highnesses attended the Convocation. His Excellency the Governor of Madras, the Chancellor of the University, conferred on Their Highnesses the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Letters. His Highness the Maharaja then delivered the Convocation address which elicited enthusiastic appreciation.

Their Highnesses together with His Excellency the Chancellor were entertained to breakfast by the Pro-Chancellor. At 10-45 a. m. an address was presented to Their Highnesses by the Malayalee members of the University at the Senate Hall to which His Highness made a suitable reply.

In the afternoon Their Highnesses visited the Nandanar Kazhakom which is believed to be the spot where Nanda lived and attained beatitude. Later, in the evening at about 6 p. m., Raja Sir Annamalai Chettiar entertained Their Highnesses at a Garden Party in the University Campus.

At about 10 p. m. after attending a variety entertainment at the Convocation Hall, Their Highnesses proceeded to the Railway Station and left for Madras in the saloon which was attached to the 'Indo-Ceylon Express' and reached Madras on the morning of the 10th December.

Their Highnesses stayed at the Travancore House, Adayar. The original programme was that Their Highnesses should proceed to Guntur on the 11th December for the Convocation of the Andhra



University on the 12th; at which Her Highness was to deliver the address, but the journey was subsequently cancelled. Her Highness's address was therefore read on the occasion by Sir C. R. Reddy, the Vice-Chancellor of the Andhra University. The address received widespread attention and appreciation.

At Madras also, Their Highnesses had a very busy week. Their Highnesses were the guests of His Excellency the Governor of Madras at a luncheon at Government House, on the 11th December. Their Highnesses gave a Dinner at the Travancore House on the 15th and a luncheon on the 16th. Among the guests entertained were His Excellency the Governor and the Honourable Lady Hope.

Their Highnesses and party left Madras on the 17th December at 7-30 p. m. by 'No. 5 Trivandrum Express' and returned to the Capital at 8-10 p. m. on the 18th December.

#### **The British Representative.**

In the year 1800 A. D., the first British Resident accredited to the Court of Travancore took up his residence in the State. British Residents continued until October 1923, when Travancore came into direct relations with the Government of India, and the British Resident's title was altered to that of "Agent to the Governor-General, Madras States." From April 1937, the designation of the Agent was changed to the "Resident for the Madras States". Lieut. Colonel G. P. Murphy was the Resident for the Madras States from the 16th January 1939 till the forenoon of the 16th March 1943 when he was succeeded by H. J. Todd Esq. (now C. I. E.) of the Indian Political Service.

## CHAPTER II.

### WAR EFFORTS.

Soon after the declaration of War, His Highness the Maharaja placed at the disposal of the British Crown, the entire resources of the State. Since then, Travancore's contribution in men and material for the prosecution of the war has been on a scale commensurate with the great traditions of the State and of the Ruling Family.

A Trawler and Minesweeper—H. M. I. S. Travancore—built at a cost of Rs. 6½ lakhs and presented to the Royal Indian Navy; two Fighter Planes—Travancore I and II—costing Rs. 1½ lakhs presented to the Royal Air Force; Rs. 10.50 lakhs to the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund; Rs. 1.50 lakhs for Women's War Work; Rs. 1.00 lakh to the Indian Red Cross; Rs. 2.00 lakhs to the Viceroy's Comforts Fund; and Rs. 0.25 lakh for the King George's Fund for Sailors; these are some of the outstanding contributions made by His Highness the Maharaja. The total of these and other contributions as it stood at the end of March 1944 was Rs. 23.41 lakhs.

Her Highness Maharani Setu Parvati Bayi, mother of His Highness the Maharaja, has provided one Field Ambulance Unit. Her Highness has also made generous contributions to the Lady Linlithgow Trinket Fund.

The First and Second Infantries of the Travancore State Forces continued to be on active service outside the State during the year under report. A Training Battalion has been organised to reinforce the I and II Infantries.

*The State Forces.*

The supply of important war materials in accordance with the demands and specifications of the Government of India was made on a much larger scale than in the previous year. Goods valued at nearly Rs. 4 crores have been supplied from the State. The supplies have come from Government institutions as well as from private industrial enterprises. Several

items of articles have been manufactured and sent out. They include standard T. G. Huttings, Nissen Twin Sheddings, M. T. Cisterns, Blocks Tackle, Petrol Tanks, Hangars, articles of wood like barrels, ammunition boxes, tent poles, axes, mallets, packing cases, rubber and coir goods etc. The value of recent orders for coir goods comes to nearly Rs. 1 crore. Coir interests have now organised themselves into a "Coir Mats and Matting Manufacturers' Association" and have pooled their resources in order to meet the large orders from the Supply Department of the India Government. The Rubber Factory at Trivandrum alone has supplied goods to the value of more than a crore of rupees.

The State Forests continued to supply all available quantity of timber to meet the demands of the Defence Department. Timber arriving at the depots or removed by purchase contractors was offered for selection to the Supply Department. Thus first class timber was made available for war purposes. About 65,160 c. ft. of Rosewood logs and materials were despatched for military purposes and for ship building and construction of lorry bodies. Two lakhs c. ft. of jungle-wood timber, 10,680 c. ft. of Ascu treated materials and planks and 23,500 c. ft. of sleepers for railways were also supplied.

The Technical Training Scheme is encouraged as part of the general war effort of the State. The Travancore University has played an important role in the working of this scheme which is in operation in the Engineering College and the Institute of Textile Technology.

*War Technicians.*

Over 500 persons were undergoing training in the two institutions during 1118. The State Public Works Department and Transport Workshops are also utilised as training centres. Men are trained as fitters, engine drivers, boiler attendants, electricians, blacksmiths, tin and copper smiths, carpenters, welders etc. After the prescribed trade tests the trainees were absorbed into the various technical branches of the Defence Services. His Excellency the Governor of Madras who paid a visit to the Engineering College Centre, was pleased to express his high appreciation of the training given there. The latest available figures relating to the progress of the Technical Training Scheme in the Indian States reveal that Travancore has supplied 1,199 technicians to the various war services and to civil industries.



The call for service in the fighting forces of the country has met with remarkable response from Travancore. The Central War Recruitment Committee and sub-committees established for the purpose of facilitating recruitment from the State functioned actively throughout the year. 346 persons were selected as candidates for Emergency Commission by the Central War Recruitment Committee till the end of 1948. The British Indian Recruiting Officers who toured the State recruited 38,245 men to the different branches of the Defence Services with the help of the war recruitment sub-committees in the mofussil. Travancore has sent in more recruits to the armed forces than any other State or District in South India. The latest figures show that more than 45,000 men have been recruited from the State to the various services exclusive of commissioned officers and persons recruited through the Technical Recruiting Department. Travancore has also made a great contribution in man power in the construction of important military works and several units of civilian labourers numbering over 50,000 men, have been supplied for service in Assam and other neighbouring places. The above account is by no means complete. Several others—doctors, engineers, technicians, etc., have joined the armed forces through other agencies. It has to be stated that at the present time when Travancore needs more men at home for increased food production and for work in essential war industries, and in spite of incessant complaints of scarcity of labour for those purposes, the State has been providing the very best material for the successful prosecution of the war, and it has been a source of profound gratification to the Government that during difficult times these men who have gone out from Travancore have stood firm and behaved as soldiers should. It was during the year under report when there was heavy fighting on the seas that a small ship H. M. L. S. 'Bengal' fought an epic battle against a large Japanese auxiliary cruiser in defence of a Dutch oil tanker in the Indian Ocean. The ship has conferred lasting distinction on the whole of India's Navy. The fact that 4 out of the company of 80 on the ship belonged to Travancore is a matter on which the State may take legitimate pride.

The continued success of the Allies in the various theatres of war has given a stimulus to the enthusiasm of the people and they are putting forth a supreme effort for winning the final victory. Following the lead given by Government, *The War and the People.* they have made notable contributions to the war effort. The War Purposes Central Committee constituted in 1940, under the Chairmanship of Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, has been doing very useful work in various directions. During the year under report as in the previous year, the Committee carried on welfare work for the families of those who had left the State on war service. As many as 8,000 families were looked after during the year in matters like supply of food grains, medical treatment, educational concessions, stay of civil suits, police protection etc. A sum of Rs. 30,622 was donated by the Committee for various items of war work *e. g.* His Excellency the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund, His Excellency the Governor's Joint War Charities and purchase of motor wagons for Travancore Infantry Units abroad. The Committee made a monthly contribution of Rs. 200 during the year towards the upkeep of military hospitals and Rs. 60 for the purchase of books, periodicals etc., for the use of the State Army on active service.

The Central Committee has a women's sub-committee which deals with war work among women. Her Highness Maharani Setu Parvati Bayi has been taking keen interest in the work of this sub-committee and is the source of inspiration for the women's Branch of the War Purposes Committee. Her Highness was graciously pleased to visit the work party of the sub-committee at the Residency on 20th July 1943. A large number of women throughout the State are working under the auspices and guidance of the sub-committee and they are turning out useful articles like shirts, hand-kerchiefs, pants jackets, mufflers, aprons, swabs, dressing etc., for the comforts of the service personnel. Educated young women of Travancore have also joined the W. A. C. I. in large numbers.



## CHAPTER III.

### SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT.

The Ruler is the source of all authority in Travancore. For more than half a century, however, the Maharajas of Travancore have treated the revenues of the State as public funds in the strict sense of the term, appropriating to their own use only a very modest civil list which is exhibited in the annual budget of the State. The proportion of the civil list to the total revenue is very small. The percentage was 8.76 in 1062, 6.86 in 1072, 6.57 in 1082, 4.04 in 1092, 3.83 in 1102, 3.58 in 1112, 3.59 in 1117 and 2.58 in 1118.

The Government of the country is conducted in the name and under the control of His Highness the Maharaja. The Minister is designated Dewan. He is appointed by a *Neet* or Commission under Sign Manual. The Dewan is assisted by an organised Secretariat closely resembling that of the Government of India and a public service constituted generally on the British Indian model.

The entire administration is carried on through several well-organised departments. The activities of these departments are separately and briefly described in the following chapters. Every administrative head addresses his proposals to the Government, and these recommendations are considered in the Secretariat and where necessary, are scrutinised by the Account and Audit Office. The decisions of the Government, which, in olden times, were issued over the signature of the head of the administration in the form of *Chattavariolas* on palm leaves and later on in Malayalam and Tamil communications on paper have for many years past been issued in English by the Chief Secretary to Government in the form of orders, proceedings or letters. The commands of the Ruler are always issued in the form of Proclamations

or *Neets* under Sign Manual. Except for purposes of legislation and the conduct of important ceremonies of State the Ruler rarely issues such direct commands in matters affecting the public administration. All notifications, proceedings and other matters to be made known generally are published in the *Government Gazette* which is issued every Tuesday in English and in Malayalam and Tamil. The *Gazette* is now in its eighty-first year. The history of Travancore for nearly a century without interruption reveals the fact that the administration, adapting itself from time to time to modern forms of government, without abandoning its pristine characteristics and ideals has been conducted with a view to the progressive well-being of the country. A code of enactments for Travancore was first promulgated in 1835 A. D. Of these, Acts I to VII of 1010 M. E. provided for the working, powers and jurisdiction of law courts: Parts of Acts I and IV survive on the Statute Book. Both relate to interest awardable under decrees. As the years have gone by, the volume of legislation has become large and comprehensive.

The revenue of the State is derived mainly from a system of (a) direct taxation, (b) indirect taxation, (c) commercial services and (d) levies in connection with specific services. Taxation is covered by authority conferred by various statutory enactments; the tax-payer's obligations are defined and known; and collection is made on an established system. There are only two sources of revenue by direct taxation, *viz.*, land revenue and income tax. The incidence of taxation per head of the population in the case of land revenue was, in the year under report, 7 of a rupee. Taxes falling within the second category are for the most part, duties on raw products or manufactured goods exported from Travancore, such as tea, coir, fibre, yarn and other products of the cocoanut palm, pepper, salted fish, turmeric, vegetable oils, etc. There is also a system of import duties based mainly on the British Indian tariff. The general stamp revenue is also appreciable. Next come indirect taxes, both fiscal and regulatory in character, such as import duty on foreign liquor and excise duty on country liquor. The income derived from salt and tobacco is considerable. The commercial and quasi-commercial departments yielding revenue are Forest, Anchal, Transport and Railways. Under class (d) is an appreciable income derived from such specific services as registration of documents, court fees and tolls.

The budget is framed annually and assigns most of the income of the year to the well-being of the people. Education, public health, medical relief, the protection of person and property, the administration of justice, and the provision of communications and irrigation facilities consume the bulk of the revenue.

*Application of Revenue.*

### The Legislature.

A Legislative Council was brought into existence so long ago as 1888 and was the first institution of the kind in an Indian State. The first Council had a minimum of five members and a maximum of eight, of whom not less than two were non-officials. These non-officials were nominated by the Government. The Council was purely a deliberative body for purposes of legislation and had no administrative functions. The Ruler's right of legislation, independently of the Council, remained unimpaired. In 1898, the Council was enlarged, the minimum number of members being raised to 8 and the maximum to 15, the proportion of non-officials being fixed at two-fifths of the total number. The Council was not allowed to entertain any measure affecting the Ruling Family or the relations with the Paramount Power. The non-official members were at first nominated and latterly four of them, one for each of the four Revenue Divisions of the State, were appointed on the recommendation of the members of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly, a representative institution which continued to exist until the promulgation of the Legislative Reforms Act in 1932 (1108 M. E.). The Council was again remodelled in 1919 by Act I of 1095 (M. E. which was promulgated direct by His Highness the late Maharaja. Provision was made for granting the people the right of electing members to the Council, while reserving to the Government the right of nominating some of the non-official members. The Council was again enlarged by Act II of 1097, promulgated by the Ruler direct. The strength of the Council was raised to 50, of whom 28 were elected and 22 nominated. Only 15 out of the latter were officials. The Dewan was made the President of the Council but a Deputy President, not necessarily an official, was also appointed to preside at the meetings of the Council in the absence of the President. The Council was invested with powers of voting on the budget, moving resolutions and asking questions. Women were placed

*Early Constitution.*



on a footing of complete equality with men in the matter both of the franchise and of membership. Every legislative measure passed by the Council required the assent of the Ruler.

The legislature was again reconstituted by the Legislative Reforms Act, II of 1108. The main feature of this Act is the constitu-

*The Present Legislature.* tion of a bicameral legislature *viz.*, the Travancore Sri Mulam Assembly and the Travancore Sri Chitra State Council with wide powers. The Assembly consists of seventy-two members, of whom sixty-two are non-officials and ten officials. The non-officials form 83 per cent. of the number of members. Forty-three non-official members are elected by general territorial constituencies, distributed over 17

*The Sri Mulam Assembly.* electoral divisions with reservation of seats, 8 for Ezhavas and 3 seats each for the Muslims and the Latin Catholics. The remaining 5 non-official

members are returned by the special constituencies representing commerce, planters and *jennies*. Fourteen non-official seats are reserved for nomination by Government in order to give representation to minority communities and other inadequately represented interests. The Dewan is the President of the Assembly, but a Deputy President, elected by the Assembly, is empowered to preside at meetings in the absence of the President. Provision is also made for the nomination of a panel of chairmen. The State Council

*The Sri Chitra State Council.* is composed of thirty-seven members, of whom twenty-seven or 73 per cent are non-officials and ten officials. Sixteen elected non-official members represent the general territorial constituencies distributed over 10 electoral divisions, with reservation of seats, two for Ezhavas and one each for the Muslims and the Latin Catholics. The remaining six members are elected by special interests such as commerce, *jennies*, planters, municipalities and political pensioners. Five non-officials are nominated by Government. The Dewan is the President of the Council also. A panel of chairmen is also nominated.

The equality of women with men in the matter of voting and membership in regard to both Chambers is maintained. According

*Franchise.* to the latest electoral rules issued under the Legislative Reforms Act of 1108, all persons who hold lands within the State as registered owners,

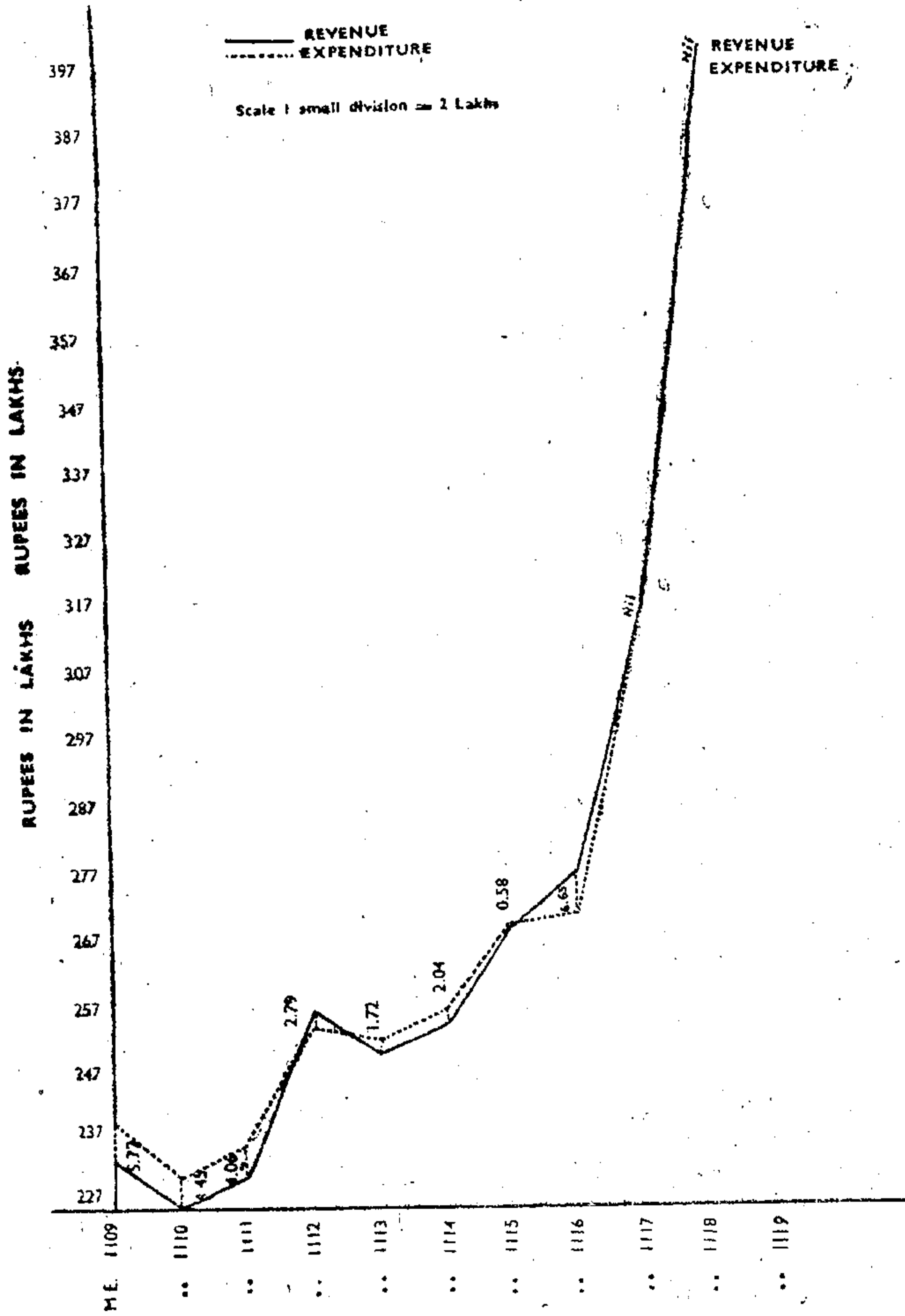
inamdars, tenants or *kudiyans* assessable to a tax of one rupee or more, persons who are assessed in a municipality to land or building or professional tax of any amount, persons who are assessed to income tax, all graduates of recognised universities in the British Empire who are not undergoing a course of instruction in a recognised institution, all discharged, retired or pensioned military officers of the Travancore State Forces or of His Majesty's Army or Navy residing in Travancore and all persons who are certified holders of fixed engines for fishing are eligible for the exercise of the franchise in the general constituencies of the Assembly, provided they are not under twenty-one years of age. The franchise for the State Council follows mainly the heads of qualifications for that relating to the Assembly but is fixed upon a higher standard. The property qualification is fixed at the payment of an annual land tax of Rs. 25 or a Municipal tax of Rs. 5, and educational qualification is limited to graduates of ten years' standing. Those who earn a monthly pension of not less than one hundred rupees on retirement from Government service are also eligible to vote in the general constituencies. Persons below the age of thirty are not eligible as voters or as candidates to the State Council.

In the matter of elections to the Assembly and the Council, according to the latest electoral rules, every elector has one vote with respect to one or more general seats in his constituency and he has one or more additional votes to be exercised, as the case may be, with respect to the reserved seat or seats, if any, provided in the same constituency. Thus an elector voting for a reserved seat or seats has an additional vote to be cast in favour of a candidate for a general seat. In the case of a reserved seat for either the Muslim or the Latin Catholic community the candidate who secures not less than 60 per cent. of the votes polled from his community has to be declared elected for such seat and if no candidate secures that percentage of votes from his community, then the candidate who secures the largest number of votes polled should be declared elected for the said reserved seat.

*System of Voting.*

Both houses of the legislature have the right to initiate and pass legislation, to discuss the annual budget and to ask questions and move resolutions on matters of general public interest. All legislative measures generally require the assent of both chambers before they can be passed into law. The new legislature not only retains all the old powers of legislation but is also free to consider many matters which were not open to discussion before. Measures affecting the Ruling Family, the relations with the Paramount Power and the provisions of the Legislative Reforms Act are some of the very few topics removed from the cognisance of the legislature. Provisions relating to the emergency powers of legislation and other powers vested in the Dewan and the Ruler's prerogative to legislate independently of the legislature are retained. The budget is presented to both Houses. The Assembly has a larger control than the State Council over finance, since the former has the right to reduce or omit the grants forming part of a demand, while the latter has to deal with each demand as a whole and is not entitled to move for reduction of the grant or any item of the grant comprising the demand. Provision is made for the constitution of joint committees comprised of an equal number of members from both chambers to settle any difference of opinion arising between them. A Public Accounts Committee is constituted to deal with the audit and appropriation of the accounts of Government. The right of asking supplementary questions is extended to all members. These constitutional reforms embody a substantial devolution of powers on the representatives of the people in the best interests of the State.

# REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE CHARGED TO REVENUE



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A.C.



## CHAPTER IV.

### FINANCE.

A general summary of the financial transactions of the year 1118 as compared with those of the year 1117 is furnished below :—

|   | 1117.<br><i>(In lakhs of Rs.)</i> | 1118.<br><i>(In lakhs of Rs.)</i> |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Ordinary Revenue Receipts                       | ... 314·52                        | 398·08                            |
| Expenditure charged to revenue                  | ... 276·19                        | 294·88                            |
| Contribution to Revenue Reserve Fund            | ... 38·32                         | ...                               |
| Contribution to Post-war Reconstruction Fund    | ... ..                            | 103·20                            |
| Capital Expenditure outside the Revenue Account | ... 28·87                         | 32·19                             |
| Debt Head transactions (net)                    | ... (+) 68·83                     | (+ ) 52·55                        |
| Opening Cash Balance                            | ... 54·25                         | 94·21                             |
| Closing Cash Balance                            | ... 94·21                         | 114·57                            |

The ordinary revenue for the year 1118 mounted up to Rs. 398·08 lakhs, *vide* Statement 'A' at the end of the chapter, a peak figure never attained before against Rs. 314·52 lakhs only in 1117 thereby showing improvement to the extent of Rs. 83·56 lakhs. The Major Heads of account which contributed to the above increase are Customs (Rs. 15·74 lakhs), Excise (Rs. 12·39 lakhs), Salt (Rs. 2·58 lakhs), Stamps (Rs. 12·13 lakhs), Forest (Rs. 4·32 lakhs), Taxes on Income (Rs. 12·56 lakhs), Registration (Rs. 8·23 lakhs), Railways (Rs. 1·55 lakhs), Stationery and Printing (Rs. 1·20 lakhs), Miscellaneous Departments (Rs. 6·91 lakhs), Receipts from Electric Schemes (Rs. 3·4 lakhs), State Transport Scheme (Rs. 4·28 lakhs) and Miscellaneous (Rs. 10·01 lakhs).

Larger receipts under the items 'Land Customs—Exports' and 'Imports' offset to a slight extent by fall under 'Sea Customs—Exports as well as Imports', 'Net Receipts from the Cochin Harbour Scheme' and 'Contribution received from the Government of India' on account



of the share in the Excise Duty on Matches account for the improvement noticeable under 'Customs'. The betterment under 'Excise' is due to a general increase under almost all the minor heads especially under 'Arrack', 'Toddy' and 'Opium and Ganja'. Under 'Salt' the increased revenue in 1118 as compared to 1117 is chiefly under 'Duty on local salt' and 'Recoveries on account of charges incurred in the sale of salt'. The improvement under 'Stamps' is on account of larger sales of 'General and Court fee stamps'. Larger sales and higher prices realised for timber and soft wood account for the variation noticeable under 'Forest'. The increase appearing under the head 'Taxes on income' is the cumulative effect of increases under 'Ordinary collections' and 'Supertax'. The abnormal increase in the number of documents registered and the consequent realisation of fees explain the increase in revenue under the head 'Registration'. As a result of general increase in goods and coaching traffic the net receipts from Railways for the year ended March 1943 amounted to Rs. 5.20 lakhs against Rs. 3.65 lakhs only during the corresponding period of the previous year. The printing and sale, through the Government Press, Trivandrum, of Sanskrit and Malayalam publications and of standard note books account for the better revenue realised under 'Stationery and Printing'. Larger receipts realised from the Pallivasal Hydro-Electric Scheme account for the betterment under the head 'Receipts from Electric Schemes (Net)'. There was considerable increase in the density of passenger and parcel traffic in the State Motor Transport during the year. This coupled with increase in rates by 25 per cent from 2/1118 accounts for the improvement in the net receipts under 'State Transport Scheme' offset to some extent by increase in working expenses. The special receipt of Rs. 9.97 lakhs on account of the profit realised in the sale of certain investments accounts for the larger receipts under 'Miscellaneous'.

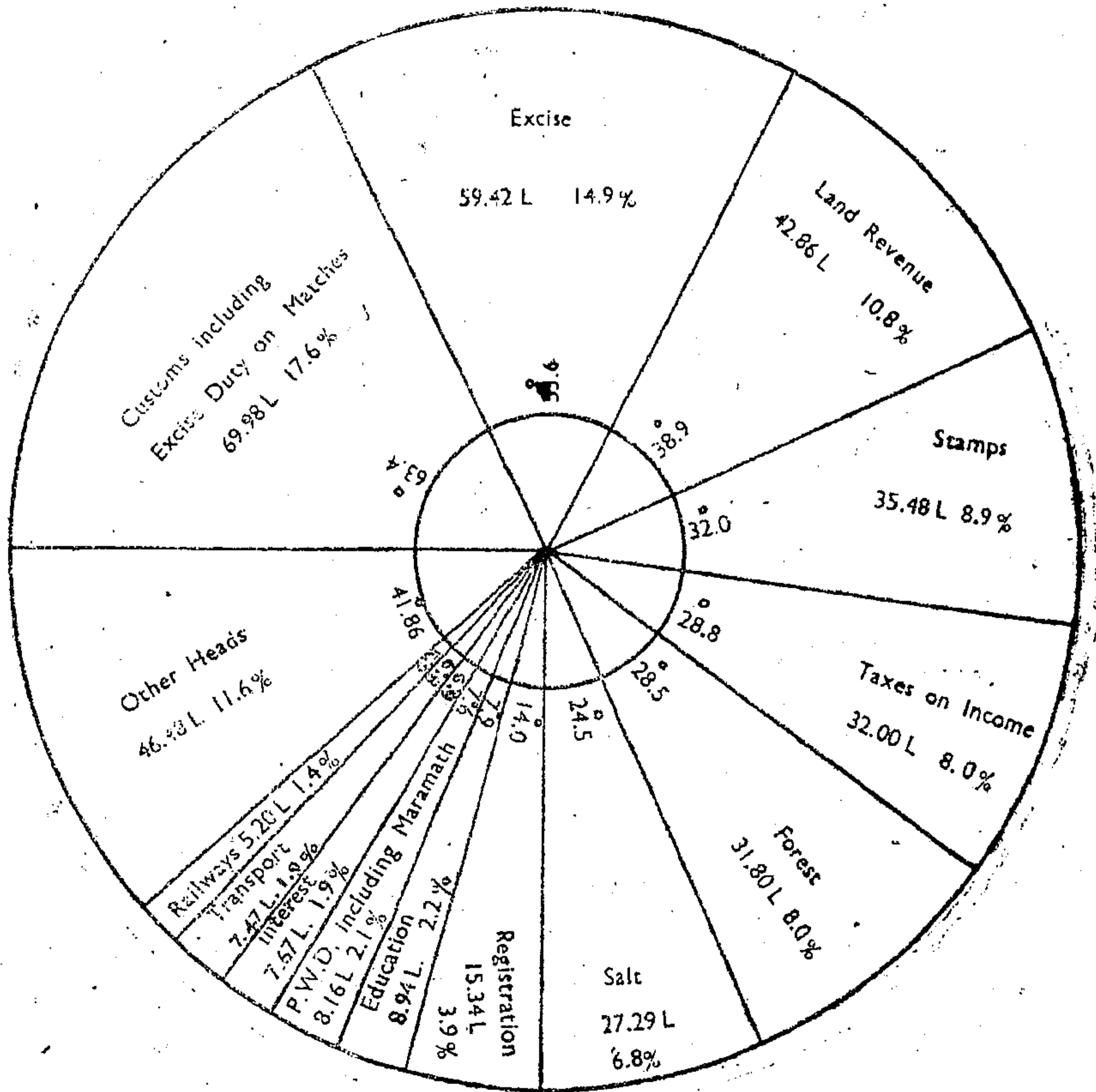
The main items under which there was appreciable decrease in revenue during the year were "Currency and Mint" (Rs. 6.48 lakhs) and 'Buildings, Communications &c.' (Rs. 4.22 lakhs).

The decrease under Currency and Mint was due to the fact that gain on silver coins for the face value of Rs. 2.5 lakhs only was adjusted in 1118 against Rs. 7 lakhs in 1117. Under "Buildings, Communications &c.," the decrease is mainly under 'Tolls on Roads and Bridges' and 'Subventions from the Central Road Fund.'

**PROPORTION OF REVENUE RECEIPTS OF THE STATE**

For 1118 M. E. under the various Heads to the total ordinary Revenue.

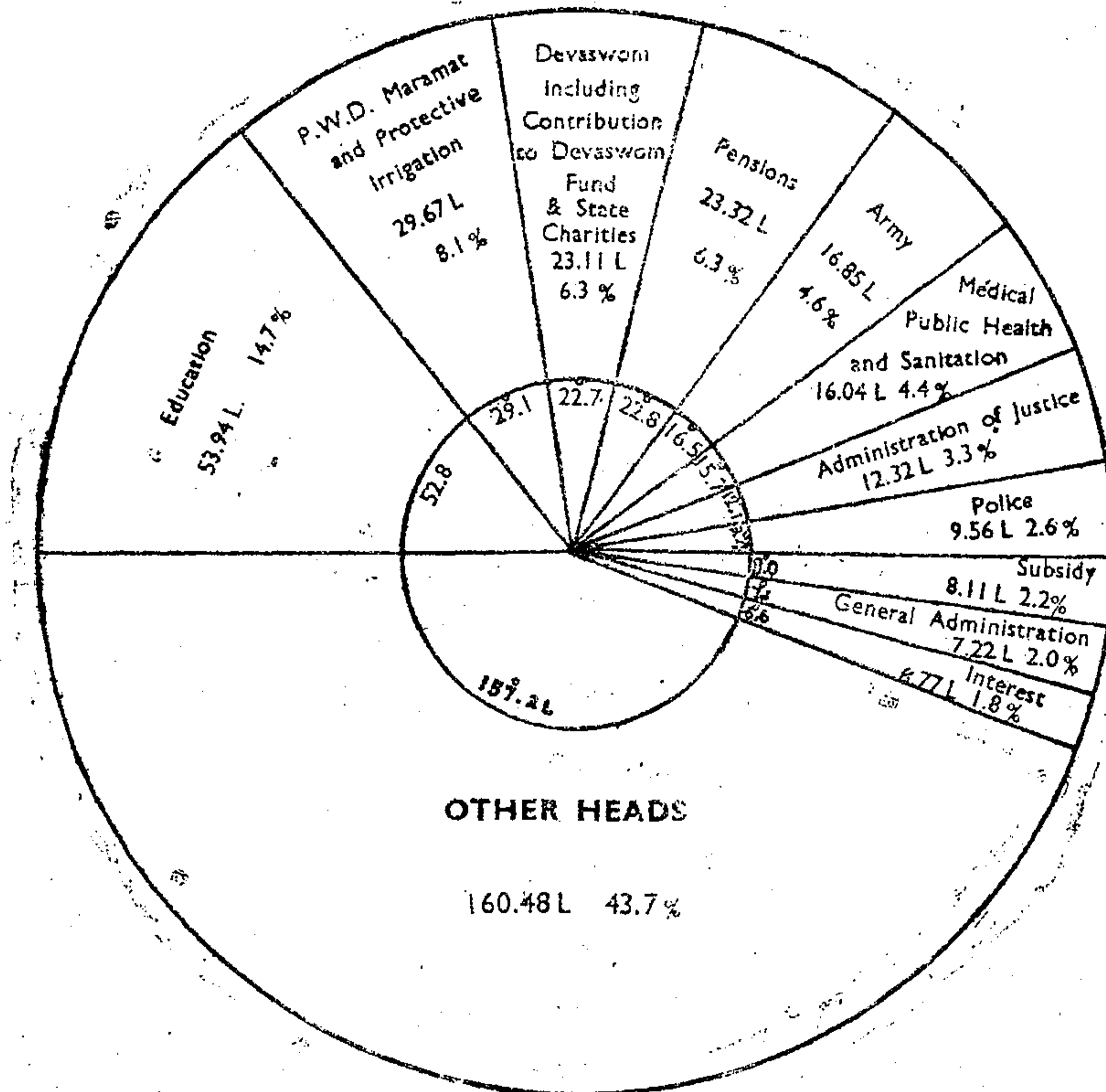
(In lakhs of Rupees)



**PROPORTION OF EXPENDITURE OF THE STATE**

For 1118 M. E. under the various Heads to the total expenditure (charged to Revenue) excluding 'collection charges' treated as Direct Demands on Revenue.

(In lakhs of Rupees)



The Expenditure charged to Revenue for the year, *vide* Statement B at the end of the chapter—excluding contribution to the Post War Reconstruction Fund amounted to Rs. 294.88 lakhs. *Expenditure.* approximating the revised estimate of Rs. 294.57 lakhs thus leaving a revenue surplus of Rs. 103.20 lakhs which has been transferred to the Post War Reconstruction Fund under Debt Heads. It may be seen from the above that the total ordinary revenue expenditure for the year under report was Rs. 18.69 lakhs more than that of the year 1117.

The chief items under which appreciable increases are noticeable are Land Revenue (Rs. 0.83 of a lakh), Construction of Railways (Rs. 1.14 lakhs), Interest on debt and other obligations (Rs. 2.39 lakhs), Interest on capital outlay on commercial schemes (Rs. 1 lakh), Police (Rs. 1.09 lakhs), Education (Rs. 2.96 lakhs), Medical and Ayurveda (Rs. 0.98 of a lakh), Stationery and Printing (Rs. 0.83 of a lakh), Buildings, Communications &c. (Rs. 0.74 of a lakh) Army (Rs. 4.2 lakhs), Miscellaneous (Rs. 5.24 lakhs) and Contribution to the War Fund (Rs. 1.02 lakhs).

Under 'Land Revenue' the increase is noticeable mainly under Taluk Cutcheries due to the retransfer of the treasury establishment from 'General Administration'. The increase in Interest charges on debt and other obligations and on capital outlay on commercial schemes is a necessary consequence of the growing balances in the Savings Banks and other funds and the increase in capital invested on the Commercial schemes. Under the major head 'Police' the increase is mainly under 'District Police Establishment'. The increased grant to the Travancore University, the special donation of B. Rs. 1 lakh to the Annamalai University and the increased expenditure under Primary Schools—'Grants in aid' account for the increase under 'Education'. Under 'Medical and Ayurveda' the increase is under 'Medical—Hospitals and Dispensaries—Contingencies—Purchase of medicines and surgical instruments and Dieting charges' on account of the increase in prices of medicine and food stuff due to the War. The cost of stationery supplied to Public departments amounted to Rs. 2.83 lakhs against Rs. 2.02 lakhs only in 1117 due chiefly to increase in the cost of stationery articles and this accounts for the variation under the major head 'Stationery and Printing'. The increase in expenditure in 1118 under 'Executive—Establishment charges' and 'Suspense—Miscellaneous Advance' offset to a slight extent



by less expenditure under 'Works' accounts for the variation under the major head 'Buildings, Communications &c.' The State's contribution towards the war efforts accounts mainly for the increased expenditure under 'Army'. The chief items of expenditure that contributed to the increase under the major head 'Miscellaneous Political Expenditure' are 'Food Control Measures' and 'A. R. P. and other measures of internal security'. The appreciable increase in expenditure in 1118 over that of 1117 under the major head 'Miscellaneous' is on account of the payment of Dearness Allowance to subordinates in 1118. The contribution to the War Fund during 1118 amounted to Rs. 5.09 lakhs against Rs. 4.07 lakhs in 1117.

The revenue surplus of Rs. 36.33 lakhs of the year 1117 was carried over to Revenue Reserve Fund while that of the year 1118 amounting to Rs. 103.20 lakhs was credited to the new head 'Post War Reconstruction Fund' under Debt Heads. Hence the variation noticed under the head 'Contribution to the Post War Reconstruction Fund'.

There was also appreciable decrease in expenditure under certain major heads the more important ones being Forest (Rs. 1.42 lakhs) General Administration (Rs. 0.96 of a lakh) Devaswoms (Rs. 2.69 lakhs) and Currency and Mint (Rs. 1.56 lakhs). The decrease in expenditure under 'Forest' is chiefly on account of less expenditure under 'Timber and other produce removed from the Forest by Government Agency'. The re-transfer of the minor head 'Treasury Establishment' from General Administration to 'Land Revenue' from 1118 onwards accounts for the fall in expenditure under 'General Administration'. The loss sustained in the withdrawal of Silver Coins minted up to 1105 amounted to Rs. 1.57 lakhs and this accounts for the variation noticeable under the major head 'Currency and Mint'.

The following statement gives a progressive account of the outlay on the larger capital schemes up to the end of 1118 M. E.:—

|  | Rupees in lakhs. |
|--|------------------|
| Kodayar Irrigation Project                 | 81.21            |
| Quilon-Trivandrum Railway                  | 54.03            |
| Chackai-Thampanur Extension                | 28.50            |
| The Willingdon Water Works                 | 58.09            |
| Bridge at Neriamangalam across the Periyar | 4.35             |
| The Neendakara Bridge                      | 5.36             |

Rupees in lakhs.

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| The Trivandrum Drainage Scheme including Alleppey |        |
| Drainage-Investigation                            | 22.44  |
| Mofussil Water Supply                             | 26.89  |
| Town Planning Schemes                             | 17.94  |
| The Council Chamber                               | 2.75   |
| The University Buildings                          | 0.99   |
| Providing dustless surfacing to M.S. Road         | 15.31  |
| Military Buildings                                | 14.60  |
| Trivandrum Electric Supply                        | 12.19  |
| The Pallivasal Hydro-Electric Scheme              | 194.49 |
| Telephone Schemes                                 | 12.12  |
| Radio Broadcasting                                | 1.29   |
| Rubber Factory                                    | 4.71   |
| The Clay Refining and Porcelain Factory           | 11.68  |
| State Transport                                   | 11.40  |
| Coastal Transport                                 | 5.29   |

The Assets and Liabilities on the books of Government as they stood on 31-12-1118 are furnished at the end of the chapter.

The fluid balances of Government in cash and Gilt-edged Securities stood at Rs. 326.13 lakhs at the close of the year comprising Rs. 114.57 lakhs in cash in Government Treasuries and Banks Rs. 155.58 lakhs as Investments in Government Securities at their purchase prices and Rs. 55.98 lakhs as short-term deposits in Banks.

The balance under 'Loans' advanced by Government mainly for agricultural and industrial purposes amounted to Rs. 58.39 lakhs. This is inclusive of Rs. 41.25 lakhs advanced to the Cochin Harbour authorities for Harbour works and for the purchase of a Dredging Plant and Rs. 4.71 lakhs to the Alleppey Municipality for Water Supply Scheme.

## STATEMENT A.

Statement comparing the Receipts of 1118 with those of 1117.

(The figures are in lakhs of rupees).

| Head of Account.                                       | 1118.  | 1117.  | Difference<br>Increase (+)<br>Decrease (-). |
|--|--------|--------|---|
| I. Customs   | 69.98  | 54.24  | (+) 15.74                                   |
| II. Excise   | 59.42  | 47.03  | (+) 12.39                                   |
| III. Land Revenue                                      | 42.86  | 44.35  | (-) 1.49                                    |
| IV. Salt   | 27.29  | 24.71  | (+) 2.58                                    |
| V. Stamps  | 35.48  | 23.35  | (+) 12.13                                   |
| VI. Forest   | 31.80  | 27.48  | (+) 4.32                                    |
| VII. Taxes on Income                                   | 32.01  | 19.45  | (+) 12.56                                   |
| VIII. Registration                                     | 15.34  | 7.11   | (+) 8.23                                    |
| IX. Railways   | 5.20   | 3.65   | (+) 1.55                                    |
| X. Productive Irrigation<br>(net receipts.)            | 0.92   | 1.57   | (-) 0.65                                    |
| XI. Anchal (do.)                                       | 1.48   | 1.14   | (+) 0.34                                    |
| XII. Interest  | 7.67   | 7.46   | (+) 0.21                                    |
| XIII. H. H. The Maharaja's<br>Garage and Stables       | 0.06   | 0.10   | (-) 0.04                                    |
| XIV. Administration of Justice                         | 0.75   | 0.65   | (+) 0.10                                    |
| XV. Jails  | 0.42   | 0.38   | (+) 0.04                                    |
| XVI. Police  | 1.14   | 0.91   | (+) 0.23                                    |
| XVII. Ports  | 0.05   | 0.05   | ...   |
| XVIII. Education                                       | 8.94   | 8.54   | (+) 0.40                                    |
| XIX. Agriculture                                       | 0.19   | 0.16   | (+) 0.03                                    |
| XX. Industries   | 0.10   | 0.12   | (-) 0.02                                    |
| XXI. Medical and Ayurveda                              | 0.44   | 0.33   | (+) 0.11                                    |
| XXII. Public Health and Sanitation                     | 0.09   | 0.06   | (+) 0.03                                    |
| XXIII. Devaswoms                                       | 0.02   | 0.01   | (+) 0.01                                    |
| XXIV. Currency and Mint                                | 1.38   | 7.86   | (-) 6.48                                    |
| XXV. Stationery and Printing                           | 3.02   | 1.82   | (+) 1.20                                    |
| XXVI. Miscellaneous Departments                        | 11.34  | 4.43   | (+) 6.91                                    |
| XXVII. Buildings, Communications<br>&c. (net receipts) | 8.16   | 12.38  | (-) 4.22                                    |
| XXVIII. Water Supply and Drainage                      | 0.99   | 0.99   | ...   |
| XXIX. Maramat  | ...    | 0.01   | (-) 0.01                                    |
| XXX. Receipts from Electric<br>Schemes (net)           | 5.94   | 2.70   | (+) 3.24                                    |
| XXXI. Telephone Schemes (net)                          | 0.69   | 0.50   | (+) 0.19                                    |
| XXXII. State Transport Scheme (net)                    | 7.47   | 3.19   | (+) 4.28                                    |
| XXXIII (a) Coastal Transport (net)                     | 0.19   | ...    | (+) 0.19                                    |
| XXXIII. Clay Refining and Porcelain<br>Factory (net)   | 0.53   | 0.54   | (-) 0.01                                    |
| XXXIV. Army  | 0.13   | 0.08   | (+) 0.05                                    |
| XXXV. Receipts in aid of pensions                      | 1.10   | 1.01   | (+) 0.09                                    |
| XXXVI. Receipts from the State<br>Guests' Department   | 0.05   | 0.10   | (-) 0.05                                    |
| XXXVII. Miscellaneous                                  | 12.50  | 2.49   | (+) 10.01                                   |
| XXXVIII. Sale proceeds of land                         | 2.94   | 3.57   | (-) 0.63                                    |
| Total  | 398.08 | 314.52 | (+) 83.56                                   |



## STATEMENT B.

Statement of Disbursements under Major Heads for the year 1118.

| Item No. | Service Payments.   | Accounts 1118 | Accounts 1117 | Difference Increase + Decrease - |
|----------|---|---------------|---------------|----------------------------------|
| 1        | Customs   | 1.02          | 0.99          | (+) 0.03                         |
| 2        | Excise  | 4.83          | 4.84          | (-) 0.01                         |
| 3        | Land Revenue  | 9.10          | 8.27          | (+) 0.83                         |
| 4        | Salt  | 1.64          | 1.21          | (+) 0.43                         |
| 5        | Stamps  | 0.84          | 0.78          | (+) 0.06                         |
| 6        | Forest  | 9.35          | 10.77         | (-) 1.42                         |
| 7        | Taxes on Income   | 0.35          | 0.35          | ...                              |
| 8        | Registration  | 3.58          | 3.16          | (+) 0.42                         |
| 8 A      | Survey of Minor Circuits  | 0.10          | 0.16          | (-) 0.06                         |
| 9        | State Railways--Interest on debt on Railway D. L. of 1091 M. E. | 0.02          | 0.45          | (-) 0.43                         |
| 9 B      | Construction of Railways  | ...           | (-) 1.14      | (+) 1.14                         |
| 10       | Protective Irrigation   | 2.25          | 1.96          | (+) 0.29                         |
| 10 C     | Irrigation outlay charged to Revenue Account                    | ...           | 0.02          | (-) 0.02                         |
| 11 D     | Anchal Capital Account  | 0.01          | 0.03          | (-) 0.02                         |
| 12       | Interest on debt and other obligations                          | 6.77          | 4.38          | (+) 2.39                         |
| 13       | Interest on capital outlay on Commercial Schemes                | 8.62          | 7.62          | (+) 1.00                         |
| 14       | Appropriation for reduction of avoidance of debt                | 1.16          | 1.16          | ...                              |
| 15       | Palace  | 10.28         | 11.28         | (-) 1.00                         |
| 16       | Panivagai   | 2.39          | 1.89          | (+) 0.50                         |
| 17       | H. H. The Maharaja's Garage and Stables                         | 1.37          | 1.45          | (-) 0.08                         |
| 18       | H. H. The Maharaja's Tours outside the State                    | 0.11          | 0.11          | ...                              |
| 19       | General Administration  | 7.22          | 8.18          | (-) 0.96                         |
| 20       | Administration of Justice                                       | 12.32         | 12.28         | (+) 0.04                         |
| 21       | Jails   | 1.97          | 1.57          | (+) 0.40                         |
| 22       | Police  | 9.56          | 8.47          | (+) 1.09                         |
| 23       | Ports   | 0.21          | 0.22          | (-) 0.01                         |
| 24       | Education   | 53.94         | 50.98         | (+) 2.96                         |



## STATEMENT B.—(contd.)

Statement of Disbursements under Major Heads for the year 1118.

| Item No. | Service Payments.   | Accounts 1118 | Accounts 1117 | Difference Increase + Decrease - |
|----------|---|---------------|---------------|----------------------------------|
| 25       | Agriculture   | 1.45          | 1.39          | (+) 0.06                         |
| 26       | Industries  | 0.76          | 0.83          | (-) 0.07                         |
| 27       | Co-operative Department   | 0.97          | 0.92          | (+) 0.05                         |
| 28       | Uplift of Backward Communities                                  | 0.50          | 0.42          | (+) 0.08                         |
| 29       | Medical and Ayurveda  | 12.83         | 11.85         | (+) 0.98                         |
| 30       | Public Health and Sanitation                                    | 3.21          | 2.74          | (+) 0.47                         |
| 31       | Devaswoms   | 7.03          | 9.72          | (-) 2.69                         |
| 32       | State Charities   | 0.08          | 0.08          | ...                              |
| 33       | Currency and Mint   | 0.04          | 1.60          | (-) 1.56                         |
| 34       | Stationery and Printing   | 4.43          | 3.60          | (+) 0.83                         |
| 35       | Miscellaneous Departments                                       | 2.06          | 1.63          | (+) 0.37                         |
| 36       | Buildings, Communications and Miscellaneous Public Improvements | 26.51         | 25.77         | (+) 0.74                         |
| 37       | Water Supply and Drainage                                       | 1.14          | 1.48          | (-) 0.34                         |
| 38       | Electrical Works to Government Buildings                        | 0.89          | 0.98          | (-) 0.09                         |
| 39       | Maramat   | 0.91          | 1.01          | (-) 0.10                         |
| 40       | Army  | 16.86         | 12.66         | (+) 4.20                         |
| 41       | Subsidy   | 8.11          | 8.11          | ..                               |
| 42       | Political Pensions  | 3.89          | 2.79          | (+) 1.10                         |
| 43       | Miscellaneous Political Expenditure                             | 5.47          | 4.65          | (+) 0.82                         |
| 44       | Superannuation pensions and allowances                          | 19.42         | 19.41         | (+) 0.01                         |
| 45       | Miscellaneous   | 7.22          | 1.98          | (+) 5.24                         |
| 45 A     | Contribution to War Fund  | 5.09          | 4.07          | (+) 1.02                         |
| 45 B     | Do. Distress Relief Fund  | 1.00          | 1.00          | ...                              |
| 45 C     | Reserve with Government for emergencies                         | ...           | ...           | ...                              |
| 45 D     | Contribution to Revenue Reserve Fund                            | ...           | 38.33         | (-) 38.33                        |
| 45 E     | Do. Post War Reconstruction Fund                                | 103.20        | ...           | (+) 103.20                       |
| 46       | Contribution to Devaswom Fund                                   | 16.00         | 16.00         | ...                              |
|          | Total of Revenue Expenditure                                    | 398.08        | 314.52        | (+) 83.56                        |

*Statement of Assets in the Books of Government during  
the years 1116 to 1118.*

(N. B. The figures are in lakhs of Rupees.)

| Assets.  | 1116   | 1117   | 1118    |
|--|--------|--------|---------|
| I. Cash balance  | 54.25  | 94.21  | 114.57  |
| II. Surplus Investments in Government Securities         | 54.18  | 45.22  | 81.21   |
| III. Special deposits and shares in Industrial concerns  | 8.65   | 8.49   | 8.87    |
| IV. Shares in the Travancore Credit Bank                 | ...    | 13.23  | 13.23   |
| Share Purchase Account                                   | ...    | ...    | 5.09    |
| V. Sinking Fund Investments                              |        |        |         |
| (a) 5 per cent Loan 1091                                 | 14.75  | ...    | ...     |
| (b) Special Loans  | 0.65   | 0.65   | 0.65    |
| VI. Deposits not bearing interest with the Imperial Bank | 2.54   | 2.54   | 2.54    |
| VII. Do. Central Banking Corporation                     | ...    | ...    | 2.55    |
| VIII. Do. with the Credit Bank                           | 1.32   | 1.32   | ...     |
| IX. Over draft account with the State L. M. Bank         | 9.00   | ...    | ...     |
| X. General Reserve Fund Investment Account               | 60.25  | 74.37  | 74.37   |
| XI. Life Insurance—Public Branch—Investment Account      | 9.89   | 12.98  | 16.60   |
| XII. Distress Relief Fund—Investment Account             | ...    | 2.50   | 3.54    |
| XIII. Bullion Account                                    | 50.82  | 63.68  | 1.54    |
| XIV. Investments on Reproductive works                   |        |        |         |
| 1. Trivandrum Electric Supply                            | 11.45  | 11.92  | 12.19   |
| 2. Quilon Electric Supply                                | 3.02   | ...    | ...     |
| 3. Palliyasal Hydro-Electric Scheme                      | 152.16 | 174.29 | 194.49  |
| 4. Telephone Schemes                                     | 10.12  | 11.45  | 12.12   |
| 5. Broadcasting  | 0.62   | 1.11   | 1.29    |
| 6. State Transport                                       | 10.71  | 10.68  | 11.40   |
| 7. Clay Refining & Porcelain Factory                     | 9.28   | 11.11  | 11.68   |
| 8. Rubber Factory  | 4.63   | 4.73   | 4.75    |
| 9. Railways  | 84.10  | 82.96  | 82.53   |
| 10. Coastal Transport                                    | ...    | ...    | 5.29    |
| XV. Short Term deposits in Banks                         | 30.54  | 30.54  | 55.98   |
| XVI. Advances repayable                                  | 6.70   | 12.99  | 248.02  |
| XVII. Coinage Account                                    | 0.03   | ...    | ...     |
| XVIII. Accounts with British Government & Foreign States | 3.95   | 3.82   | 10.21   |
| XIX. Departmental Balances                               | 1.18   | 1.28   | 2.27    |
| XX. Suspense Account (Debit)                             | 24.33  | 13.42  | 26.36   |
| XXI. Stock   | 6.92   | 16.66  | 22.69   |
| XXII. Loans made by Government                           | 64.02  | 66.26  | 58.39   |
| Grand total  | 690.36 | 772.4  | 1084.42 |

*Statement of Liabilities in the Books of the Government during  
the years 1116 to 1118.*

(N. B. The figures are in lakhs of Rupees.)

| Liabilities.  | 1116     | 1117     | 1118     |
|---|----------|----------|----------|
| I. Devaswom Fund . . . . .                                | 2.48     | 3.05     | 2.11     |
| II. Kandukrishy Fund . . . . .                            | 1.63     | 2.25     | 2.94     |
| III. Savings Bank Deposits . . . . .                      | 243.85   | 288.93   | 406.15   |
| IV. Deposits of service and other<br>Funds . . . . .      |          | 6.35     | 5.08     |
| V. Life Insurance Fund—Govern-<br>ment servants . . . . . | 20.99    | 4.80     | 4.78     |
| VI. Do. Public Branch . . . . .                           |          | 13.16    | 16.79    |
| VII. Teacher's Provident Fund . . . . .                   |          | 6.64     | 7.37     |
| VIII. State Provident Fund . . . . .                      | 18.37    | 21.18    | 24.63    |
| IX. Work Establishment Provi-<br>dent Fund . . . . .      | ...      | 0.03     | 0.05     |
| X. State Land Mortgage Bank<br>Deposits . . . . .         | (—) 0.41 | ...      | ...      |
| XI. Sinking Funds . . . . .                               |          |          |          |
| (a) Debenture Loan 1091 . . . . .                         | 14.75    | ...      | ...      |
| (b) 3½ per cent Loan 1956 . . . . .                       | 2.15     | 2.73     | 3.33     |
| (c) Special Loans . . . . .                               | 0.65     | 1.35     | 2.02     |
| XII. General Reserve Fund—State<br>Transport . . . . .    | 0.13     | 0.21     | 0.88     |
| XIII. Depreciation Fund . . . . .                         |          |          |          |
| (a) Electricity and Tele-<br>phone . . . . .              | 7.89     | 8.82     | 10.24    |
| (b) State Transport . . . . .                             | 4.90     | 3.64     | 5.50     |
| (c) Rubber Factory . . . . .                              | ...      | 0.04     | 0.04     |
| XIV. Reserve Fund—Land Mortgage<br>Bank . . . . .         | 0.21     | 1.59     | 1.59     |
| XV. Transport Insurance Fund . . . . .                    | 0.24     | 0.25     | 0.25     |
| XVI. Irrigation Fund . . . . .                            | 8.24     | 8.16     | 9.12     |
| XVII. Fund for sinking of wells . . . . .                 | 0.05     | 0.11     | 0.14     |
| XVIII. General Reserve Fund . . . . .                     | 60.55    | 75.30    | 75.30    |
| XIX. Travancore University Fund . . . . .                 | 6.28     | 6.37     | 9.02     |
| XX. Revenue Reserve Fund . . . . .                        | 8.90     | 47.23    | 47.23    |
| XXI. Post War Reconstruction Fund . . . . .               | ...      | ...      | 103.20   |
| XXII. Road Development Fund . . . . .                     | (—) 1.12 | 0.85     | 0.83     |
| XXIII. Agricultural Research Fund . . . . .               | (—) 0.04 | (—) 0.01 | (—) 0.10 |
| XXIV. Departmental and other deposits . . . . .           | 45.01    | 40.74    | 65.40    |
| XXV. Distress Relief Fund . . . . .                       | 2.44     | 2.95     | 3.76     |
| XXVI. Mint Advance . . . . .                              | ...      | ...      | 4.38     |
| XXVII. Suspense Account (credit) . . . . .                | 6.21     | 11.07    | 4.67     |
| XXVIII. 5 per cent Debenture Loan . . . . .               | 14.75    | 0.50     | 0.40     |
| XXIX. 3½ per cent Loan 1956 . . . . .                     | 50.89    | 50.89    | 50.89    |
| XXX. Special Loans . . . . .                              | 77.51    | 83.15    | 141.02   |
| XXXI. Remittances . . . . .                               | 16.49    | 10.43    | 10.46    |
| XXXII. Excess of Assets over Liabili-<br>ties . . . . .   | 76.37    | 69.65    | 64.95    |
| Grand total . . . . .                                     | 690.36   | 772.41   | 1084.42  |

## CHAPTER V.

### MAIN HEADS OF REVENUE.

#### Land Revenue.

The lands in the State, broadly classified, are of two distinct kinds from the point of view of ownership, tenure and incidence of taxation, one being *pandaravaka* (literally, belonging to the Sirkar) forming more than seventy-five per cent. of the total area and the other *jennom* (belonging to a *jenni* or land-lord). In both cases, the rights of the

*Basis of Land Rights.*

ryots are fixed and secure and are governed by statutes and custom, the ryot deriving his title from the Sirkar or a *jenni*, as the case may be. The Proclamation dated the 21st Edavain 1040 M. E./2nd June 1865 A. D., enfranchised the Sirkar *pattom* lands and declared "that the ryots holding these lands may regard them fully as private, heritable, saleable and otherwise transferable property"

*Fixity of Rights.*

and the Devaswom Proclamation dated the 30th Meenam 1097/12th April 1922, extended the same rights to holders of Sirkar Devaswom lands. The Jenmi and Kudiyan Act, V of 1071, defined the law relating to the respective rights of landlord and tenant in regard to *jennom* lands. Fundamental changes were made in 1108 M. E. (1933) in regard to the *jennikudiyan* relationship by the passing of the Jenmi and Kudiyan (Amendment) Act, XII of 1108. Under the new Act, the *kudiyan* has only to pay *jennikaram* (*jennis'* dues) to the *jenni* through the Sirkar in respect of the land he holds in lieu of all and every one of the claims of the *jenni* and the payments need be made only in money. The *kudiyan* is declared the full owner of the lands with all the rights of ownership in the same way as the holders of *pandarapattom* lands were declared owners by the Proclamation of 1040. There will be no occasion for the *jenni* to come into contact with the *kudiyan* as the *jennikaram* is to be collected from the *kudiyan* and paid to the *jenni* by Government. *Jennom* lands have been assimilated completely to the Sirkar lands and all relations of the *kudiyan* with the *jenni* are cut off by this Amendment Act. His Highness Sri Ayilliam Tirunal



enfranchised *pandarapattom* lands by the issue of the famous *pattom* Proclamation of 1040 and His Highness Sri Chitra Tirunal enfranchised *jenmom* lands by passing Act XII of 1108.

In the case of *pandaravaka* lands held directly under the Sirkar, the tax due to the Sirkar is really *pattom* (rent) and it represents the share of the produce of the land which the Sirkar is entitled to. *Jenmom* lands are either entirely tax-free or are subject to payment of *Rajabhogam* (King's dues) only. In the former category are the Devaswom and Brahmaswom *tanatu* lands which remain unalienated in the hands of the original *jenmis* (either Brahmaswoms or Devaswoms); but, once they are alienated for a money consideration, they are subjected to *kurampathippu* (levy of assessment) and become liable to the payment of *Rajabhogam* to the Sirkar which is over and above the *jenmi's* due. The *Rajabhogam* levied in such circumstances is, however, only a light tax varying from one-eighth to one-fourth of the full assessment. In the case of *jenmom* lands coming under the category known as *Madamparamarvaka jenmom* lands the *Rajabhogam* is one-eighth of the full assessment when the lands are in the hands of the *jenmis*; but, on alienation, such lands are subject to one-half of the full assessment. The *pandaravaka* lands are also subject to different rates of assessment varying from full assessment to absolute exemption from assessment. This peculiarity is due to historical, political and other causes. Favourably assessed lands date back to the remote past and new additions to the category are seldom, if ever, made.

The earliest revenue settlement of the lands in the State, of which any records are available, was that of 914 M.E./1738 A. D., when Travancore lay within its present limits. There were subsequent settlements in 926 M. E./1750 A. D., in 948 M. E./1772 A. D., in 978 M. E./1802 A. D., in 998 M. E./1817 A. D. and in 1012 M. E./1836 A. D. The assessment now in force was fixed at the last settlement which was commenced in 1883 and completed in 1911. The tax fixed at that settlement was made permanent for a period of thirty years. Though this period has long expired in the case of some taluks, re-settlement has not yet been started. The results of the settlement are exhibited in printed registers which give particulars of the survey number, extent, tenure,

full assessment (*pattam*), the net assessment (*irrupukaram*) etc., for each holding. A scientific survey preceded the settlement of each taluk and every parcel of land in each village which came under settlement bears a separate survey number and the registers in effect constitute a record of rights.

At the last settlement, an endeavour was made to systematise and simplify the tenures as far as possible without generally increasing the incidence of taxation. The names of various tenures, *Classification of Tenures.* now of little more than historical importance as evidencing the mutations of ownership, still linger in the pages of the *Ayacut* or Settlement Register. But all these tenures fall into distinct and well-understood groups, whether classified according to the theoretical proprietorship of the lands or according to the nature of the conditions of the holding, both of which principles determine the incidence of taxation.

The assessment of wet lands is fixed, on a yield basis in paddy, determined by the seed or sowing capacity of the land, and ranges from two-fifths to seven times the measure of seed sown in the case of single-crop lands and from three-fifths to ten-and-a-half fold for double-crop lands. *Method of Assessment.* The assessment of other lands, known as garden or dry lands, is fixed either on an acreage basis or on the basis of the trees grown, both not operating simultaneously. For example, if a holding of an acre has twenty cocoanut palms and ten jack trees, each of the trees is supposed to take up some space of land as "standing room" and a specific rate of tree-tax is levied for each of certain specified trees. The balance of the area not thus taken up is assessed on the acreage basis, be it cultivated, say, with tapioca or banana, or be it uncultivated. There are fourteen *tarams* or rates of acreage assessment, based on the quality or productivity of the soil in the region. In fixing the assessment, care has been taken to provide for the lean years, and ordinarily no remission is allowed for failure of crops due to drought or excessive rainfall, though there are rules regulating the grant of seasonal remissions for proved failure of crops in the case of a few specified areas where it has not been possible to provide a sufficient margin.

- Formerly, tax used to be collected in money as well as in kind such as coconuts and paddy. At the last settlement, all taxation in kind, except paddy in respect of paddy lands, was abolished and money payments substituted. This paddy tax too was commuted into money in respect of *pandaravaka* lands in 1082 M. E./1906 A. D. Payment of rent in kind continued in respect of *Kandukrishy* and *Sripadam* lands. Even this payment in kind was changed in 1102 M. E./1927 A. D. and a system of money payments introduced as in the case of *pandaravaka* lands, the commutation rate being fixed annually in the case of Crown lands.

For purposes of land revenue administration, the State is divided into three divisions. The general control of the Department was with the Land Revenue Commissioner till the post was abolished towards the close of the year 1116 and the statutory and administrative powers vested in him were taken over by Government, the Division *Peishkars* and Assistant *Peishkars*. Each division is composed of *taluks* under the charge of *Tahsildars* and each *taluk* is sub-divided into *pakuthies* which constitute the unit of land revenue administration, a *Proverthikar* being in charge of each *pakuthi*. There are now 30 *taluks* and 421 *pakuthies*. All the permanent *Tahsildars* and village officers have been trained in survey.

In recent years cultivation has been steadily extending into the interior. This is the result of the operation of three sets of rules which regulate the assignment of Government lands for cultivation. These are :—

(i) the *Puduval* Rules for the assignment of land for the older and more general forms of agriculture devoted to the raising of grains, vegetables, fruits, etc. ;

(ii) the rules for the assignment of lands on the *Travancore* hills for the cultivation of coffee and tea ; and

(iii) the rules for the assignment of lands for the cultivation of cardamoms. While Government are anxious to open up for cultivation new areas and to encourage maximum production, it was considered inexpedient at the present juncture and in order not to handicap future policy, permanently to alienate extensive areas of land. It was



therefore ordered during the year that all registries of land should be kept in abeyance and that only leases for periods ranging from 3 to 7 years should be granted.

The recorded total area of the State is 4,903,520 acres. The total area under occupation at the end of the year was 2,582,798 acres against 2,579,400 acres at the end of the previous year. Of the total arable land, 600,458 acres were wet lands and 1,982,340 acres dry or garden lands. The average extent of arable land per head of population was 42.54 cents.

*Distribution of Land and Extent of Cultivation.*

Until 1102, the practice was to credit the sale proceeds of Government land as ordinary revenue, but in that year the practice was superseded by the system of showing in the budget such realisations, which are more or less in the nature of capital receipts derived from permanent alienation of the assets with Government, as capital revenue. The demand for the year under this head including the balance at the end of the previous year was Rs. 3.12 lakhs against Rs. 3.76 lakhs in 1117. Of this a sum of Rs. 2.93 lakhs was collected and a sum of Rs. 2,263 remitted.

*Capital Revenue—Sale Proceeds of land.*

The total demand under current revenue and arrears was Rs. 48.80 lakhs against Rs. 52.26 lakhs in 1117 and of this, a sum of Rs. 42.97 lakhs was collected and Rs. 1.14 lakhs remitted, the percentage of collection including remission being 90.4 against 85.85 in 1117. The balance outstanding at the end of the year was Rs. 4.69 lakhs against Rs. 6.39 lakhs at the end of the previous year.

*Demand, Collection and Balance.*

The number of demand notices issued during the year fell from 9.44 lakhs in 1117 to 6.75 lakhs in 1118 and the number of distraint and attachment notices issued was 32,228 in 1118 against 63,681 in 1117. The number of defaulters whose properties were sold during the year was 13,885 against 25,362 in the previous year. The percentage of sales to the number of demand notices was 1.9 against

*Coercive Action.*



27 in 1117 and the percentage of confirmation of sales to the sales conducted was 10.3 against 26.3 in 1117. The average price fetched per acre was Rs. 48 in the case of wet lands and Rs. 23 in the case of dry lands against Rs. 40 and Rs. 16 respectively in 1117. 50.6 per cent of the Ayacut revenue was paid by the pattadars on or before the due date against 39 per cent in 1117.

The number of revenue cases for disposal during the year was 260,094 of which 199,973 were disposed of, the percentage of disposal being 76.8 against 90.7 in 1117. Of the cases disposed of 188,364 related to transfer of registry, 4,672 were cases under the Land Conservancy Act, 3,933 were *puduvai* cases, 312 were *karampathippu* cases, 1,804 were cases under the Land Acquisition Act and the rest were miscellaneous cases.

The area of *puduvai* lands assigned during the year was 2,690 acres against 4,807 acres in 1117. Of this the area assigned by auction was 1,011 acres and that without auction 1,679 acres. The recurring and capital revenue secured by the disposal of *puduvai* lands was Rs. 4,460 and Rs. 1.64 lakhs respectively. An area of 119 acres was assigned during the year under the Waste Land Rules as also an area of 760 acres under the Cardamom Rules. The total area brought under registry under the various rules during the year was 3,569 acres against 5,851 acres in the previous year. The decrease was due to the restrictions imposed in regard to the assignment of Government lands.

There were 91 applications from poor people for lands on concessional terms of which 5 were disposed of and the area assigned during the year was 6.29 acres against 52 acres in 1117.

*Lands for Landless Classes.* The number of applications for lands from the members of the backward communities was 1,873 of which 853 were disposed of, the area assigned during the year being 118 acres against 370 acres in 1117. The total extent of land assigned in the names of members of backward communities up to the end of 1118 from both within and outside the earmarked area was 9,590 acres.

The subjoined statement furnishes details of the extent of land fit for conversion, the area converted up to the end of 1117 and during 1118 and the balance available for conversion :—

*Conversion of Dry Lands into Wet Lands.*

| Particulars of land.    | Area fit for conversion. | Area converted up to the end of 1117. | Converted during 1118. | Balance available for conversion. |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|                         | Acres.                   | Acres.                                | Acres.                 | Acres.                            |
| Dry lands               | 24,913                   | 19,113                                | 102                    | 5,698                             |
| Tank-beds               | 1,627                    | 1,595                                 | ...                    | 32                                |
| Other <i>paramboles</i> | 179                      | 114                                   | 1                      | 64                                |
| Total                   | 26,719                   | 20,822                                | 103                    | 5,794                             |

There were 1,892 land acquisition cases for disposal of which 1,804 cases were disposed of. Land compensation to be paid amounted to Rs. 2.03 lakhs of which a sum of Rs. 1.79 lakhs was disbursed during the year.

*Land Acquisition Work.*

The number of public markets at the end of the year was 247 against 249 at the end of the previous year. Of these 74 were in the Trivandrum Division, 89 in the Quilon Division and 84 in the Kottayam Division; 203 were combined fish and vegetable markets, 16 vegetable markets, 15 cattle markets and 13 fish markets; 20 of these were evening markets. A sum of Rs. 1.47 lakhs was realised during the year by the lease of public markets against Rs. 1.16 lakhs in 1117.

*Markets.*

There were 382 private markets at the end of the year against 368 at the end of the previous year. The license fees realised amounted to Rs. 4,500 against Rs. 4,330 in 1117.

The taluks in which inspection of State boundaries has to be conducted are Tovala, Agastiswaram, Chirayinkil, Shencotta, Quilon, Shertalla, Vaikom, Muvattupuzha, Kunnatnad Parur, Devicolam and Peermade. The Tahsildars of all the above taluks inspected either the entire length of the boundary or a portion thereof in their respective taluks. The Division Peishkars of Trivandrum and Quilon

*Inspection of State boundaries.*

inspected the State boundary or portions thereof in their respective Divisions, and the Division Peishkar, Kottayam inspected portions of the boundary in the taluks of Devicolam, Peermade, Vaikom and Kunnatnad.

The Land Records Maintenance staff surveyed during the year 4,152 porambokes having an area of 10,440 acres and 7,306 puduval and other sub-divisions measuring 5,196 acres against

*Land Records Maintenance.* 5601 porambokes measuring 1,149 acres and 6,782 puduval and other sub-divisions measuring 4,775 acres

in 1117. They detected 1,927 encroachments against 3,224 in 1117. The Revenue Supervisors who inspected the work of the staff verified and refixed theodolite stations, enquired into land complaints and attended to the work of pointing out the boundaries of registered holdings and the survey and demarcation of sub-divisions on the application of parties. They verified 5,053 poramboko numbers, 5,293 puduval and other sub-divisions and 2,649 encroachments on Government lands. The Tahsildars inspected 2,201 poramboke numbers, 1,603 puduval and other sub-divisions and 1,390 encroachments on Government lands. There were 3,428 applications for pointing out the boundaries of registered holdings and for the demarcation and survey of sub-divisions and of these 1,514 were disposed of.

The *Jamabandy* inspection for the year 1118 was conducted by the Division Peishkars and the Assistant Peishkars in the months of Chingom, Kanni and Thulam 1118.

The control of the administration of treasuries which had been transferred as a temporary measure to the Financial Secretary to Government from 11-8-1116 to the end of 1117 was retransferred to the Revenue Department with effect from 1-1-1118.

#### SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

*Superintendent, Travancore Survey.*

*Mr. S. Sivaramakrishna Aiyar, M. A.*

The work of the Survey Department mainly consists of special and miscellaneous cadastral survey, training of candidates in survey, and lithography of village and other maps.

*Work of the Department.*



The following lands were surveyed and demarcated during the year, viz., 796.20 acres of tea and rubber lands, 742.20 acres of cardamom lands and 573.00 acres of puduval lands. Com-

*Special and Miscellaneous Cadastral Surveys.* putation and mapping of the following lands were done—, viz., 200.92 acres of tea and rubber lands, 5,683.35 acres of cardamom lands and 1,653.26 acres of puduval lands. Besides conducting various items

of miscellaneous surveys, a survey of certain swamps in Reserved Forests was conducted by the surveyors for leasing out lands for food production under the control of the Forest Department. Computation and mapping of an area of 1,033 acres and 74 cents of lands in the Shencotta and Devicolam taluks were done during the period. Joint inspection and verification with the British Indian authorities of portions of the State boundary were conducted during the year. Joint verification with the Cochin authorities of portions of the single line boundary and the verification of the Travancore portion of the double line boundary forming the Travancore-Cochin State boundary were also conducted.

Sixteen-inch maps for 51.52 sq. miles were printed during the year as against 43.36 sq. miles in the previous year.

*Lithography of Maps.*

Including the 951 field measurement sketches pending check at the end of 1117, the total number of sketches for verification was 7,246.

Of these, 6,832 were returned to the Tahsildars, 4,675 after final check and 2,157 for correction. The balance left over at the end of the year was 414 as against 951 at the close of the previous year.

*Land Records Maintenance.*

There was a higher course of training in survey during the year in which 2 T. C. S. Probationers, 6 Stationary Magistrates, 2 Clerks of the Huzur Secretariat, two Clerks from the Land Revenue Department and 3 Probationary Proverthi-cars were trained. All the candidates passed out in the test held at the end of the course. Seventy-three candidates were trained in the Central Survey School during the 4 courses of the year and 61 were successful in the final examinations.

*Survey School.*



The receipts of the Land Revenue Department including the Survey Department during the year amounted to Rs. 42.86 lakhs. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 9.10 lakhs.

*Receipts and Expenditure.*

### Income Tax.

*Income Tax Commissioner.* Rajyasevapravina G. Parameswaran Pillai, B. A., B. L.

Rajyasevapravina G. Parameswaran Pillai, Chief Secretary to Government, was the Income Tax Commissioner and Chief Revenue Authority and was in charge of the department Administration during the whole of 1118.

The number of assesses rose from 2,935 in 1117 to 3,428 in 1118. Of these, 3,097 were individuals, 313 companies and 18 registered firms.

*Assessment Proceedings.*

During the year under report there was a marked increase in the revenue from Income Tax, due mainly to the larger profits derived by the assesses and also to the careful and systematic scrutiny of their accounts by the department. The total demand inclusive of arrears was Rs. 36.34 lakhs against Rs. 21.69 lakhs in 1117. Including the remission of Rs. 79,861 made during the year, the total collection amounted to Rs. 33.68 lakhs, the percentage of collection being 92.7 against 94.11 in 1117. There was a balance of Rs. 2.66 lakhs pending collection at the end of the year against Rs. 1.28 lakhs at the end of 1117. The incidence of taxation per head of population was chs 14 and cash 12 against chs. 8 and cash 15 in 1117.

*Demand, Collection and Balance.*

Of the 269 appeals for disposal by the Deputy Commissioner, 167 were disposed of. The Income Tax Commissioner had 47 appeal cases and 18 revision petitions for disposal of which 10 appeal cases and 8 revision petitions were disposed of during the year.

*Appeals and Revision Petitions.*

## EXCISE DEPARTMENT.

Commissioner.

Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan, B. A., B. L.

## Salt Revenue.

The supervision and control over the manufacture of salt in the factories in South Travancore and the administration of salt revenue  
*Control.* in the State rest with the Excise Department.

Salt is a Government monopoly as in British India and one of the primary industrial concerns of the State. The salt consumed in the State is mainly manufactured in the factories in the  
*System.* State, a small quantity being imported from Tinnevely to meet special situations. The expansion of the salt industry during the last few years has made the State self-sufficient. The manufacture of salt in the factories is entrusted to licensees. In the case of the old factories, Government are entitled to get free of payment 60 per cent of the salt manufactured. This is called *melvaram* or Government's share of the produce. The remaining 40 per cent. is the share of the licensee and is called *kudivaram*. This latter quantity is also taken over by Government on payment of a fixed price called *kudivila*. This price was  $7\frac{1}{2}$  chs. per maund till 1092, when it was raised to  $11\frac{3}{4}$  chs. to meet the increased cost of manufacture. In 1095, the *kudivila* was raised to  $12\frac{1}{2}$  chs. per maund to cover the additional expenditure incurred by the licensees for weighing salt before storage, which was necessitated by the passing of a new set of rules under the Salt Act, III of 1088. In 1107, the *kudivila* was raised to 17 chs. 13 cash (10 annas) per maund with a view to provide a fair margin of profit for the licensees of the old factories. This price, when spread over the whole quantity manufactured by the licensees and taken delivery of by Government, works out to 7 chs. 2 cash per maund. As regards the new factories, the licensees who have to deliver to Government a stipulated quantity of salt every year, are paid *kudivila* varying from  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to  $2\frac{3}{4}$  annas per maund on the quantities so delivered. They have, however, themselves to construct and maintain the necessary works in the factories, whereas the Government do this in the old factories. Salt for consumption was sold by Government agencies in bankshalls, depots and factories except in the Devicolam Excise Division. In that Division, the consumers themselves are permitted to import the salt required by them from the adjoining British Districts on payment of duty at the *chowkeys*.

There were 19 salt factories in the State all situated in South Travancore and they were all working under the modified excise system. The total extent of the pans available for the manufacture of salt in the State was 592.54 acres as in 1117 but an extent of only 560.85 acres was worked by the licensees during 1118 against 557.39 acres in 1117. The total quantity of salt manufactured in all the factories together fell from 1,402,443 maunds in 1117 to 798,494 maunds in 1118. Including the excess found at the time of storage and sale, the out-turn during the year was 974,717 maunds against 1,477,703 maunds in 1117. The fall in production was due to unusual and untimely rains during the year. The average yield per acre during 1118 was 1,737.93 maunds against 2,651.11 maunds in 1117. The total quantity of salt borne in the accounts including the stock at the beginning of the year and the output during the year was 4,719,520 maunds 2 seers against 5,162,477 maunds 2 seers in the previous year. A quantity of 1,683,113 maunds 36 seers was expended during 1118 leaving a balance of 3,036,406 maunds 6 seers at the end of the year.

A quantity of 184,200 maunds 27 seers of salt was stored by the licensees under the underbond arrangement at the Alleppey, Quilon and Shencotta depots during 1118 and a quantity of 64,900 maunds was exported for supply to the Cochin Government.

The quantity of salt imported into Devicolam on payment of duty by private individuals during 1118 was 3,366 maunds 35 seers against 1,565 maunds 34 seers in 1117.

The following statement compares the consumption of salt during the years 1117 and 1118 :--

*Salt Consumption.*

| Year. | Home Salt. | Tinnevelly Salt. | Total.    |
|-------|------------|------------------|-----------|
|       | Maunds.    | Maunds.          | Maunds.   |
| 1117  | 1,403,433  | 1,565            | 1,404,999 |
| 1118  | 1,532,584  | 3,367            | 1,535,951 |

Deducting the 11,070 maunds of salt issued for industrial and manurial purposes, the average consumption per head of population during the year was 20.67 lbs. against 18.88 lbs. in 1117.

The manufacture of bye-products like calcium sulphate was continued during the year and a quantity of 248 tons 4 cwts. of calcium sulphate was manufactured against 12 tons 3 cwts.

*Bye-products of Salt.* 9 lbs. in 1117.

#### Excise Revenue.

The excise revenue is derived from the manufacture and sale of country liquor and from licenses for the sale of toddy, country and foreign liquors, from tobacco, opium and its derivatives and ganja.

*Sources of Revenue.*

The substitution of the present "Independent Shop" system for the old farming monopoly for the manufacture and sale of toddy and arrack in the whole State, except the Devicolam *Excise System.* taluk, was completed in 1100. Under the present system the rights to vend toddy and arrack are separated and sold by auction shop by shop. The right of manufacture and vend of toddy is with the shop-holder who pays a tax on every tree tapped. He can draw toddy only from trees licensed to him for the purpose on payment of the prescribed tree-tax. The right of sale alone of arrack is granted, the right of manufacture being with the Government who engage contractors for its manufacture and supply to the arrack shop-keepers. On account of the hilly nature of the taluk and the consequent difficulties in transporting arrack thereto, the farming system in respect of arrack still continues in Devicolam and toddy is not produced there. The Government have engaged a contractor for the manufacture and vend of arrack in that taluk and reserved to themselves the right to fix the number and location of shops in the area.

The policy of the department has been to make it increasingly difficult for the consumer to obtain liquor. The reduction in the number of shops, the enhancement of the liquor duties and the adoption of other restrictive measures are *Abkari Policy.* forces tending to control consumption. Care is taken to minimise temptation to those who do not drink and to discourage excess among those who do. As sources of supply are easily



accessible in the State and as liquor can be had from almost any palm tree with no more skill than is required to make an incision and with no more apparatus than a knife and a toddy pot, Government intervention only operates to regulate both the quality and the quantity of the liquor consumed, the former by the prescription of certain standards of strength and the latter by the levy of stillhead fees which the consumer automatically pays.

The biennial contracts for the vend of toddy and arrack having expired by the end of 1117, fresh contracts were entered into for a further period of two years commencing from the 1st Chingom 1118. The contract taken by the Travancore Sugars and Chemicals Ltd., Trivandrum, for the manufacture and supply of jaggery arrack to the independent shops from the beginning of 1113 was renewed for a further period of two years from the 1st Chingom 1118. The total number of toddy and arrack shops working during the year was 1,454 against 1,448 in the previous year.

*Abkari Contract.*

The arrack required for the State was manufactured by the Travancore Sugars and Chemicals Ltd., Trivandrum, in their distillery at Nagercoil, under the contract entered into with the company. Coco-brandy was manufactured by the Devicolam Distilleries Ltd., in the distillery at Vaikom. The duty and the supply price of jaggery arrack were enhanced from Bh. Rs. 5-5-0 and Bh. Rs. 2-0-0 to Bh. Rs. 6-9-0 and Bh. Rs. 2-6-0 respectively per proof gallon with effect from the 1st Meenam 1118. A sum of Bh. Rs. 2-4-0 per gallon was fixed as gallonage fee on coco-brandy with effect from the 2nd March 1943. The strength of jaggery arrack and coco-brandy supplied to the licensees was in each case 25° U. P. and 35° U. P. as in the previous year. The total number of arrack shops excluding the shops in the Devicolam taluk was 393 as in 1117.

*Arrack.*

There was one shop for every 17.70 sq. miles and 15,281 inhabitants as in the previous year. The consumption of arrack increased by 124,695.110 proof gallons as compared with 1117, the quantity consumed being 188,751.700 proof gallons of jaggery arrack and 3,792.897 proof gallons of coco-brandy against 66,241.000 proof gallons of jaggery arrack and 1,608.487 proof gallons of coco-brandy in 1117. This enormous increase in consumption was mainly due to the rise

in the prices of agricultural produce in the year under report and the large influx of money into the State. The average incidence of vend rent per proof gallon for the whole State was Re. 0-27-12 against Rs. 2-12-3 in 1117. The incidence of taxation on country spirits per head of population was chs. 6 and cash 12 against chs. 2 and cash 8 in the previous year.

The number of toddy shops working during the year was 1,061 against 1,055 in the previous year. This works out at one shop for *Toddy.* every 5,660 persons and 6.55 sq. miles.

The rates of tree tax remained the same as in the previous year, viz., Bh. Rs. 2 and anna 1 per palmyra tree, Bh. Rs. 4 and annas 2 per cocoanut tree and Bh. Rs. 8 and annas 4 per *choondapana* (sago palm) tree per half year. The total amount of tree tax collected rose from Rs. 4.37 lakhs in 1117 to Rs. 5.95 lakhs in 1118.

The number of trees licensed for tapping during the years 1117 and 1118 is given below:

*Trees Tapped.*

| Class of trees.    | No. licensed. |        |
|--------------------|---------------|--------|
|                    | 1117          | 1118.  |
| Cocoanut           | 66,931        | 91,970 |
| Palmyra            | 15,681        | 24,978 |
| <i>Choondapana</i> | 25,035        | 32,509 |

The increase in the number of trees licensed during the year under report was the result of sustained efforts of the department to improve the tree tax revenue coupled with the demand for toddy under the existing conditions.

The vend of foreign liquor is governed by the "License Fee System," the fee being differentially fixed for "off sales" and "on sales." The import of foreign liquor directly by sea is subject to levy of duty. The quantity of foreign liquor of all varieties imported into the State in 1118 was 9,343.41 gallons against 19,668.99 gallons in 1117. Thirty-one permits were issued to persons other than

licensed vendors for the import of foreign liquor against thirty-two in the previous year. Twenty-eight wholesale licenses, 9 retail licenses and 9 club licenses were issued for the vend of foreign liquor in 1118 as in 1117. Forty-eight licenses for the vend of medicated wines and 59 licenses for the vend of denatured and methylated spirits were also issued during the year under report.

The independent shop system for the sale of opium and ganja continued to be in force throughout the State. The opium required for

the State was as usual purchased from the Madras *System of Sale of Opium and Ganja.* Taluk Office while ganja was purchased from the British Indian Store House at Vettapalam, and both the articles were issued from the Central Stores at

Trivandrum. The supply to the vend contractors was made by the department. The Madras Government supplied opium and ganja on payment of the cost price and centage charges. The issue prices of opium and ganja were the same as in the previous year viz., Bh. Rs. 87 and Bh. Rs. 35 respectively per seer.

The number of shops working during the year was 131 as in the previous year. This gave one shop to every 46,336 persons and 58.20

*Consumption of Opium and Ganja.* sq. miles. The quantities of opium and ganja issued for sale in 1118 were 2,007 seers 50 tolas and 5,935 seers 50 tolas respectively against 1,940 seers and 2,871 seers respectively in 1117. The average selling price per tola of opium was Rs. 2 chs. 7 and cash 4 and that of ganja was chs. 24 and cash 9. The average consumption per head of population was 0.026 tola of opium and 0.076 tola of ganja in 1118 against 0.025 tola of opium and 0.037 tola of ganja in 1117.

The tobacco required for consumption in the State is imported by the merchants on their own account by land, sea or rail and removed for consumption on payment of duty at the chowkey

*Tobacco—System of Supply and Sale.* of import, or bonded in the Government warehouses where it is allowed to remain in the joint custody of the Government and the merchants. The merchants

remove the tobacco from the warehouses after paying the import duty. The varieties of tobacco imported are Tinnevely, Coimbatore and Jaffna, the duty imposed being Bh. Rs. 120 per candy for Coimbatore and Tinnevely and Bh. Rs. 200 per candy for Jaffna



tobacco. The right to sell *beedi* and *beedi* tobacco was restricted to persons who had obtained a license from the Excise Department. The import of *beedi* and *beedi* tobacco was allowed only in the case of persons who had obtained permit for the purpose from the department, except in the Devicolam taluk and the Vandanmettu pakuthi of the Peermade taluk.

As a temporary measure for the duration of the present war, tobacco and its preparations sent as gifts or war comforts for troops serving outside Travancore were exempted from the prohibition on the transport and export of tobacco by post contemplated in Rules 15 and 70 of the Tobacco Rules.

The consumption of duty-paid tobacco fell from 17,251 candies in 1117 to 16,894 candies in 1118. Leaving out a third of the population as children and non-chewers of tobacco, the average consumption per head of population was 2.5 lbs. against 2.59 lbs in 1117.

Under the Abkari, Opium, Tobacco and Salt Laws, 1609 cases involving 1,753 persons were reported during the year against 1,538 cases involving 1,650 persons in 1117. Inclusive of the 58 cases pending investigation at the end of the previous year, 1,667 cases were handled by the department during the year. Of these, 1,545 cases were charged before the Magistracy, 41 cases were either referred or struck off the register and 81 cases were pending investigation at the close of the year. Including the cases pending at the beginning of the year, the total number of cases tried by the Magistracy was 1,569 of which 1,504 cases ended in conviction, 15 in acquittal and the remaining 50 cases were pending at the close of the year. The percentages of conviction and acquittal during the year were respectively 99.00 and 1.00 against 96.31 and 2.10 in 1117.

#### Customs Revenue.

The relations of Travancore with the British Indian Government in regard to "Customs" are governed by the Interportal Trade Convention of 1865. Until the date of that Convention, the Travancore Government was free to levy its own rates of import and export duties on goods entering or leaving her frontiers. Subject to certain exceptions, the Travancore Government agreed under the Convention to admit, free of duty, all



goods which are the manufacture or produce of British India or Cochin, or which have paid import duty in British India or Cochin: tobacco, salt, opium and spirits form the exceptions. The Travancore Government also agreed, except in the case of certain specified articles, to adopt the British Indian tariff in respect of imports direct through her own ports. In consideration of the surrender by Travancore of her right to levy import duties on foreign goods entering the State after having paid duty in British India, the British Government agreed to compensate her to the extent of the probable loss sustained by her on this account. The average amount of customs collected at the time of the Interportal Convention was Bh. Rs. 53,218, of which Bh. Rs. 13,218 represented the amount of import duty realised at the Travancore sea ports, and the loss then sustained by the State on account of the concession was Bh. Rs. 40,000. Although the principle was recognised that Travancore was entitled to be compensated to the extent of the probable loss sustained by her on account of the surrender of the right to levy duty on goods which have already paid duty in British India or Cochin, the practice has been to calculate such loss on the basis of the figures for 1863-64. Thus, when the Travancore sea customs collections (on imports from foreign countries, excluding goods imported by sea for the use of the Travancore Government) are less than Bh. Rs. 13,218, the British Government pays to Travancore Bh. Rs. 40,000; but if in any year, the collections exceed Bh. Rs. 13,218, the excess amount realised is deducted from the sum of Bh. Rs. 40,000 and the balance alone is paid to Travancore. No amount was paid during the year under report by the British Government under the Interportal Trade Convention. The assigned values and rates of duty adopted by Travancore in regard to import from foreign countries follow the British Indian tariff.

The main commodities of dutiable imports by land are snuff, cigars, cigarettes, *beedies* and *beedi* tobacco. Imports through sea customs are mainly ale, beer and other liquors, wines, cement, chemicals and apparatus, iron, steel and other metals, textile manufactures, etc. There was practically no import through the Sea Customs Houses during the year under report. The receipts under imports rose from Rs. 7.79 lakhs in 1117 to Rs. 9.13 lakhs in 1118. The increase was contributed by *beedi* tobacco, cigarettes, Indian made foreign liquor, and cigars.

In regard to exports, the State is free to levy duty on any commodity. Under the Interportal Trade Convention, however, the rate of duty on tariff valuation shall not exceed 5 per cent. on all ordinary exports, 10 per cent. on timber and Rs. 15 a candy on pepper and arecanut. The most important of the articles on which export duty is levied are copra, coir, cocoanut oil, cocoanuts, tea, pepper, ginger, arecanuts, cardamom, rubber and hides.

The export trade of the State was brisk in spite of the restrictions imposed on the export of certain dutiable articles such as fish, jaggery and tamarind. The total export duty collected during the year was Rs. 35.71 lakhs against Rs. 31.65 lakhs in the previous year. The bulk of the export duty was, as usual, realised from the produce of the cocoanut tree such as copra, cocoanuts, coir, cables, coir fibre, cocoanut husks, *punnac* and cocoanut oil. These articles together yielded Rs. 7.92 lakhs or 22 per cent. of the total revenue from exports, the corresponding figures for the previous year being Rs. 8.61 lakhs and 27.2 per cent. There was an increase in the duty realised from arecanuts, tapioca starch, rubber, pepper, cocoanut oil, dry ginger, prawns, firewood, copra, coir cables, cocoanut husk, fuel, fish and hides while there was a fall under coir yarn, cocoanuts, jaggery, lemon grass oil, palmyra fibre, laurel oil, cane sugar, charcoal, cardamom, tea and turmeric.

The levy of an excise duty on matches having been given effect to by the Government of India in 1934, the Travancore State along with other Indian States agreed to levy a corresponding duty on matches manufactured in the State and to pay the proceeds thereof into a common pool along with the proceeds of the British Indian duty for ultimate distribution between British India on the one hand and the various States that have agreed to come into the arrangement on the other on the basis of population.

Five match factories were working in the State during the first half of 1934. In the second half of the year, one more factory began work. Of the above six factories, two were manufacturing splints and veneers and three were working on cottage industry basis, the remaining one alone being a regular factory for the manufacture of matches.



The duty realised on matches produced in the State was Rs. 49,084 against Rs. 46,731 in 1117 and the amount received from the Government of India was Rs. 4.23 lakhs against Rs. 2.71 lakhs in 1117. Including the license fees of Rs. 814, the total receipts under excise duty on matches rose from Rs. 3.18 lakhs in 1117 to Rs. 4.73 lakhs in 1118.

Under the Sugar Control Order passed in 1117, the Excise Commissioner was functioning as Sugar Controller in the State. Sugar control is being carried on generally as in British *Sugar Control*. India. The State's sugar supply was generally steady and satisfactory except during the early part of 1118 when the Thuckalay Sugar Factory which was the only sugar refinery in the State stopped manufacture and when there was delay in the arrival of sugar from North India on account of transport difficulties. Consistent with the availability of stock, prompt arrangements were made to send out for distribution as much sugar as possible. The total quantity of sugar distributed in the year under report was 47,360 bags.

Consequent on the situation created by the war, it was found necessary to control the export of certain articles. Restrictions were imposed on the export of tapioca, tapioca flour, *Miscellaneous*, jaggery, fish, bones of animals, sugar cane, Laurel and Marotti oil cakes and seeds, tender cocoanuts, all cattle including bulls, cows and buffaloes, all food grains specified in the Food Control Order, 1117, all machinery and other iron, steel or copper goods or materials including scrap, gunny bags, banana flour, products of paddy or rice, straw, ragi or its products, tamarind including tamarind seeds and poultry including ducks. The transport from one place to another of diesel oil in quantities exceeding four gallons was also restricted. The Newsprint Control Order 1118 was passed to regulate the sale, distribution etc., of newsprint, the Excise Commissioner being appointed as the Controller of Newsprint: and the Newspaper Control Order 1118 regulating the printing, making, publishing etc., of newspapers was also passed. The Travancore Kerosene Distillation Control Order 1118 was passed to regulate the distillation of kerosene and high speed diesel oil from light diesel oil.

An excise duty imposed on kerosene at the rate of 4 annas 6 pies per imperial gallon in 1117 continued to be in force during the year under report.

The following statements show the receipts and expenditure of the department for the years 1117 and 1118 : —

*Receipts and  
Expenditure.*

**Receipts.**

| Item.                                     | 1117        | 1118        |
|---|-------------|-------------|
|   | Rs.         | Rs.         |
| Salt                                      | 24,71,188   | 27,28,786   |
| Tobacco                                   | 22,34,695   | 22,03,051   |
| Abkari and Opium                          | 24,67,834   | 37,39,361   |
| Customs                                   | 31,02,196   | 65,21,142   |
| Duty on Matches (after deducting refunds) | 3,18,197    | 4,73,335    |
| Duty on Kerosene                          | 3,159       | 3,888       |
| Total                                     | 1,25,97,269 | 1,56,69,563 |

**Expenditure.**

| Item.   | 1117     | 1118     |
|---------|----------|----------|
|         | Rs.      | Rs.      |
| Salt    | 1,21,052 | 1,64,176 |
| Excise  | 4,84,181 | 4,82,603 |
| Customs | 99,429   | 1,01,664 |
| Total   | 7,04,662 | 7,48,443 |



## Forest Revenue.

Conservator.

Rao Bahadur T. V. Venkateswara  
Aiyar, M. A.

Travancore has been from the earliest times a country with valuable forests. In the early part of the last century, teak was the only 'monopoly' timber in the State. People were free to fell and remove every other kind of timber except that they had to pay a small river duty when the timber was transported by water. The first Conservator was appointed more than a century ago with an establishment costing a little over Rs. 1,000 per annum. The function of the Conservator was confined to arranging for teak and cardamom being collected and delivered at Alleppey. From such small beginnings the department steadily grew in size and strength and it has now been charged with increased and multifarious functions. In 1844, blackwood and *amili* were declared monopolies and wax, cardamom, ebony and sandalwood were later on added to the list. Cardamom ceased to be a monopoly in 1071 (1896). At present the 'monopoly' trees are teak, blackwood, ebony and sandalwood. The monopoly on trees growing on lands west of the Main Central and Main Southern Roads was abolished from 1109. Artificial regeneration of teak was commenced in 1886. In 1063 (1888) the first Forest Act for the protection and management of the State forests was promulgated. The first forest reserve of 300 square miles was notified in the following year. Since then in the course of about 54 years, the area of the State reserved forests has reached over 2,400 square miles. The receipts of the Forest Department in 1038 (1862-63) amounted to over Rs. 1.75 lakhs. As a result of nearly eighty years of careful control and management, the annual income from the department has risen far above that amount and in 1118 it was Rs. 31.80 lakhs. There has also been a proportionate rise in the expenditure which was less than Rs. 80,000 in 1059 (1883-84) but amounted to Rs. 9.35 lakhs in the year under report.

Government have laid it down as their definite policy that the denudation of forests and the reckless registration and fragmentation of forest areas should be rigorously checked. The disafforestation of forest lands for the purpose of cultivation has thus been completely stopped. Swampy and grassy areas within forests will be granted for cultivation.

*Historical  
Survey.*

*Forest Policy.*

only on short term leases. Special attention is also being paid to the regeneration of the existing forests. With the fall of Burma, there has been a phenomenal rise in the demand for teak, blackwood and various kinds of softwood from Travancore, particularly for meeting the requirements of the Supply Department of the Government of India. Investigations have also been made into the possibility of utilising the softwoods of the State for industrial purposes within the State, with the result that a plywood factory has already been started in the State, and various varieties of softwoods are also being made use of for manufacture of matches, pencils, etc. While every attempt is being made to meet these demands to the fullest possible extent, systematic action is at the same time being taken to conserve judiciously the existing resources and to regenerate the available forests.

The area of reserved forests decreased from 2,403 square miles 126 acres in 1117 to 2,401 square miles 297 acres in 1118. This was due to the disreservation of an area of 1 square mile and 470 acres from the Cardamom Hills Reserve and the revision of the notified area of the Thattathikanam Reserved Forest.

*Reserved  
Forests.*

The area of reserved lands which was 40 square miles and 445 acres and of proposed fuel and fodder reserves which was 404 acres in 1117, remained without any change during 1118. Ten proposed regular reserves and 2 fuel and fodder reserves were undergoing settlement during the period. 195.75 miles of forest boundary and 85.85 acres of forest area were surveyed during the year against 274.86 miles and 1 square mile and 10.30 acres in 1117. The short out-turn was due to the employment of forest surveyors for about three months in the year under report in the survey of areas leased out from reserves for food production.

*Reserved  
Lands and Fuel  
and Fodder Re-  
serves.*

In view of the extreme urgency of increasing food production in the State, Government investigated the possibility of extending the area under cultivation of food crops and a scheme was sanctioned for throwing open swampy and grassy areas within the Reserve Forests for cultivation. In sanctioning the scheme, Government considered it inexpedient permanently to alienate extensive areas of valuable land. It was also considered necessary to

*Lease of lands  
for food produc-  
tion.*

formulate a uniform and definite policy for helping the really earnest section of the population who were anxious about the production of food materials. It was accordingly decided that registries as such should not be permitted, but that only leases ranging from three to seven years should be granted. It was also laid down that priority should be given to requests from co-operative societies, syndicates and other similar associations with a view to encouraging joint efforts and extending the benefits of the scheme to as large a number of people as possible. Special provision was also made for grant of leases in favour of members of the backward communities. Subject to these considerations, leases were to be granted only by public auction. As the object of the scheme was only to tide over the present emergency improvements of a permanent nature were prohibited. Care was also taken to provide that the lessees should plant out the lands with stumps or seeds of trees according to the directions of the Forest Department. An area of 5,726 acres was leased out for cultivation under this scheme in 1118 of which 3,685 acres were cultivated with paddy, tapioca, and ragi.

Forest exploitation is regulated by working plans or working schemes so as to bring all important forests under systematic management, to ensure continuity of treatment and orderly *Working Plans.* and economic working on an organised basis as well as to ensure forest regeneration in the interests of posterity. Out of a total area of 2,401 square miles and 297 acres, there were sanctioned plans or schemes for an area of 1,087 square miles and 200 acres. No working plans or schemes are required for an area of 1,075 square miles and 426 acres and schemes have to be taken up for 238 square miles and 311 acres.

Including the 181 cases pending disposal at the end of the previous year, there were 1,342 cases for disposal during the year against 1,094 in 1117. 259 cases were disposed of by the *Forest* Magistracy, 730 were compounded and 25 were *Protection.* withdrawn, leaving a balance of 328 cases pending at the close of the year. Of the cases disposed of by the Magistracy, 253 ended in conviction and 6 in acquittal. During the year, 755 cases were disposed of departmentally of which 25 were withdrawn and the rest compounded. A sum of Rs. 9,103 was realised as compounding fee against Rs. 6,860 in 1117.



Of the total area of 2,442 square miles and 102 acres of reserved forests and lands, 2,011 square miles and 455 acres were protected from fire during the year at a cost of Rs. 6,923 against 2,014 square miles and 533 acres in 1117 at a cost of Rs. 6,065. There were six cases of forest fire but much damage was not caused. The system of early burning was continued during the year.

Grazing in the Government forests is regulated by special rules issued in that behalf. Out of a total area of 2,401 square miles and 297 acres of reserves, the area closed to all animals throughout the year was 239 square miles and 418 acres. The area of reserved forests open to the grazing of all animals during the year was 2,161 square miles and 519 acres. An amount of Rs. 40,368 was realised as the revenue from grazing during the year and this is the highest realised during the past six years.

Natural regeneration of important timber species and of sandal was satisfactory in all the Divisions. The area under teak plantations at the commencement of the year was 17,494 acres and an area of 856 acres was planted during the year. An extent of 55 acres was excluded from the plantations as teak was a failure in that area. There was thus an area of 18,295 acres under teak plantations at the end of the year under report. The average cost of planting per acre was Rs. 1.70 against Rs. 1.83 in 1117 and the planting was done by taungya lessees, the department undertaking the opening of nurseries and supply of the plants. The receipts from the teak plantations by the sale of logs, saplings, etc., fell from Rs. 1,88,341 in 1117 to Rs. 90,619 in 1118. The decrease was due to the fact that the areas provided for thinning during the year were either not gone over completely or thinnings therein were not undertaken owing to insufficiency of food grains. An extent of only 1,547 acres was thinned in 1118 against 3,740 acres in 1117. Pests appeared twice in Chengara and once in the Naduvattumuzhi plantations. A scheme was sanctioned by Government for the formation of an entomological section to take steps for the control of the pests. The Forest Entomologist appointed under the scheme started work during the year.



- The following statement shows the area under principal plantations other than teak :—

| Name of plantation. | Area in acres.                |                        |                           |                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
|                     | At the beginning of the year. | Added during the year. | Excluded during the year. | At the end of the year. |
| Rubber              | 157·47                        | ..                     | ..                        | 157·47                  |
| Elavu               | 84·10                         | ..                     | ..                        | 84·10                   |
| Red Gum             | 71·75                         | 17·00                  | ..                        | 88·75                   |
| Cashewnut           | 513·23                        | ..                     | ..                        | 513·23                  |
| Casuarina           | 108·00                        | ..                     | ..                        | 108·00                  |

The all India Teak Seeds origin experiments were continued during the year. Experimental cultivation of Cinchona and Pyrethrum was started during the year at Peermade. With a view to afforesting blank areas in minor reserves *Experiments.* experimental sowings were done with Pithecolobium dulce which is a fast grower and an excellent fuel. The seeds were dibbled either mixed with cashew or pure under taungya. The experimental sandal cultivation in all the Divisions was generally satisfactory. Mahogany was introduced in several divisions and the growth was promising. The cultivation of lac was quite successful during the year. 29,541 lbs. of brood were harvested of which 2,638 lbs. were given on loan to various institutions. An experiment was made in the cultivation of mulberry in the Vandamet and Manimala Ranges.

As in the past, the extraction of timber from the forest was entrusted mostly to contract agencies except in the High Ranges where timbers were extracted under the *mellabhom* system. Motor lorries and carts along land routes and rafts along water-ways were employed for the *Exploitation of timber.* transport of forest produce. Elephants were employed for dragging timber from areas away from road sides or river banks. The quantity of timber extracted and removed from the forests during the year was 1,567,561 c. ft. against 2,281,700 c. ft. in 1117.

Of the timber extracted, royalties formed 458,802 c. ft. and junglewood 1,108,759 c. ft. the corresponding figures for the previous year being 1,029,544 c. ft. and 1,252,156 c. ft. respectively. Inclusive of the stock at the commencement of the year, the quantity of timber available for disposal was 2,751,683 c. ft., of which 1,582,885 c. ft. made up of 506,717 c. ft. of royalties and 1,076,168 c. ft. of junglewood were disposed of during the year against 1,901,201 c. ft. consisting of 801,522 c. ft. of royalties and 1,099,679 c. ft. of junglewood disposed of in the previous year. The balance in stock at the end of the year consisted of 722,696 c. ft. of royalties and 446,102 c. ft. of junglewood or a total of 1,168,798 c. ft. The receipts on account of royalties and junglewood amounted to Rs. 27.53 lakhs against Rs. 24.96 lakhs in the previous year.

Firewood, charcoal, cardamoms, sandal, bamboos and ivory are among the most important items of minor forest produce. The receipts from the disposal of minor produce during the year amounted to Rs. 2.49 lakhs against Rs. 1.92 lakhs in the previous year. The increase was mainly under firewood and charcoal and grazing and fodder grass. Besides these, articles such as reeds, sandalwood, rattans, honey, wax, rubber, etc., were also sources of revenue from the forests. The Punalur Paper Mills collected 5,062 tons of reeds valued at Rs. 13,789 and removed 3,500 tons of firewood valued at Rs. 6,125.

The operations for the capture of elephants were on the whole successful during the year under report. The department possessed at the beginning of the year 14 elephants, of which 7 were tuskers and 7 cows. Fourteen elephants, of which eight were tuskers and six cows, were captured in the year. One trained elephant died of old age and four captives died before they were trained and three elephants were sold, one to the Palace and two to His Highness the Maharaja's Garage and Stables. There were thus 20 elephants, of which 9 were tuskers and 11 cows, in the possession of the department at the close of the year under report. The usual annual sales of elephants were not conducted by the department during the year.

There were three Ascu treating plants during the year, one each at Trivandrum, Shencotta and Pallom. The plants at Shencotta and Pallom had sufficient work and a quantity of 25,711 c. ft. of poles and cross-arms and 446 c. ft. of other timber was treated at these plants. The receipts from the Ascu treatment of timber amounted to Rs. 18,288 against Rs. 5,460 in 1117. The increase was due to the fact that a greater quantity of saplings was treated during the year under report.

*Ascu Treatment.*

The Shencotta Division was abolished and it was amalgamated with other Divisions. The forestry course was discontinued during the year under report.

*Miscellaneous.*

The net receipts of the department amounted to Rs. 31.80 lakhs against Rs. 27.48 lakhs in 1117. The increase under receipts is due to the high prices obtained for all classes of timber and to the supply of a large quantity of timber to the Defence Department of the Government of India.

*Receipts and Expenditure.*

#### Game Department.

*Game Warden.*

*Mr. S. C. H. Robinson.*

In order to encourage the preservation of wild life and check its indiscriminate destruction the Government in 1933 appointed a Game Warden for carrying out the above objects in the State and measures were taken for the purpose by creating game reserves in suitable places. A Game Sanctuary was established at Nellikampatty Isthmus in the Periyar Lake. A Game Association was also organised at Peerniade with a view to regulate hunting, to prevent poaching and other forest offences and to introduce new and varied species of animals and birds from other countries. There are various animals and birds in the Sanctuary of which mention may be made of the elephant, the Indian bison or Gaur, the Sambur, the mouse deer, the ibex, the tiger and the panther.

The Game Sanctuary received the special attention of the Department during the year as in previous years. Most of the persons in unauthorised occupation of lands in and adjoining the Sanctuary were evicted during the year. Due to the unremitting care bestowed by the department and the Game Association the various species of animals and birds have increased in number.

As in previous years many distinguished persons visited the Sanctuary.



## Stamps.

The administrative control of the Stamps Department is vested in the Financial Secretary to Government who is ex-officio Superintendent of Stamps. The Stamp Manufactory is under the *General*, immediate charge of a Superintendent and the Central Stamp Depot under the Divisional Treasury Officer, Trivandrum, who is the officer in charge of the Depot. Stamps are printed at the manufactory and sent over to the depot wherefrom they are issued to the various treasuries of the State.

The volume of stamp printing work done during 1116, 1117 and 1118 is shown in the following statement :—

*Manufacture  
of Stamps.*

| Serial No. | Description of stamps.          | Number printed. |            |            |
|------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|------------|------------|
|            |                                 | 1116.           | 1117.      | 1118.      |
| 1          | General stamps                  | 752,001         | 440,505    | 949,046    |
| 2          | One anna receipt stamps         | ..              | 357,000    | ..         |
| 3          | Foreign bill stamps             | 20,400          | 11,616     | 2,160      |
| 4          | Private documents embossed      | 20,884          | 17,693     | 10,580     |
| 5          | Medical revenue stamps          | 114,576         | 82,600     | 165,200    |
| 6          | Court fee stamp papers          | 219,202         | 96,312     | 65,240     |
| 7          | Court fee labels                | 1,946,186       | 1,453,000  | 1,757,000  |
| 8          | Copying papers (ordinary)       | 820,000         | 1,054,000  | 1,052,314  |
| 9          | Do. (service)                   | 52,000          | 81,000     | 68,000     |
| 10         | Anchal stamps                   | 6,407,520       | 6,441,120  | 6,524,000  |
| 11         | Anchal covers                   | 4,502,785       | 4,062,132  | 3,886,140  |
| 12         | Anchal cards                    | 2,912,000       | 3,190,416  | 4,621,920  |
| 13         | Service Anchal stamps and cards | 1,455,964       | 3,142,496  | 2,913,520  |
| 14         | Special adhesive stamps         | ..              | ..         | ..         |
| 15         | Share transfer stamps           | 3,120           | 27,840     | 25,440     |
|            | Total                           | 22,526,638      | 20,457,730 | 22,040,560 |



The value of stamps in stock on the first day of the year was Rs. 65.34 lakhs; the value of stamps manufactured in 1118 was Rs. 36.78 lakhs and the value of stamps received back from branch depots was Rs. .35 of a lakh. Thus the total value of the stamps in stock was Rs. 102.47 lakhs. Stamps to the value of Rs. 39.63 lakhs were issued during the year from the Central Stamp Depot and the value of stamps converted into 'Service' and 'Medical Revenue' stamps amounted to Rs. 1.61 lakhs. The value of stamps in stock at the close of the year was Rs. 61.23 lakhs.

The following tabular statement shows the receipts and expenditure of the department during the past three years:—

*Receipts and Expenditure.*

| Particulars.                                    | 1116.     | 1117.     | 1118.     |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|   | Rs.       | Rs.       | Rs.       |
| Gross Receipts                                  | 20,00,347 | 24,02,622 | 36,20,862 |
| Deduct—Refunds                                  | 68,605    | 67,351    | 72,373    |
| Net receipts                                    | 19,31,742 | 23,35,271 | 35,48,489 |
| Expenditure                                     | 132,393   | 117,991   | 138,560   |
| Deduct—Share debitable to the Anchal Department | 42,573    | 40,126    | 54,907    |
| Do. Medical Department                          | 89        | 78        | 26        |
| Net Expenditure                                 | 89,731    | 77,787    | 83,627    |

## CHAPTER VI.

### JUSTICE AND CRIME.

*Chief Justice, High Court.*

*Mr. Joseph Taliath, M. A.  
Barrister-at-law. (From  
1-1-1118 to 27-5-1118).*

*Mr. T. M. Krishnaswami  
Aiyar, B. A., B. L.,  
(Ag. from 27-5-1118 till  
the end of the year.)*

*Judge, High Court.*

*Mr. G. D. Nokes, LL. D.,  
Barrister-at-Law.*

” ”

*Mr. K. Sankarasubba  
Aiyar, B. A., B. L.,*

” ”

*Mr. H. Ramakrishna  
Aiyar, B. A., B. L.,*

” ”

*Mr. C. Mathavan Pillai,  
B. A., B. L.,*

” ”

*Mr. K. O. Abraham, B. A.,  
B. L.,*

” ”

*Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna  
Pillai, B. A., B. L.,  
(From 19-3-1118 till the  
end of the year.)*

The judicial administration of the State rests with the High Court except in the matter of offences committed by European British subjects for which there is special procedure prescribed by Law. The High Court is the highest civil and criminal court in the land and has the power of adjudication over suits of the highest value and criminal cases of the most serious nature. Decisions in some important civil and criminal cases, such as decrees in suits to the value of five thousand rupees and above and capital and life sentences, are subject to confirmation by the Ruler, application for which is transmitted

*Judicial  
System.*

through the Dewan, such confirmation being a matter of course. Until 1894, there was a "Royal Court of Final Appeal" corresponding, more or less, to the judicial committee of the Privy Council in England. This Court has since been abolished, but the functions of such a committee are to some extent exercised by a Full Bench of the High Court which, when so acting, passes judgments in the form of advice to the Ruler. Below the High Court are the District and Sessions Courts and below them are the courts of the Munsiffs and the Village Panchayat Courts for the trial of civil cases and the courts of the Magistrates including benches of honorary magistrates for the trial of criminal cases. Munsiffs' Courts and Village Panchayat Courts have only original jurisdiction; and generally speaking, the jurisdiction of the Munsiff extends up to suits to the value of two thousand rupees, and that of the Village Panchayat Court up to fifty rupees. Suits tried by the Village Panchayat Courts are of a small cause nature and the decisions are not subject to appeal, although the District Courts have the power to revise them to a limited extent. Munsiffs also try some classes of suits as small cause suits, the decisions being subject only to revision by the High Court. The decisions of the Munsiffs in other suits are subject to regular appeals which lie either to the High Court or to the District Court according as the value of the suit is above one thousand rupees or not. For the administration of criminal justice, there are below the Sessions Courts, magistrates of three classes, some of whom are honorary. The Chief Magistrate of a district is the District Magistrate who is a Magistrate of the first class and under him are other magistrates of the first class and those of the second and third classes. The latter have only original jurisdiction while magistrates of the first class, including District Magistrates, have original as well as appellate jurisdiction. The appellate authority over magistrates of the second and third classes is the District Magistrate and, if specially authorised, any other First Class Magistrate. The appellate authority over First Class Magistrates, including the District Magistrates, is the Sessions Court. District and certain First Class Magistrates are Land Revenue Officers as well but except in a few cases where the Tahsildars are empowered to exercise magisterial functions in their respective taluks, all magistrates of the second or third class and some of the First Class Magistrates are magistrates exclusively and have no revenue functions. The stipendiary magistrates are mostly graduates-in-law. The criminal judiciary in the State in respect of offences committed by European British subjects



consists of Special Magistrates and a Special Appellate Judge appointed under Sign Manual by virtue of certain Proclamations. Special Magistrates exercise original jurisdiction; and the Special Appellate Judge exercises appellate and revisional powers over them. None of them can, however, award any punishment higher than imprisonment extending up to three months or fine up to one thousand rupees or both. If, in the opinion of the Special Magistrate taking cognisance of a case, the offence is one that cannot be tried by him or be adequately punished by him, he has to commit the offender for trial to the High Court of Madras.

The entire judiciary is recruited from the ranks of duly qualified members of the service or the bar. Judges of the High Court are

*Recruitment.* Appointed by His Highness the Maharaja and they are ordinarily selected from among the District Judges or leading members of the bar. District Judges are appointed by Government, in consultation with the High Court. Munsiffs are likewise appointed by Government on the recommendation of the High Court. District

*Security of Service.* Judges and Munsiffs are removable for misconduct only after a formal enquiry by a commission duly appointed by the High Court, with the sanction of His Highness the Maharaja. The Judges and Munsiffs are, without exception, graduates-in-law or barristers-at-law. The courts are free from interference on the part of the executive authorities. Suits against Government are a common feature; and they have always regarded the decisions as binding on them, the courts being authorised by law to issue execution against Government.

The High Court of Judicature and the subordinate courts of Travandrum were housed on 31st May 1943/17th Edavom 1118 at the Sri Mulam Buildings, Vanchiyoor.

*Shifting of Courts.*

#### Criminal Justice

There were 74 criminal courts during the year under report against 76 in the previous year and these comprised the High Court, 7 Sessions Courts, 8 Additional Sessions Courts, 3 District Magistrates' Courts, 19 First Class Magistrates' Courts, 25 Second Class Magistrates' Courts, 5 First Class Bench Magistrates' Courts and 6 Second Class Bench Magistrates' Courts.



## Crimes

The total number of offences reported during the year was 21,638 against 22,380 in 1117 and the number of cases returned as true was 21,161 against 22,055 in 1117. The percentage of offences under the Penal Code to the total number of cases rose from 42.55 in 1117 to 50.80 in 1118 while that of offences under the Special and local laws fell from 57.45 in 1117 to 49.20 in 1118. 370 cases were rejected *in limine* against 228 in the previous year and those struck off as false, frivolous or vexatious rose from 97 in 1117 to 107 in 1118. There was a slight fall in the percentage of true to reported cases, which was 98.55 in 1117 and 97.79 in 1118.

Of the 39,235 persons brought to trial during the year 10,852 or 27.66 per cent. were convicted against 41.23 per cent. in the previous year. The percentage of persons convicted to the population of the State (according to the latest Census returns) was 0.18 against 0.26 in 1117.

During the year under report 4,383 women were involved in the cases for disposal and they formed 8.38 per cent. of the total number of accused persons against 2,997 and 6.17 per cent. respectively in the previous year.

The number of juvenile offenders fell from 387 to 277, of whom 246 were boys and 31 girls. Twenty-two of the boys were brought to trial out of whom 11 were convicted.

Four public servants were prosecuted in 1118 against 3 in 1117.

The number of persons called upon to furnish security for breach of the peace was 13 against 25 in 1117 and 21 persons were bound over for good behaviour.

## Magistrates' Courts.

The total number of cases for disposal in the Magistrates' Courts (including the Bench Magistrates' Courts) was 24,386 affecting 52,799 persons in 1118 against 26,090 cases affecting 48,584 persons in 1117. Of these, 20,212 cases were disposed of in 1118 against 23,568 in 1117, leaving 4,174 cases pending at the end of the year against a pendency of 2,522 cases at the end of the previous year.

The number of cases for disposal in the Bench Magistrates' Courts fell from 7,725 affecting 8,318 persons in 1117 to 5,152 affecting 5,633 persons in 1118. Of these, 4,712 cases, affecting 5,076 persons were disposed of against 7,291 cases affecting 7,797 persons in 1117, and the arrears at the end of the year were 440 cases against 434 cases at the end of the previous year. The average duration of disposal of a case from the beginning of the trial was 22 days against 35 days in 1117.

There were 19,234 cases affecting 46,676 persons for disposal in 1118 against 18,365 cases affecting 50,266 persons in 1117, and of these 15,500 cases affecting 34,651 persons were disposed of against 16,277 cases affecting 33,426 persons in 1117. The average duration of a case from the beginning to the end of the enquiry and of the trial was 57 days in respect of preliminary enquiries and 27 days for trials against 46 days and 31 days respectively in 1117.

The number of appeals for disposal in the 10 Magistrates' Courts exercising appellate jurisdiction was 446 against 581 in 1117, and of these, 312 appeals were disposed of against 452 in the previous year. The average duration of an appeal fell from 51 days in 1117 to 35 days in 1118. The subjoined statement shows the results of appeals disposed of in 1117 and 1118:—

|   | 1117.   |                  | 1118.   |                  |
|---|---------|------------------|---------|------------------|
|   | Number. | Percent-<br>age. | Number. | Percent-<br>age. |
| Finding and sentence confirmed ...            | 222     | 49.12            | 122     | 33.10            |
| Conviction altered but sentence confirmed ... | 1       | 0.22             | 1       | 0.32             |
| Conviction upheld but sentence reduced ...    | 29      | 6.42             | 57      | 18.27            |
| Conviction and sentence altered ...           | 55      | 12.16            | 5       | 1.60             |
| Conviction quashed and acquittal ordered ...  | 99      | 21.90            | 94      | 30.13            |
| Conviction quashed and retrial ordered ...    | 17      | 3.76             | 12      | 3.85             |
| Otherwise disposed of ...                     | 29      | 6.42             | 21      | 6.73             |
| Total ...                                     | 452     | 100.00           | 312     | 100.00           |

The number of applications for revision under Section 362 of the Criminal Procedure Code inclusive of the one pending at the end of 1117 was 5, of which 4 were disposed of. 4,119 *Revisional Work.* calendars were received during the year under report in addition to the 1,132 calendars pending at the close of 1117, and of these, 5,191 calendars were disposed of by the District Magistrates leaving a balance of 60 at the end of 1118.

#### Sessions Courts.

The number of cases committed to the Sessions Courts fell from 301 in 1117 to 213 in 1118 and the number of persons involved therein from 610 to 379. Including the arrears at the *Original Work.* end of the previous year, 248 cases came up for trial against 332 cases in 1117, and of these 223 cases were disposed of. The average period taken for the disposal of a sessions case from the date of receipt of the records was 18 days against 25 days in 1117 and the time from the commencement to the close of the trial was 9 days against 13 days in 1117. The number of persons convicted formed 38.63 per cent. of the number involved against 39.32 per cent. in the previous year.

There were 277 appeal cases for disposal against 391 in 1117; of these 231 cases were disposed of against 323 in the previous year, and the arrears at the close of the year fell from 68 to *Appellate Work.* 46. The average duration of disposal of an appeal fell to 47 days in 1118 from 67 days in the previous year. In 34.20 per cent. of the appeals disposed of, the findings and sentences of the superior Magistrates were confirmed; in 1.29 per cent. of the cases the findings and sentences were altered; and retrial was ordered in 6.92 per cent. of the cases.

#### High Court.

There were 46 referred trials involving 51 persons for disposal during the year against 60 cases involving 82 persons in 1117, and of these 36 cases involving 41 persons were disposed of *Appellate Work.* during the year. Death sentence was confirmed in the case of 8 persons and commuted to life imprisonment in the case of 2 persons; rigorous imprisonment for life was confirmed in the case of 17 persons; conviction altered to one of less heinous offence and lighter punishment awarded in the case of 11 persons and conviction was quashed and acquittal ordered in the case of 2



persons. Thirty-nine persons in referred trials were defended at Sirkar cost on account of their poverty against 46 in the previous year. The average duration of a referred trial fell from 184 days in 1117 to 173 days in 1118.

There was a fall in the number of appeals for the disposal of the High Court from 466 in 1117 to 371 in 1118. The number disposed

of rose from 276 in 1117 to 299 in 1118. The average duration of an appeal disposed of was 285 days in 1118 against 336 days in 1117. Seventy-seven appeals against 62 in 1117 were defended at Sirkar cost during the year under report. The subjoined statement shows the result of appeals disposed of in 1117 and 1118:—

|  |                           | 1117  |             | 1118  |             |       |
|--|---------------------------|---|-------------|-------|-------------|-------|
|  |                           | No.   | Per-centage | No.   | Per-centage |       |
| Application against conviction.                | Confirmed                 | (a) Abated by death of appellant  | 3           | 1.09  | 3           | 1.00  |
|  |                           | (b) Interference declined   | 99          | 35.87 | 120         | 40.14 |
|  |                           | (c) Conviction altered and sentence confirmed                                 | 12          | 4.35  | ..          | ..    |
|  | Modified                  | (d) Sentence altered with or without altering conviction.                     | 62          | 22.46 | 54          | 18.06 |
|  |                           | (e) Appeal rejected but sentence enhanced in revision or appeal by Government | 8           | 2.90  | 8           | 2.67  |
|  |                           | (f) Conviction quashed and acquittal ordered                                  | 50          | 18.12 | 59          | 19.74 |
|  | Reversed                  | (g) Conviction quashed and retrial ordered                                    | ..          | ..    | ..          | ..    |
|  |                           | (h) Royal clemency exercised  | ..          | ..    | ..          | ..    |
|  | Appeal against acquittal. | (i) Included in the list of long pending cases                                | ..          | ..    | ..          | ..    |
|  |                           | 1. Interference declined  | 28          | 10.14 | 35          | 11.70 |
| 2. Acquittal set aside and conviction entered. |                           | 7   | 2.53        | 4     | 1.35        |       |
| 3. Acquittal set aside and retrial ordered     |                           | 3   | 1.09        | 6     | 2.00        |       |
| 4. Abated by death of respondent.              |                           | 1   | 0.36        | 2     | 0.67        |       |
| 5. Otherwise disposed of                       |                           | 18  | 6.63        | 8     | 2.67        |       |
| 6. Sentence enhanced                           |                           | ..  | ..          | ..    | ..          |       |

The total number of cases for revision fell from 1,071 in 1117 to 865 in 1118. The number disposed of was 624 in 1118 against 645

in the previous year. The sentence or order was confirmed in 72.36 per cent. of the cases, modified in 6.72 per cent. of the cases and quashed in the rest viz., 20.92 per cent. of the cases.



The total number of calendars and appeal statements for disposal was 412 all of which were disposed of during the year. All the 49 applications for transfer of cases from one court to another were disposed of and out of these 12 were allowed.

The High Court inspected 11 criminal courts during the year and all these were surprise inspections.

#### Extradition.

The number of persons extradited to British India and the Cochin State at the instance of the Resident for the Madras States was 16 and 55 persons were surrendered to this State from British India and the Cochin State.

#### Civil Justice.

The number of courts exercising civil jurisdiction was 84 against 78 in the previous year comprising the High Court, 7 District Courts, 4 Second Judges' Courts, 4 Temporary Second Judges' Courts, 31 District Munsiffs' Courts, 4 Munsiff-Magistrates' Courts, 5 Temporary Munsiffs' Courts, 6 Additional Temporary Munsiffs' Courts and 22 Village Panchayat Courts.

The volume of litigation in the years 1117 and 1118 is shown in the following statement :--

#### Civil Litigation.

| Name of Court.            | Original Litigation. |        |        |        |        |        | Appeals (including 1st and 2nd appeals, cross objections and appeals from orders). |       |
|---------------------------|----------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--|-------|
|                           | 1117                 |        |        | 1118   |        |        | 1117   | 1118  |
|                           | O. S.                | S. C.  | Total  | O. S.  | S. C.  | Total  |  |       |
| Village Panchayat Courts. | ..                   | 6,661  | 6,661  | ..     | 4,751  | 4,751  | ...  | ..    |
| Munsiffs' Courts          | 24,400               | 13,642 | 38,042 | 33,036 | 12,380 | 45,416 | ...  | ..    |
| District Courts           | 691                  | 115    | 806    | 922    | 110    | 1,032  | 4,328  | 4,450 |
| High Court                | ..                   | ..     | ..     | ..     | ..     | ..     | 1,918  | 1,942 |
| Total                     | 25,091               | 20,418 | 45,509 | 33,958 | 17,241 | 51,199 | 6,246  | 6,392 |

There was a decided rise in the total volume of litigation the increase being 5,836 suits or 11.28 per cent. over that of the previous year. In the file of original suits there was a marked increase by 5,690 suits or by 12 per cent. and in appellate litigation there was a rise of 146 appeals or 2.34 per cent. This increase is attributed to the abnormal rise in the price of agricultural products and the consequent increase of wealth in the country. The ratio of the original suits instituted during the year to the total population of the State was one suit for every 118 persons as against one suit for every 133 persons in the previous year.

The aggregate value of the suits filed during the year was Rs. 1.24 crores as against Rs. 1.06 crores in the previous year, the average value of a suit being Rs. 242 as against Rs. 232 in 1117.

#### *Original Litigation.*

The total number of suits for disposal by the Village Panchayat Courts fell from 8,950 in 1117 to 6,697 and the number disposed of also fell from 7,510 in 1117 to 5,333 in 1118. The *Village Panchayat Courts.* average duration of a contested suit was 218 days and of an uncontested suit 70 days against 191 days and 40 days respectively in the previous year. The work of these Courts needs improvement.

The total number of suits for disposal in the Munsiffs' Courts rose from 71,431 in 1117 to 79,683 in 1118 and the number disposed of also rose from 41,559 to 42,918. Of the cases disposed of on the merits, 11,688 were decreed in favour of the plaintiffs as against 8,874 in 1117. *Munsiffs' Courts.* The average duration of contested or ordinary suits fell from 799 days to 710 days and that of uncontested suits rose from 122 to 144 days in 1118. The total arrears in the Munsiffs' Courts rose from 29,872 at the end of 1117 to 36,765 at the end of 1118.

The number of suits for disposal in the District Courts rose from 3,020 in 1117 to 3,022 in 1118 of which 1,068 or 35.34 per cent. were disposed of against 1,218 or 40.33 per cent. in the previous year. The number of contested original suits disposed of formed 68.82 per cent. of the total disposal of original suits. The average duration of contested and uncontested original suits was 1,147 and 284 days *District Courts.*

respectively in 1118 as against 1,241 and 233 days respectively in 1117. The number of references received under the Land Acquisition Act was 91 against 82 in the previous year. The number of petitions received, disposed of and pending, under the Insolvency, Succession Certificate and Guardian and Wards Acts etc., were 348, 343 and 307 respectively during the year under report against 350, 402 and 302 respectively in the previous year. The arrears at the end of the year were 1,954 suits against 1,802 in 1117.

A comparative statement of the number of applications for execution of decrees for disposal, the number disposed of, the number pending at the close of the year and the average duration of an application in the years 1117 and 1118 is given below —

| Name of Court.           | No. for disposal. |         | No. disposed of. |        |
|--------------------------|-------------------|---------|------------------|--------|
|                          | 1117              | 1118    | 1117             | 1118   |
| Village Panchayat Courts | 8,506             | 6,712   | 7,904            | 5,955  |
| Munsiffs' Courts         | 108,275           | 114,925 | 72,270           | 77,004 |
| District Courts          | 4,634             | 4,599   | 2,228            | 2,235  |
| Total                    | 121,415           | 126,236 | 82,402           | 85,194 |

|                          | Balance pending at the close of the year. |        | Average duration in days of application. |      |               |      |
|--------------------------|---|--------|--|------|---------------|------|
|                          |   |        | Ordinary suits.                          |      | Small causes. |      |
|                          | 1117                                      | 1118   | 1117                                     | 1118 | 1117          | 1118 |
| Village Panchayat Courts | 602                                       | 757    | ..                                       | ..   | 28            | 24   |
| Munsiffs' Courts         | 36,005                                    | 37,921 | 122                                      | 113  | 61            | 60   |
| District Courts          | 2,406                                     | 2,364  | 275                                      | 477  | 176           | 112  |
| Total                    | 39,013                                    | 41,042 | ..                                       | ..   | ..            | ..   |



The percentage of applications in which full satisfaction was obtained to the total disposal was 14.30 and that of petitions in which partial satisfaction was obtained was 13.75 against 10.34 and 12.62 respectively in the previous year. The number of petitions which proved wholly infructuous was 57,114, or 67.04 per cent. of the total disposal as against 58,170 or 70.59 per cent. in 1117. The number of applications in which judgment debtors were imprisoned was 182 against 179 in 1117. Immovable property was sold in 3,436 cases against 2,972 in 1117, movable property in 209 cases against 231 in 1117 and specific performance was enforced in 24 cases against 49 in 1117.

The number of decrees received for execution in Travancore courts from the Cochin State was 8 against 9 in 1117 and of those received from British Indian courts was 24 against 17 in the previous year. Decrees in 9 cases were sent to Cochin courts for execution and in 3 cases to British Indian courts against 6 and 12 respectively in 1117.

#### Appellate Jurisdiction.

The number of cross objections and miscellaneous appeals for disposal rose from 7,070 in 1117 to 7,731 in 1118 and those disposed of also rose from 4,000 to 4360. The average duration of regular appeals, contested and uncontested was 293 days and 153 days respectively against 288 days and 119 days respectively in 1117.

The number of appeals for disposal rose from 3,945 in 1117 to 4,247 or by 302 in 1118 and the number of appeals disposed of was 1,602 against 1,218 in 1117, the percentage of disposal to the total number for disposal being 37.72 against 30.87 in the previous year. The number of appeals disposed of on the merits rose from 1,122 in 1117 to 1,411 or by 289 in 1118. Of the first appeals disposed of, 104 were heard by a Full Bench of three Judges against 36 in the previous year. One first appeal and 2 second appeals were remanded to the lower courts for revised findings. The average duration of a first appeal was 745 days and that of a second appeal was 811 days as against 644 and 914 days respectively in the previous year.

The number of cross objections and miscellaneous appeals for disposal was 351 and 638 against 289 and 653 respectively in the previous year, the numbers disposed of being 99 and 314 against 68 and 299



respectively in 1117. There were 83 applications for review of judgments against 133 in 1117 and 35 out of the 83 applications were disposed of during the year.

There were 4 Full Bench sittings of five Judges, 75 Full Bench sittings of three Judges, 446 Division Bench sittings, 170 Single Judge's sittings and 19 Departmental Full Bench sittings during the year.

The percentage of appeals from decrees of Munsiffs to the number of contested original suits disposed of by them fell from 31.22 in 1117 to 29.54 in 1118. The percentage of appeals against *Quality of work* decrees passed by District and Second Judges in *of the Courts.* such suits rose from 36.93 in 1117 to 39.59 in 1118 while that of appeals against the appellate decrees of District and Second Judges fell from 20.12 to 19.93. The percentage of confirmation of Munsiffs' decrees rose from 52.09 in 1117 to 56.85 in 1118 and that of modification and reversal fell from 12.34 and 35.57 in 1117 to 9.66 and 33.49 respectively in 1118. As regards the original work of the District and Second Judges the percentage of confirmation fell from 57.78 in 1117 to 55.05 in 1118 while that of modification and reversal rose from 18.89 and 23.33 in 1117 to 20.58 and 24.37 respectively in 1118. Regarding the appellate work of District and Second Judges the percentage of confirmation and reversal rose from 63.36 and 24.57 in 1117 to 64.21 and 25.75 respectively in 1118 while that of modification fell from 12.07 to 10.04. Of the decrees of Munsiffs modified and reversed by District and Second Judges, the High Court in second appeals restored the decisions in 55 cases against 54 cases in 1117, thereby raising the percentage of confirmation of Munsiffs' decrees from 53.83 to 58.54. In 454 appeals the suits were remanded to Munsiffs' Courts by the District and Second Judges for trial and decision *de novo* and in 10 appeals revised findings were called for.

The number of suits to which the Government was a party in the District Courts was 545 against 506 in 1117 and the number of *Government suits and appeals.* appeals in the High Court was 266 as against 208 in 1117. The disposals numbered 181 in the District Courts and 61 in the High Court. Of the total disposal 46.96 per cent. of the suits and 45.90 per cent. of the appeals were decreed in favour of Government against 53.57 and 66.67 per cent. respectively in 1117.

## CHAPTER VII,

### THE LEGISLATURE.

A brief account of the constitution and powers of the State Legislature has been given in Chapter III. The Sri Mulam Assembly met three times during the year and sat for 17 days in all, out of which 14 days were devoted to the transaction of official business and 3 days to non-official business. The Sri Chitra State Council sat for 10 days in all; official business was transacted on 7 days and non-official business on 3 days. There was, besides, a joint sitting of the two Houses for the presentation of the budget for 1119 M. E.

Twenty-four Acts and four Proclamations were enacted during the year. Of these 28 enactments, 11 Acts were passed through the Legislature and the rest were promulgated direct by His Highness the Maharaja. These latter related mainly to war emergency measures. The following were the enactments passed through the Legislature, namely:—

- (i) The Travancore Provident Funds (Amendment) Act (Act I of 1118).
- (ii) The Travancore Official Trustee Act (Act V of 1118): provides for the appointment of an official trustee.
- (iii) The Travancore Administrator General Act (Act VI of 1118): provides for the appointment of an Administrator-General.
- (iv) The Travancore Poisons Act (Act XI of 1118): regulates the importation, possession and sale of poisons throughout Travancore.
- (v) The Travancore Village Panchayat Courts (Amendment) Act (Act XII of 1118).
- (vi) The Travancore Insurance (Amendment) Act (Act XIII of 1118).
- (vii) The Travancore Court Fees (Amendment) Act (Act XIV of 1118).
- (viii) The Travancore Credit Bank (Amendment) Act (Act XVIII of 1118).

(ix) The Travancore Maternity Benefit Act (Act XIX of 1118) : prevents the employment of women in factories for some time before and some time after confinement and provides for the payment of maternity benefit to them.

(x) The Travancore Registration (Amendment) Act (Act XX of 1118).

(xi) The Abkari (Amendment) Act (Act XXI of 1118).

The following seventeen enactments (13 Acts and 4 Proclamations) were promulgated by His Highness the Maharaja direct:—

(1) The Travancore War Risks (Goods) Insurance Act (Act II of 1118) : makes certain provisions for the insurance of goods in Travancore against damage by enemy action.

(2) The Travancore War Risks (Factories) Insurance Act (Act III of 1118) : provides for the insurance of certain property against war risks.

(3) The Travancore Coffee Market Expansion (Amendment) Act (Act IV of 1118).

(4) The Travancore Special Criminal Courts Act (Act VII of 1118) : provides for the setting up of special criminal courts.

(5) The Travancore Penalties (Enhancement) Act (Act VIII of 1118) : provides for the enhancement in certain circumstances of the penalties provided by law for the punishment of certain offences.

(6) The Travancore Collective Fines Act (Act IX of 1118) : provides for the imposition of collective fines in connection with offences prejudicially affecting the Defence of Travancore.

(7) The Travancore Police (Resignation of office) Act (Act X of 1118) : temporarily suspends the right at present enjoyed by members of the Police Force to resign office on giving notice of their intention to resign.

(8) The Travancore Government Securities (Amendment) Act (Act XV of 1118).

(9) The Travancore War Risks (Factories) Insurance (Amendment) Act (Act XVI of 1118).

(10) The Travancore War Risks (Goods) Insurance (Amendment) Act (Act XVII of 1118).

(11) The Travancore Coffee Market Expansion (Second Amendment) Act (Act XXII of 1118).



(12) The Essential Service (Maintenance) (Amendment) Act (Act XXIII of 1118).

(13) The Indian Soldiers (Litigation) (Amendment) Act (Act XXIV of 1118).

(14) The Coinage and Mint (Amendment) Proclamation.

(15) The Defence of Travancore (Amendment) Proclamation 1118.

(16) The Defence of Travancore (Second Amendment) Proclamation, 1118.

(17) The Pulienthuruthu Kuthakapattom Proclamation.

The Travancore Poisons Bill which was passed by the Sri Chitra State Council in 1117 was considered and passed by the Assembly.

The Travancore Court Fees Act (Amendment) Bill, Bills. the Travancore Village Panchayat Courts Act (Amendment) Bill and the Travancore Insurance Act (Amendment) Bill which had been pending consideration of the Select Committees of the Assembly at the beginning of the year were reported on by the respective Committees and the Bills were considered and passed by the Assembly and the Council. The Travancore Special Marriage and Succession Bill (which had already been passed by the Assembly and the Council) was returned by the Dewan for reconsideration by the Assembly under Section 22 of the Legislative Reforms Act with particular reference to the question of the exclusion of the Muslim Community from the purview of the Bill. The Bill was reconsidered and passed by the Assembly after an elaborate discussion, and subsequently it was again passed by the Council.

The following Bills were introduced in the Assembly during the year:

(1) The Travancore Registration Act (Amendment) Bill,

(2) The Travancore Maternity Benefit Bill.

(3) The Travancore Varnava Bill.

(4) The Abkari Act (Amendment) Bill.

(5) The Travancore Medical Practitioners' Bill.

(6) The Travancore Nurses, Midwives and Dhais Bill.

(7) The Travancore Credit Bank Act (Amendment) Bill.

(8) The Travancore High Court Act (Amendment) Bill.

(9) The Criminal Procedure Code (Amendment) Bill.



- (10) The Civil Procedure Code (Amendment) Bill.
- (11) The Travancore Disposition of Property Bill.
- (12) The Travancore Anchal Act (Amendment) Bill.
- (13) The Travancore Sale of Goods Act (Amendment) Bill.

Of these, Nos. (1), (2), (5), (8), (9) and (10) were referred to Select Committees of the Assembly, and the Bills as reported by them were considered and passed by both the Houses. Nos. (4), (7), (12) and (13) were passed by the two Houses without reference to Select Committees. A motion for the continuance of the Travancore Public Health Bill (which had lapsed under the Standing Orders) was adopted by the Assembly. The Travancore Varnava Bill was referred to a Select Committee and was pending with the Committee at the end of the year. The Select Committee constituted to consider the Travancore Nurses, Midwives and Dhais Bill submitted its report during the year. The Travancore Disposition of Property Bill was referred to a Joint Select Committee of both the Houses, and the Travancore Kammala (Viswakarma) Bill which had already been passed by the Assembly was referred to a Joint Committee under Section 21 of the Legislative Reforms Act while under consideration by the Council. These latter two Bills were pending with the Committees at the end of the year. The Travancore Partition Bill was introduced in the Council and referred to a Select Committee. The Council also adopted a motion for the continuance of the Travancore Transfers and Bequests to Unborn Persons Bill (which had lapsed under the Standing Orders) and for the inclusion of certain additional members in its Select Committee.

The Budget for 1119 M. B. was presented at a joint sitting of the Sri Mulam Assembly and the Sri Chitra State Council held on the 3rd Karkatakam Business. 1118/19th July 1943. It was discussed by the Assembly for nine days and by the Council for five days. The Budget was passed by the Assembly as presented to it, and subsequently it was passed by the Council also. Demands for supplementary grants, totalling Rs. 10,45,710 in the budget for 1118 were also voted by both the Houses during the year.

The total number of questions answered in the Assembly was 402 and in the Council 66 during the year.

[Questions]

Seven resolutions were moved and discussed in the Assembly but none of them was passed. In the Sri Chitra State Council nine resolutions were moved and discussed. *Resolutions.* Of these, one resolution congratulating the Government for adopting efficient and timely measures to overcome to a considerable extent the difficulties regarding foodstuffs in the State and assuring the hearty co-operation of the Legislature in the schemes under consideration by the Government was passed, and the others were withdrawn after discussion.

Motions were moved in the Assembly and the Council for discussing the question whether any proportion of the members of the Public Service Advisory Committee should be thrown open for election by the Legislature. The question was put to vote and lost.

Another motion regarding the introduction of a scheme for the licensing of document writers was moved in the Assembly and was passed. A similar motion was also moved and passed by the Council.

A motion expressing the heartfelt felicitations of the House on the distinguished success achieved by His Highness the Elaya Raja of Travancore in the B. A. Degree Examination was moved by the President and was passed by the Council. Another motion expressing the rejoicings of the Council on the successful termination of the African Campaign by the Allies' Victory in Tunisia and the glorious and praiseworthy part played by the Indian Army in the struggle was also moved by the President and passed by the House.

Motions were passed by both the Assembly and the Council welcoming the Dewan-President Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar back to the State and offering him hearty cooperation.

## CHAPTER VIII.

### PROTECTION

#### Police.

*Inspector-General of Police.* *Rajyasevapravina Khan Bahadur G. S. Abdul Karim Sahib Suhrawardy.*

The total sanctioned strength of the permanent police force on the last day of the year 1118 was 2,673 officers and men, which was one less than the corresponding figure for 1117. The decrease was due to the abolition of the post of the Trivandrum District C. I. D. Inspector of Police. There was one member of the permanent force to every 2.85 sq. miles of the area of the State, and to every 2,233 of its population. The number of cognisable cases investigated made an average of 1.6 per member of the police force. The strength of the temporary force was enhanced from 1,024 in 1117 to 1,049 in 1118 consisting of 1 Assistant Superintendent of Police, 5 Inspectors, 19 Sub-Inspectors, 78 Head Constables and 946 Constables. The standard of efficiency of the force was high and discipline was well maintained. The percentage of the number of subordinate officers and men departmentally punished to the actual strength was 20.3 against 21.2 in the previous year. The number of men dismissed from the force was 8 against 10 in 1117.

During the year, the Maharaja's Police Medal for gallantry was awarded to Mr. K. Mohammed Hassan, Fourth Grade Inspector of Police, and the Travancore Police Medal for gallantry was awarded to K. Raghavan Nadar, acting Third Grade Head Constable. The decoration of the Travancore Police Medal for distinguished services was conferred on Mr. S. Ganesa Aiyar, District Superintendent of Police (retired), Mr. P. K. Mathen, retired Assistant Superintendent of Police, Mr. T. R. Vaidianatha Aiyar, acting Assistant Superintendent of Police, and Mr. K. Raman Pillai, Fourth Grade Inspector of Police. Two men were given accelerated promotions for remarkably good work, and a sum of Rs. 902 was given as rewards.



The health of the force showed improvement, the percentage of admission into hospitals and that of men absent from duty on account of sickness being 8.8 and 0.52 against 11.5 and 0.46 respectively in the previous year. All the officers and men in the permanent force on the last day of the year were literate and of these 39.9 per cent. were literate in English. In the Recruits School attached to the Armed Reserve, Trivandrum, 245 Constables were trained and passed out and sixty-one recruits were undergoing training at the close of the year under report.

The number of grave crimes reported during the years 1117 and 1118 is shown below:—

## Crimes.

|                          | 1117  | 1118 |
|--------------------------|-------|------|
| Murder                   | 99    | 119  |
| Culpable homicide        | 9     | 6    |
| Dacoity                  | 1     | 22   |
| Robbery                  | 34    | 102  |
| House-breaking and theft | 627   | 594  |
| Cattle theft             | 147   | 132  |
| Theft                    | 968   | 962  |
| Total                    | 1,885 | 1937 |

No case of communal tension was reported and the political situation was comparatively quiet.

One case of counterfeit coining was reported during the year against 8 cases of counterfeit coining and 3 cases of counterfeit currency notes in 1117. The case was charged and was pending trial at the close of the year.

There was a decrease in the detection of cognisable crimes. The percentage of detection of cognisable crimes disposed of during the year was 47 against 67 in 1117. The prosecution staff prosecuted 1,532 cases including appeals, against 1,322 in the previous year, and of these, 403 ended in conviction. The percentages of conviction of original cases and of unsuccessful appeals



were 23·4 and 19·1 against 74·4 and 77·3 respectively in the previous year. 4,586 persons were tried in the year against 4,483 in 1117 and 2,557 persons or 55·7 per cent. were convicted against 50·7 per cent. in the previous year. The average number of days taken by the courts for the disposal of cases charged, was 54 against 51 in the previous year while such time taken for the disposal of cases referred and undetected during the year was 20 and 98 days against 25 and 73 days respectively in 1117. Fourteen prisoners escaped from lock-ups and eleven from other police custody in 1118 against four and seven respectively in 1117. Eleven of the above prisoners were recaptured. The police officers responsible for the escapes were punished departmentally.

185 habitual criminals were brought under surveillance during the year and the number of those removed from the rolls on account of death, infirmity etc. was 68. The number of bad characters at large on the last day of the year was 595 of whom 229 were out of view.

Including the 435 cases pending disposal at the end of the previous year, the number of persons charge-sheeted before the Magistrates under Sections 103, 105 and 106 of the Criminal Procedure Code was 711, of whom 248 were discharged, 40 were ordered to furnish security, 19 sentenced to imprisonment in default of finding security and the cases against 404 were pending disposal at the end of the year.

The Criminal Intelligence Bureau attended to the collection and dissemination of information regarding crime and criminals and formed a connecting link with the Intelligence Bureau of the various British Indian Provinces. The Police Gazette, monthly and quarterly reviews of crime, quarterly and consolidated list of O. V. K. Ds. and proclaimed offenders were compiled and published by the Bureau. Of the 703 history-sheeted inter-district criminals that remained at the beginning of the year, 13 were struck off by reason of death, and 6 criminals addicted to property crimes were newly registered so that the total number of history-sheeted criminals at the end of the year was 696. The Bureau pointed out to the station house

officers 15 habitual criminals for being registered as known depredators and kept under surveillance. The photographer attached to the Bureau took the photographs of 7 suspected persons, 10 unidentified dead bodies and 12 finger prints with enlargements.

The number of finger prints on record at the commencement of the year was 25,902 and the number received for record during the year was 1,105 against 1,887 in the previous year. 2,103 finger prints were received for search against 2,264 in 1117 and of these, 464 were traced against 501 in 1117. The number of finger prints eliminated was 312 and there were 26,695 finger prints on record on the last day of 1118.

The Motor Vehicles Act was revised and the revised Act and the Rules passed thereunder came into force from the beginning of 1117. All the motor vehicles running in the State were re-registered and assigned new identification numbers during 1117.

The subjoined statement compares the number of motor vehicles registered during 1117 and 1118:—

| Type of Motor Vehicles. | 1117       | 1118     |
|-------------------------|------------|----------|
| Cars                    | 110        | 2        |
| Stage Carriages         | 21         | ...      |
| Goods Vehicles          | 20         | 4        |
| Motor Cycles            | 11         | 1        |
| Road Rollers            | ...        | ...      |
| Ambulance Van           | ...        | 1        |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>162</b> | <b>8</b> |

The decrease in the number of motor vehicles registered during 1118 was due to the non-availability of fresh chassis owing to war conditions.

Four vehicles were registered as public conveyances during the year under report. The number of fresh permits issued during the year was 363 against 822 in 1117. The number of fresh licenses to drive motor vehicles issued during 1118 was 238 and the number of driving tuition licenses issued was 159 against 213 and 179 respectively in 1117. Besides, 2,392 driving licenses were

either renewed or re-issued thus working out a total of 2,789 against 3,747 in the previous year. 125 drivers' badges were issued in 1118 against 82 in 1117 and the total number of badges issued till the end of 1118 was 5,399. The conductors' pass books issued during the year numbered 120 against 113 in the previous year, the total number of pass book holders in the State being 5,907. There was a considerable decrease in the number of offences committed under the Motor Vehicles Act due to the activities of the "Flying Squad" organised for the prevention and detection of offences under the Act. Special precautions were taken for the control of vehicular and pedestrian traffic on the trunk roads in the Trivandrum City and in important towns and the one way traffic system which was introduced with a view to minimising accidents in places where there was congestion of traffic yielded excellent results.

The subjoined statement shows the number of fatal accidents caused by motor vehicles during the past three years:—

| <i>Year.</i> | <i>Total number of accidents caused by Motor Vehicles.</i> | <i>Number that proved fatal.</i> |
|--------------|--|----------------------------------|
| 1116         | 106  | 33                               |
| 1117         | 85   | 34                               |
| 1118         | 66   | 33                               |

The number of carriages registered under the Hackney Carriage Act in the City of Trivandrum and the towns of Quilon and Alleppey during the year was 321, 207 and 206 against 274, 195 and 222 respectively in 1117. The number of persons licensed to drive was 625 against 630 in 1117.

The number of films censored under the Cinematograph Act was 347 against 354 in 1117. No case of screening films before certification was reported during the year.

A general increase in the basic pay of Police Constables by one rupee was sanctioned with effect from 1st Thulam 1118. In connection with the celebration of the Tunisian Day in the City in May 1943, there was a "March Past" of the Travancore State Forces and the Police.

The receipts of the Police Department amounted to Rs. 1,14,257 against Rs. 90,834 in 1117. The expenditure of the department rose from Rs. 8.47 lakhs in 1117 to Rs. 9.56 lakhs in 1118.



## JAILS.

## The Central Prison.

*Superintendent.**Mr. John Lambert.**(Till 21-10-1118.)**Mr. S. B. Krishnaswami Rao**(From 21-10-1118 till the  
end of the year.)*

The following table shows the number of prisoners under different classes in 1118 :—

*Strength.*

| Class of prisoners, | Strength at the beginning of 1118. | Admitted in 1118. | Discharged in 1118. | Strength at the end of 1118. |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| Convicted           | 685                                | 793               | 809                 | 659                          |
| Under trial         | 61                                 | 85                | 105                 | 41                           |
| Civil               | 6                                  | 32                | 35                  | 3                            |
| Total               | 752                                | 910               | 949                 | 713                          |

The total number of convicted prisoners admitted during the year was 793, of which 781 were males and 12 females. Five hundred and two males and 7 females were those convicted for offences under the Penal Code and 279 males and 5 females were those convicted under other laws. Of the males 520 including one detenue were Hindus, 175 Christians and 86 Mohamedans; 14 of them were above 60 years of age, 129 between 41 and 60 years, 637 between 16 and 40 years and one below 16 who was transferred to the Reformatory. Of the convicts admitted during the year, 26 were those sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for life against 31 in 1117 and capital punishment was meted out to 14 prisoners against 12 in the previous year. Those sentenced to varying terms of imprisonment numbered 681 against 862 in the previous year and those in solitary confinement numbered 8 against 13 in the previous year. Those sentenced to simple imprisonment numbered 40 against 65 in 1117.



During the year 250 habitual prisoners were admitted against 162 in the previous year. Of these, 138 had one previous conviction, 33 had two previous convictions and 84 had more than two convictions.

The number of prisoners released on remission was 82, the maximum of remission earned being 4 months and 9 days. Under the system "Premature release" introduced in 1117 for relieving the congestion in the prison, 256 releases were made. The system has since been discontinued.

The number of punishments inflicted for offences committed while in prison rose from 109 in 1117 to 441 in 1118.

#### *Discipline.*

The teachers from the Education Department continued to impart education to youthful offenders and classes were held for one hour in the morning and evening every day. Religious and moral instruction was also given to the prisoners. They were also trained in printing and manufacture of textiles and leather goods in the various industrial concerns attached to the prison.

#### *Education of Convicts.*

The total number of prisoners admitted and treated in the jail hospital was 75 as against 50 in the previous year. The percentage of sick to average strength was 0.43 against 1.77 in the year 1117. There were 14 deaths against 16 in 1117. Throughout the year the general health of the inmates of the jail was satisfactory. Of the 809 prisoners discharged during the year 16.31 per cent. gained weight, 7.91 per cent. lost weight while the weight of 75.78 per cent. of the prisoners was steady.

#### *Health and Mortality.*

The Advisory Board constituted for reconsidering the sentences of long-term prisoners recommended 61 cases and Government sanctioned the release of 45 prisoners.

#### *Miscellaneous.*

On an average 100 prisoners were daily employed for work in connection with cooking in the hospital, sweeping, cleaning, scavenging, masonry, road repairing etc., and 120 prisoners were employed in the Press as compositors, machine-men, book-binders, numberers, counters etc. About 120 prisoners were daily employed in the Manu-factory as weavers, leather-workers, black-smiths, tailors and carpenters. 33 prisoners were detailed for work in the vegetable gardens and 77 for fodder cultivation.

#### *Employment of Prisoners-Jail Service.*

The cost per head under dieting charges rose from Rs. 66-4-8 in the previous year to Rs. 101-11-3 in 1118 and the hospital charges also rose from Rs. 7-18-4 to Rs. 12-4-5. The establishment charges increased from Rs. 47-11-13 to Rs. 66-4-8 in 1118 and the clothing and bedding charges from Rs. 4-7-6 to Rs. 23-26-13. The total cost per head rose from Rs. 190-2-13 to Rs. 303-3-11. The increase in expenditure was mainly due to the rise in the price of articles of food and clothing.

The subjoined statement shows the receipts from and the expenditure on the Central Prison during 1117 and 1118 :—

*Receipts and Expenditure.*

| Particulars. |                      | 1117.    | 1118.    |
|--------------|----------------------|----------|----------|
|              |                      | Rs.      | Rs.      |
| Receipts     | Jail Manufacture     | 31,911   | 40,414   |
|              | Central Prison Press | 207      | 210      |
|              | Miscellaneous        | 5,851    | 1,403    |
|              | Total                | 37,969   | 42,027   |
| Expenditure  |                      | 1,56,833 | 1,96,777 |

**The Temporary Prison at Alleppey.**

At the beginning of the year there were 105 convicted prisoners in the temporary prison at Alleppey. During the year 272 convicted prisoners were admitted making a total of 377. The prison was closed down on 10-10-1118 owing to the reduction in the strength of prisoners in the Central Prison, Trivandrum.

**Lock-ups.**

Persons sentenced by the criminal courts in the mofussil to imprisonment for a month or for a lesser period are confined in the station lock-ups, while those sentenced to longer terms by such courts and those sentenced to imprisonment for any term by the criminal courts at Trivandrum are sent to the Central Prison. The number of prisoners confined in station lock-ups during 1118 was 8,932 against 10,767 in 1117.

**Registration.***Director.**Mr. K. Madhava Kurup. M. A.*

The number of District Registrars' and Sub-Registrars' Offices remained the same as in the previous year *viz.*, 3 and 80 respectively.

*Registry Offices.* The temporary Sub-Registrars' Offices, at Monkompu, Pandalam, Ranni, Nedumangad, Kottarakara and Karunagapally were continued and fifteen more temporary Sub-Registrars' Offices were opened during the year under report.

*Number of Documents Registered.* The total number of documents presented for registration rose from 4,56,205 in 1117 to 7,57,063 in 1118. Including the 32 documents pending registration at the commencement of the year, the total number of documents dealt with during the year was 7,57,095 of which 7,56,972 were registered, 70 were refused registration and 12 were returned unregistered at the request of the parties, leaving 41 documents pending at the end of the year. The number of registrations which exceeded the number for the previous year by 3,00,838 is a record figure.

*Value of Transactions.* The rise in the number of documents also brought about a rise in the total value of transactions which was Rs. 19.03 crores against Rs. 9.91 crores in 1117, the percentage of increase being 92.05. The value of registrations affecting immovable property rose from Rs. 9.76 crores in 1117 to Rs. 18.75 crores in 1118 and that relating to movable property from Rs. 14.90 lakhs in 1117 to Rs. 28.22 lakhs in 1118. The average value of documents rose from Rs. 217 in 1117 to



Rs. 251 in the year under report. The average value of a document relating to immovable property was Rs. 251 and that relating to movable property was Rs. 284, against Rs. 218 and Rs. 177 respectively in the previous year. Of the documents registered during the year that of the highest value was for Rs. 10,61,000 and of the lowest value was for one chuckram.

Of the total registrations, the number affecting immovable property was 7,45,863 or 98.53 per cent. against 4,46,667 or 97.92 per cent. in the preceding year. *Classes of Documents.* Mortgages and sales constituted 31.77 per cent. and 30.13 per cent. respectively of the total registrations against 36.13 per cent. and 28.12 per cent. respectively in 1117. The total area of land alienated by agriculturists in favour of non-agriculturists under mortgages and sales was 65,537 acres and 47,476 acres respectively against 56,142 acres and 37,304 acres respectively in the previous year. Although the number of transactions of value below Rs. 100 rose from 2,76,921 to 3,81,702, their percentage showed a fall from 60.71 to 50.42 as compared with the previous year. This is due to the increased number of transactions in 1118.

The number of registrations relating to movable property was 9,919 or 1.31 per cent. of the total registrations against 8,405 or 1.84 per cent. in 1117. Money bonds formed 7.59 per cent., sales 9.08 per cent. and miscellaneous transactions 83.48 per cent. against 6.88 per cent. 8.56 per cent. and 84.56 per cent. respectively in 1117.

Two marriages under the Travancore Kshatriya Marriage Act were registered during the year.

The number of wills registered during the year was 1,190 against 1,062 in the preceding year. 48 sealed covers containing wills were deposited with the District Registrars during the year against 45 in 1117.

The number of chitties registered during the year was 355 against 227 in the previous year. The total number of *Chitties.* chitties registered since the passing of the Chitties Act in 1094 was 16,637 of which 15,234 chitties terminated by the close of 1117 and 142 chitties in 1118. At the close



of the year 1,261 chitties were being conducted for a total capital of Rs. 20.30 lakhs. No prosecution was instituted by the department for offences under the Chitties Act during the year under report.

Section 20 of the Registration Act was amended by Act XX of 1118 whereby documents relating to immovable property may be registered in any Sub-Registry office. The table of fees under Section 72 of the Registration Act was revised with effect from the 15th Vrischigom 1118. 188 additional temporary hands were appointed to cope with the increased work in all the Sub-Registry offices.

*Miscellaneous.*

The receipts of the department rose from Rs. 7.12 lakhs to Rs. 15.34 lakhs, the highest on record, and the expenditure rose from Rs. 3.17 lakhs to Rs. 3.58 lakhs. The work of the department has been very satisfactory.

*Receipts and Expenditure.*

#### Weights and Measures.

The receipts from the fees realised under the Weights and Measures Act during the year amounted to Rs. 8,970 against Rs. 14,149 in 1117. The expenditure incurred during the year was Rs. 897 against Rs. 980 in the previous year.

## CHAPTER IX.

### PRODUCTION AND INDUSTRY.

#### Season and Rainfall.

During the year 1118 M. E., the rainfall in the different stations throughout the State was above normal, the averages for the Kottayam Division being markedly in excess. Stations in the Trivandrum Division registered only small fluctuations from the normal. The North-East and South-West Monsoons prevailed as usual with a slight increase of rainfall during the year under report. In general the distribution of rainfall during the different seasons was favourable to cultivation. The reports of heavy rainfall received from taluk headquarters numbered 44 against 36 in the previous year. The heaviest rainfall recorded in 24 hours during the year was 9.50 inches at Peermade on 17-5-1943.

#### Agriculture.

*Director.*

*Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar, B. A.,  
M. Sc., F. C. S (Till 24-3-1118)*

*Mr. K. Subramonia Pillai (L. Ag.)  
(In independent charge from  
24-3-1118 till the end of the  
year.)*

The Department of Agriculture was organised in 1083 M. E. (1908 A. D.). Since then it has steadily grown in scope and till 1116 M. E. it comprised three distinct units *viz.*, the Agricultural, the Veterinary and the Fisheries branches, but during the year 1116 the Fisheries branch was separated from the Department and placed under the control of the Professor of Marine Biology and Fisheries attached to the Travancore University. The State is now divided into three agricultural divisions, *viz.*, the Southern, the Central and the Northern, which are further sub-divided into ranges and sections, each section constituting the unit of administration in respect of agricultural propaganda. Each division is placed under a Divisional Agricultural Officer who is entrusted with the work of planning, guiding and controlling all agricultural

experiments, demonstrations and propaganda in the division. There is an Agricultural Marketing Officer for the purpose of improving the methods of marketing the agricultural products of the State in co-operation with the Government of India.

The seasons were favourable for the growing of important crops like paddy, tapioca, cocoanut, sugarcane etc. The prices of almost all products except those of paddy and rice which were controlled by Government soared very high. In general the prices of agricultural products were much higher than during the previous year and they were unprecedented.

*General Agricultural Conditions.*

The Plant Pathologist continued the survey of the diseases of the cocoanut palm. As in the previous year no new focus of infection was noticed. The trees undergoing treatment in different demonstration centres continued to be under observation. General improvement was noticed in the condition of most of the trees. Inoculation experiments were conducted with different leaf pathogens on the tender shoots of trees under field conditions. As in the previous year manurial experiments were continued at the Oachira Farm. Thirty-two soil samples collected from various experimental plots in the two gardens at Kayamkulam were analysed and the most significant deficiency viz., that of Potash was noted. The two paddy breeding stations opened at Moncompu and Adoor in 1116 were continued. Seventeen types of paddy out of the 32 types collected during 1117 were maintained for trial and the details relating to their growth, tillering capacity, duration of flowering etc., were studied minutely and the observations were recorded.

The Milk Recording Scheme sanctioned by the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research was put into operation towards the close of the year 1117 and it was functioning during the year under report. Altogether 281 cows were registered under this scheme from among those in and round the City of Trivandrum. The staff working in connection with the scheme carried out propaganda work also regarding proper breeding and rearing of live-stock.



The Village Project Scheme partly financed by the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research for the economic welfare of agricultural villages, commenced work at Thazhakudy in the Thovala taluk, in Chingom 1118, in an area of 100 acres. Improvements in cultivation were made by providing better seeds, better manures and better implements.

In view to the acuteness of the food problem in the State, the possibilities of increasing the local production to the maximum extent were investigated during the year under report. Twenty-five Manure Depots including two sub-depots were opened in different parts of the State for the sale of manures to the ryots on payment of cash or on credit terms. Additional areas of land were brought under cultivation including 4,000 acres from the forest areas. Vigorous propaganda was carried on by the Department for manuring paddy with groundnut oil cake and bonemeal to increase the out put. A large number of manurial demonstrations was also conducted on ryots' lands to convince them of the advantages resulting from the use of manures.

Next to paddy, cocoanut is the most extensively cultivated crop in the State. It is the chief cash crop of the average ryot. Improvements in the methods of cultivation and manuring of cocoanut palms were tested in the Cocoanut Farm at Oachira. The disease of the cocoanut palm has been the most important problem which has been engaging the attention of the Department. A manure mixture consisting of oil cakes, prawnskin or bonemeal and ashes was found to be very effective and this was successfully demonstrated to the ryots in their own gardens.

Tapioca is popularly known as the "poor man's food" in Travancore. It occupies the third place among the most extensively cultivated crops in the State. It thrives well in almost all kinds of soil and yields plenty of tuberosc roots. The tapioca of commerce, which is nothing but the starchy substance obtained from the tubers, is used in foreign countries for sizing yarn and fabrics and for manufacturing dextrin. It is also a possible source of power alcohol. Propaganda under the 'Grow more Food' Campaign was carried out by the Department to increase the

area under this crop and as a result about 30 per cent increase was noticed during the year. Every bit of land available with the ryots was put under this crop with better system of manuring.

Experimental work on sugarcane varieties was continued in the Sugarcane Farm at Alwaye and Kuttur. With the *Sugarcane.* object of prolonging the milling season, 4 Mysore varieties were introduced. Of these one did not arrow in Kanni and was found to be susceptible to diseases and inferior in respect of tonnage and yield of jaggery. The other three varieties arrowed in Kanni and were found to be not suitable for the Kumbhom milling season. 21130 lbs. of gur were obtained from 90 tons of cane grown on an area of 5 acres and 90 cents. The Farm Jaggery established its reputation for its quality and colour and so it fetched a better price in the market. Samples of it were exhibited at the Sri Chitra Exhibition and were greatly appreciated by the visitors.

In the Dry Crops Farm at Aramboly, experimental work to find out the best variety of cotton to suit the local conditions was continued. Six varieties were under *Dry Farm- ing.* observation during the year. The results were not however conclusive and so the trials had to be repeated. Trials with cholam, bajra etc., got down from Sholapur and Hagari were also made in the Farm during the year. The cultivation of pulses and soya beans was also tried but the plants did not thrive well.

Guinea grass was the chief fodder crop cultivated in the Farm at *Fodder Crops.* Chuliamalai and the total area under the crop during the year was 25 acres. In all, about 88  $\frac{1}{2}$  tons of grass were cut and supplied during the year under report, the receipts therefrom being Rs. 531.

The Government Fruit Farm at Cape Comorin is devoted exclusively to the introduction and acclimatisation of exotic fruit trees and the multiplication of choice varieties for sale to the public. *Fruit Culture.* Mango grafts, sapodilla grafts, grape vines, guavalayers, lime and orange plants were the chief varieties raised and distributed.

The Rural Development Centres opened by the Department continued to function satisfactorily during the year.

*Rural Development.* Demonstrations on important crops were conducted to convince the ryots of the advantages of using better manures and better methods of cultivation.

The cultivation of fodder grasses like Guinea grass and Napier grass was gradually extended and subsidiary occupations such as bee-keeping, and poultry rearing were popularised. Introduction of soya beans, tomatoes etc., was attempted with a certain degree of success. In general there was an all round progress in the activities connected with rural development work during the year.

A virulent attack of "Nephantis serinopa" on cocoanut trees occurred in Central and North Travancore during the year. Timely measures were taken to bring the pest under control. Pests like rice swarming caterpillar and Mahali disease of arecanut were also brought under control by adopting suitable remedial measures. A virulent outbreak of the "Bunchy Top" disease among plantains of all varieties in and round Kottayam occurred during the year. Very effective measures were taken to bring this pest also under control.

The Live Stock Improvement Scheme progressed satisfactorily during the year. The five Scindi bulls stationed in the City of Trivandrum served 242 registered cows during the year.

*Cattle Breeding.* 224 cows were newly registered. 99 cows served by these bulls calved during the year. The Buffalo Breeding Station at Koovapady in North Travancore continued to work satisfactorily. The Murrah stud buffaloes stationed there served 83 registered she-buffaloes against 134 in the previous year.

The Agricultural Schools at Koni and Kottarakara continued to function satisfactorily during the year under report. The final examination in the school at Koni was conducted in Kumbhom and out of the 23 students who appeared for the examination 20 passed. A fresh batch of 23 students was admitted to the school in Medom for the next session. The strength of the school at Kottarakara was 24 at the beginning of the year but it fell to 22 at the end of the year.



During the year under report the total number of Government Veterinary institutions was 16 against 15 in the previous year. A new dispensary at Chavara under the charge of a stockman was opened during the year. Thus the total number of dispensaries run by stockmen rose to 4 as against 3 in the previous year. The temporary Clinical Laboratory was made permanent from the beginning of 1118. The total number of cases admitted in all the institutions during the year under report was 31,041. The number of castrations performed was 1,022 and the number of operations conducted was 1,618. The treatment for rabies became popular and in all 118 cases were treated in 1118 against 80 in the previous year. During the year 38 elephants were treated as against 33 in 1117. There were seven grant-in-aid veterinary institutions during the year. In all 9,479 cases were treated in these institutions as against 8,561 in 1117. In order to train persons for appointment as Compounders and Stockmen in the Department a class was opened during the year.

Efforts were made during the year under report to improve the marketing conditions with regard to specified commodities and to procure better and cheaper facilities for their trade. An Egg Marketing Expansion Board was formed and a Committee consisting of seven members was organised to improve the export of eggs from the State thereby encouraging the poultry industry in general. To facilitate the quick and safe despatch of the article to places outside the State, special egg containers were made and supplied to merchants at Quilon and Kayamkulam.

The receipts and expenditure of the Department were Rs. 19,309 and Rs. 1.46 lakhs against Rs. 15,104 and Rs. 1.39 lakhs respectively in the previous year.

*Receipts and Expenditure.*

## INDUSTRIES AND GEOLOGY.

Director.

Mr. E. I. Chacko, B. A., B. L.

## Minerals.

During the year under report, prospecting operations for graphite were conducted at Veli in the Trivandrum taluk. Prospecting for mica was continued at Vattiyoorkavu and Neyyoor. *Prospecting.* The material obtained is being trimmed and graded for marketing. A market was also secured for waste mica during the year.

## Industries.

Sirdar Dogar Singh, Ceramic Expert, continued to be in charge of the Ceramic Factory till 29-7-1118 and Mr. E. I. Chacko, Director of Industries was in charge of the factory for 9 *Ceramic Fac-* days from 29-7-1118 to 8-8-1118 when Mr. K. N. *tory, Kundara.* Madhava Panickar who was appointed as Ceramic Expert assumed charge. During the year under report it was found that the mining of clay by the underground tunnel system was costly and needless and therefore that system was abandoned and extraction of clay by means of the open cast method was resorted to. The factory concentrated its efforts mainly on the production of articles required by the War Supplies Department of the Government of India. Crockery, electrical goods and refractories were the main articles manufactured. The total value of china clay sold during the year was Rs. 1.28 lakhs and that of other articles was Rs. 1.75 lakhs.

During the year under report, the Factory continued to be under the management of Sir Chinubhai Madhowlal Ranchhodlal, Baronet of Ahmedabad in partnership with Government.

*Rubber Fac-* The progress of the factory during the year was *tory.* very satisfactory. Rubber-inserted khaki sheets, sponge sheets, ground sheets, surgical tubings and hose pipes were the chief articles manufactured in the factory. The bulk of the manufactured goods was intended for supply to the War Supplies Department. The total value of goods produced in the factory during the year was estimated at Rs. 33,63,000.

The Sugar Factory at Thuckalay continued to work under the management of the Travancore Sugars and Chemicals Ltd., with Messrs. Parry & Co., Ltd., as Secretaries and Treasurers. The year under report was the sixth working year of the company. The factory worked only for 64 days against 293 days in the previous year because the conversion of palmyra jaggery into sugar was not found profitable due to the high price of jaggery. A quantity of 600 tons of white sugar was manufactured and it was sold at the Government controlled price. A quantity of 246 tons of treacle was also produced in the factory as a bye-product and transferred to the distillery at Nagercoil for conversion into arrack.

A new company by name the "Travancore Plywood Industries Ltd." was registered during the year for the manufacture of plywood. Sir Chinubhai Madhowlal Ranchhodlal, Baronet of Ahamedabad is the principal promoter of the company and Messrs. Sir Chinubhai and Sons its managing agents. By the close of the year under report the building and machinery for the factory were almost ready for the commencement of operations.

During the year the Sales Depot was progressing satisfactorily and serving as a useful business house and as an agency for the advertisement and sale particularly of the products of cottage industries of the State. The products of the various cottage industries displayed in the depot along with the wooden toys of the department and the articles of the Ceramic Factory; were a source of attraction.

The Punalur Paper Mills made steady progress during the year and the usual quantities of brown, badami match paper and coloured paper were manufactured and supplied to the Travancore and Madras Governments, the Railway Departments, Printing Presses, Match Factories etc. Although the Mill had a steady supply of power from the Pallivasal Hydro-Electric Works it was not able to take full advantage of the supply owing to the difficulty in obtaining spare parts for replacement and essential auxiliary machines.



The following are a few of the important new industries carried on during the year under report :—

*New Industries.*

(1) *Bobbins for Textile Mills.*

More than 20 bobbin factories were set up during the year and they were able to meet a considerable portion of the demand from Coimbatore, Bombay and Ahamedabad Mills.

(2) *Pencils.*

At the beginning of the year under report there was only one pencil factory in the State, viz., at Quilon. The abnormal rise in the price of pencils, caused by the war situation, gave an opportunity to the enterprising industrialists in the State to start 3 more factories, two at Quilon and one at Kottayam.

(3) *Hand-made paper manufacture.*

The department started an experimental unit for the manufacture of hand-made paper and every endeavour was made to run the unit so as to yield the best results. Not only ordinary foolscap paper but various other kinds of paper for writing pads, invitation cards etc., were made.

(4) *Manufacture of mats interwoven with Kora grass.*

The experimental section of the department carried out the manufacture of mats and mattings interwoven with locally available kora grass and waste cotton yarn.

(5) *Pith Hats.*

The manufacture of hat out of pith and other materials available locally was another cottage industry that flourished in the State during the year.

(6) *Wood and Toy industries.*

The Government Wood and Toy Industries, Trivandrum which has done pioneer work in the manufacture of high class wooden toys stimulated to a great extent the formation of toy factories in and round Trivandrum and Quilon.

(7) *War Industries.*

Under the small scale industries scheme formulated by the Government of India, orders to the extent of about two lakhs of rupees were booked during the year for the supply of pick axe helves, hammer handles, chisel handles, awls handles, fans hand etc. These orders were distributed among various cottage industries agencies and articles to the value of Rs. 52,035 were supplied during the year.

(8) *The Aluminium Production Company of India Ltd.*

The Aluminium Reduction Works of the Aluminium Production Company of India Ltd., Alwaye began operations on the 6th March 1943. The Company was engaged in the production of aluminium for urgent war purposes.

At the beginning of the year there were 24 students on the rolls of this institution. Twenty-one students appeared for the annual examination and all of them came out successful.

*S. M. R. V. Technical Institute, Nagercoil.* The students were given instruction in the theory and practice of weaving according to the prescribed syllabus of studies. Demonstrations were made in warping, preparing yarn and sizing for the benefit of the students. The strength of the school at the close of the year was 24.

The subjects taught in the school were book-keeping, banking, shorthand, typewriting and commercial practice. In addition to the regular Lower and Higher classes, the special class in book-keeping covering 2 years' portions in one year was conducted during the year under report also. The total number of students was 87 during the first term and 48 during the second term. The students were presented for the Madras Government Technical Examinations and the London Chamber of Commerce Examinations.

As usual, the Madras Government Technical Examinations of November 1942 and April 1943 were held during the year. The total number of candidates that appeared for the November Examination was 119 and that for the April Examination 113.

*Madras Government Technical Examinations.*

At the close of the year under report there were 85 aided and 56 unaided technical schools and 18 approved commercial schools, against 79 aided and 58 unaided technical schools and 28 approved commercial schools at the end of the previous year. Weaving was taught in the majority of the industrial schools, the other subjects taught being carpentry, smithery, mat weaving, rattaning, drawing and painting. The Textile Assistant under the department conducted the inspection of the weaving schools during the year. The total of the grants to industrial institutions amounted to Rs. 19,734.

The Itinerant Weaving Party attached to the Textile Section of the department was camping in selected localities for imparting instruction in the art of weaving to pupils of backward communities.

The Board of Industries constituted under the Travancore State Aid to Industries Act met once during the year and 12 applications for loans were disposed of. Of these 4 applications for a sum of Rs. 1,800 were granted.

The receipts of the department amounted to Rs. 10,435 in 1118 against Rs. 12,354 in 1117 and the expenditure to Rs. 75,627 against Rs. 83,329 in 1117.

*Receipts and Expenditure.*

#### **Factories and Labour.**

Six labour laws were in force at the close of 1117. The operation of these measures has succeeded in obtaining many amenities for labour and has brought about closer and healthier relations between the employer and the employee. One more Act, namely the Maternity Benefit Act was added to the list during 1118. This Act enables women workers to get maternity benefits. This Act will come into force as soon as the rules under the Act which are now under consideration of Government are passed.



The rules under the Payment of Wages Act were passed during the year. The number of factories on the register during the year increased from 204 to 215. Thirty-one new factories were registered and 20 factories were removed from the operation of the Act. 383 accidents were reported to have occurred in the factories during the year as against 366 during the previous year. Five accidents were fatal, 39 were serious and 339 of a minor character. Consequent on the advancement of the Indian Standard Time by one hour, Government granted a general exemption permitting women workers to work between 8 a. m. and 6 p. m. Exemptions from certain sections of the Act were given to the Tile Works of Messrs Harrisons & Crosfield Ltd., Quilon, the A. D. Cotton Mills, Quilon, and the Rubber Factory of Messrs Aspinwall & Co., Ltd., Alleppey. The desirability of declaring certain industrial establishments wherein power is not used as 'factories' under Section 5 of the Factories Act was being considered by Government.

There were three labour strikes during the year, two being in Messrs Harrisons & Crosfield, Ltd., Quilon, and one in the Travancore Minerals Co., Ltd., Chavara. The workers in all the three factories of Messrs Harrisons & Crosfield Ltd., went on strike in Karkatakam 1117 demanding increment in wages, enhancement of dearness allowance, etc. The dispute was settled by agreement between the management and the labour representatives on the advice of the Labour Commissioner and the District Magistrate. The most noteworthy feature of the settlement was the opening of a grain store by the Firm from which efficient arrangements to distribute rice at controlled prices to the labourers were made, the Firm undertaking to compensate the stockist for the service he was rendering to the labourers. This arrangement was soon copied by various other industrial employers in Quilon and Alleppey with the result that it afforded a measure of relief to the labourers which was more valuable to them at the moment than even the increase in the dearness allowance. In Karkatakam 1118, the workers in the Engineering Department of the Company went on strike a second time. Both parties agreed to have the question in dispute settled by arbitration and the strike was called off.

In Chingom 1118 the workers of the Travancore Minerals Co., Ltd., Chayara, went on strike demanding redress of their grievances by the management. As a result of the discussions carried on by the Labour Commissioner with the management and the labour representatives certain arrangements and adjustments were resolved upon. These arrangements were accepted by labour and the strike was called off.

In the same month a dispute arose between Messrs Volkart Brothers Agency, Alleppey, and the Labour Union over the issue of the dismissal by the Firm of the whole gang of their loading and landing coolies. Both parties agreed to leave the issue for arbitration of the Labour Commissioner. The award given by him was accepted.

During the year 1118, seventeen cases of fatal accidents were reported and with the 9 cases pending disposal the number of cases for disposal was 26. Payment of compensation in respect of 11 cases was sanctioned and a sum of Bh. Rs. 2,970-15-8 was disbursed during the year as compensation. The remaining cases were in various stages of enquiry. Fourteen cases of accidents resulting in permanent or temporary disablement were reported during the year. Four such cases were pending disposal at the end of 1117. Of these 17 were settled by agreement and the memoranda of agreement in respect of these cases were registered in 1118 itself.

There were 31 registered Unions at the end of 1117. During 1118, eight new Unions were registered. Most of the Trade Unions relate to workers in factories such as coir factories, mineral factories, cashew factories, oil mills, engineering works, textile factories, etc. Recently there has been a move among labourers engaged in other factories also to organise themselves into Unions and four such Unions have been already registered.

#### **Economic Development Board.**

The Economic Development Board was constituted in order to co-ordinate the activities of the several development departments and to secure non-official advice on the development of the economic resources of the State, the establishment of new industries and the expansion of old ones. During the year, there were on the Board 24 members of whom 6 were officials and 18 non-officials.

There were two sessions of the Board in the year 'consisting of 4 days' meetings. The three sub-committees formed met six times in the year.

Acting on the resolutions passed by the sub-committees, the Board made recommendations to Government, about:—

*Business Transacted at Meetings.*

- (i) encouraging cultivation of tapioca, fruits and food grains;
- (ii) prohibiting the export of essential food-stuffs;
- (iii) proper distribution of food-stuffs;
- (iv) encouraging cottage industries like Charka spinning and hand pounding of rice;
- (v) adopting a suitable scheme of rural reconstruction;
- (vi) encouraging the working of institutions on co-operative principles; and
- (vii) increasing the output of fodder grass in the State.

On account of the rise in the cost of paper and printing the publication of the Travancore Economic Journal was suspended for the duration of the war.

*The Travancore Economic Journal.*

**Joint Stock Companies.**

*Registrar* Mr. K. Madhava Kurup, M. A.

The total number of companies on the rolls at the end of 1118 was 637, consisting of 464 working companies, 168 companies in liquidation and 5 defunct companies, against 572 in the previous year. The number of companies registered during the year rose from 31 in 1117 to 82 in 1118, of which 80 were limited by shares and 2 were associations not for profit.

*Number of Companies.*



There were 403 companies limited by shares on the rolls at the end of the year, of which 240 were public and 163 private companies, as against 356 companies in the previous year. The

*Companies limited by Shares.* authorised, subscribed and paid up capitals of these 403 companies were Rs. 14.31 crores, Rs. 4.76 crores and Rs. 13.85 crores respectively. The companies limited by shares were engaged in various spheres of business as follows :—

|  | 1117.      | 1118.      |
|--|------------|------------|
| Banking, loan and insurance ...                | 154        | 137        |
| Transit and transport ...                      | 17         | 17         |
| Trading and manufacturing ...                  | 101        | 142        |
| Mills and presses ...                          | 5          | 8          |
| Tea and other planting companies ...           | 65         | 87         |
| Mining and quarrying ...                       | 3          | 2          |
| Breweries and distilleries ...                 | 1          | 1          |
| Sugar (including jaggery) manufacture ...      | 2          | 2          |
| Hostels, theatres and entertainments .         | 3          | 3          |
| Companies other than those specified above ... | 5          | 5          |
| <b>Total</b> ...                               | <b>356</b> | <b>403</b> |

The number of companies that went into liquidation in the year 1118 was 27 and the total number of companies in liquidation at the end of 1118 was 165.

*Banking Companies.* There were 138 banks at work at the end of the previous year. Twenty-three banks ceased to function and two banks were registered during the year. There were thus 117 banks at work at the end of the year 1118.

*Associations not for Profit.* The number of associations at work at the end of 1117 was 51. Of these, one went into liquidation in 1118. Three associations became defunct and two of these were struck off the register and one remained on the rolls. Two associations were registered during the year, the number of associations thus working at the end of the year being 49 inclusive of the one limited by shares.

There were 77 foreign companies which had places of business in the State at the end of 1117. Nine established places of business in the State during the year. There were thus 86 Companies of foreign companies working in the State at the end of 1118. Of these, 12 were engaged in banking and loan, 8 in insurance, 4 in transit and transport, 31 in trading and manufacturing, 2 in mills and presses, 12 in tea and other planting, 11 in rubber, 2 in mining and quarrying and the rest in other miscellaneous work. Twenty-five companies were those incorporated in England, 5 in Scotland, 1 in Holland, 3 in the United States of America, 5 in Colombo, 41 in British India and 6 in Cochin.

The offices of 32 companies were inspected by the Registrar against 41 in the previous year and 263 companies were inspected by the Senior Inspector against 285 in 1117. Thus, out of the 464 companies working at the end of 1118, a total number of 295 companies was inspected.

The prosecutions launched against 7 companies were pending at the end of 1117 and 12 companies were prosecuted during the year. The prosecutions against 10 companies were withdrawn before the close of the year.

#### Co-operative Department.

Registrar.

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar B. A., Msc.  
(till the 24th Thulam 1118.)

Mr. K. Madhava Kurup M. A., (from the  
24th Thulam 1118 till the end of  
the year.)

The State is divided into three Co-operative divisions, the Southern, Central and Northern, and each division is further divided into circles. As in the previous year, the department followed the policy of rectification and consolidation of societies and also of cautious expansion.

There were three outstanding features of co-operative effort during the year viz., (1) the drive for intensive and extensive food production under the auspices of Co-operative Societies, (2) the distribution of controlled commodities in the State through the co-operative agency, and (3) the development of non-credit activities in existing credit societies.

The number of societies registered during the year was 77 against 19 in the previous year. It is significant that of the *Number* new societies registered, 44 were for purchase and *and Nature* sale. The number of societies whose registration *of Societies.* was cancelled was 8 against 21 in 1117. There were 1,533 societies on the rolls at the end of the year of which 60 had not started work. Thus the number of societies actually working was 1,473. The working societies in 1117 and 1118 are classified as follows:—

|   | 1117.        | 1118.        |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| 1. Central Bank ...   | 1            | 1            |
| 2. Central Institute ...  | 1            | 1            |
| 3. Central Wholesale Society ...  | 1            | 1            |
| 4. Central Weaving Society ...  | 1            | 1            |
| 5. Taluk Banks and Banking Unions ...                                     | 20           | 20           |
| 6. Supervising Unions ...   | 23           | 23           |
| 7. Urban Banks ...  | 18           | 17           |
| 8. Agricultural Credit Societies ...                                      | 992          | 1,007        |
| 9. Do. with production and sale ...                                       | 18           | 23           |
| 10. Non-agricultural Credit Societies ...                                 | 198          | 200          |
| 11. Do. with production and sale ...                                      | 25           | 25           |
| 12. Distributive Societies including School Stores and Sale Societies ... | 57           | 91           |
| 13. Multipurpose Societies ...  | 24           | 32           |
| 14. Other types ...   | 26           | 31           |
| <b>Total</b> ...  | <b>1,405</b> | <b>1,473</b> |

Of the 1,473 working societies, 1,245 were engaged mainly in credit business.



The number of members in all the Societies together rose from 1,76,291 in 1117 to 1,84,061 in 1118. The average membership per society was 128 in 1118 against 131 in the previous year. Classified according to occupation of the members of the societies excluding the Central Bank, 73,551 were agriculturists, 72,665 were non-agriculturists, 25,665 were both and 9,527 were artisans. There were 23,267 women members against 22,249 in the previous year. The proportion of women to men members was 1 to 7. Women members formed 0·8 per cent of the women population of the State. The total membership of the movement represented 3 per cent of the population of the State.

The following statement indicates the financial condition of the movement during the years 1117 and 1118 in respect of share capital, deposits and working capital of societies:—

|                            | Share capital. |               | Receipts under deposits. |               | Disbursements under deposits. |               | Working Capital |               |
|----------------------------|----------------|---------------|--------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
|                            | 1117           | 1118          | 1117                     | 1118          | 1117                          | 1118          | 1117            | 1118          |
|                            | Rs. in lakhs.  | Rs. in lakhs. | Rs. in lakhs.            | Rs. in lakhs. | Rs. in lakhs.                 | Rs. in lakhs. | Rs. in lakhs.   | Rs. in lakhs. |
| Central Bank               | 1·29           | 1·28          | 1·20                     | 1·63          | 3·69                          | 1·41          | 9·70            | 9·65          |
| Agricultural Societies     | 14·85          | 14·86         | 1·24                     | 3·68          | 1·30                          | 3·01          | 29·73           | 29·18         |
| Non-agricultural Societies | 12·51          | 12·69         | 6·95                     | 18·14         | 6·88                          | 15·10         | 30·08           | 31·00         |
| Total                      | 28·65          | 28·83         | 9·39                     | 23·45         | 11·87                         | 19·52         | 69·51           | 69·83         |

The total turn-over of all the societies together was Rs. 23·8 millions against Rs. 10 millions in 1117. The average turn-over per society was Rs. 16,469 and per member was Rs. 129 as against Rs. 7,820 and Rs. 59 respectively in the previous year.

The following statement gives the details of the loans issued in 1117 and 1118:—

*Loans.*

|                                | Loans to Societies. |        | Loans to Individuals. |          |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|--------|-----------------------|----------|
|                                | 1117.               | 1118   | 1117                  | 1118     |
|                                | B. Rs.              | B. Rs. | B. Rs.                | B. Rs.   |
| Central Bank                   | 3,846               | 1,500  | 7,515                 | 6,925    |
| Taluk Banks and Banking Unions | 1,43,992            | 43,209 | 49,985                | 72,432   |
| Primary Societies              | ..                  | ..     | 6,57,509              | 7,34,379 |

The demand for the year under principal was Rs. 42.27 lakhs of which a sum of Rs. 13.27 lakhs was collected leaving a balance of Rs. 29.00 lakhs at the end of the year, the percentage of balance to demand being 68.6 against 72.4 in the previous year. Of the sum of Rs. 13.57 lakhs due under interest, a sum of Rs. 3.68 lakhs was collected leaving a balance of Rs. 9.89 lakhs at the end of the year, the percentage of balance to demand being 72.9 against 75.4 in 1117. The Debt Relief Act enabled members to repay their loan dues in half-yearly instalments extending over a period of two to nine years.

A striking feature of the year was the phenomenal increase in the number of credit societies expanding their activities and undertaking non-credit work. As many as 397 credit societies against 41 in 1117 engaged themselves in distribution work and credit societies doing stores business made sales to the value of Rs. 20,48,297 against Rs. 1,83,342 in the previous year.

42 societies conducted chitties. The collections and disbursements were Rs. 38,578 and Rs. 26,721 respectively.

*Chitties.*

The Trivandrum Central Co-operative Bank was the first co-operative society to be registered in the State and it was designed to serve as the apex bank for the societies in the State. But on account of its unsatisfactory financial condition it was not able to function as the central financing agency. The reconstruction of the bank under a changed constitution which was under contemplation did not materialise during the year under report.

There was a fall in the membership as well as in the working capital of the bank. The loan issue was also limited. The net loss incurred in the year was Rs. 15,286 against Rs. 48,481 in the previous year.

Urban banks form the principal agency providing co-operative finance for the middle class population inhabiting the urban areas. The number of urban banks fell from 18 in 1117 to 17 in 1118. The working capital and paid up share capital of the urban banks were Rs. 5.24 lakhs and Rs. 2.09 lakhs respectively against Rs. 5.18 lakhs and Rs. 2.36 lakhs respectively for 1117.

The taluk banks constitute the financial agency interlinking the apex bank with the rural primary societies. Including the three banking unions the number of taluk banks was 20 as in the previous year. They had a working capital of Rs. 12.79 lakhs against Rs. 13.99 lakhs in the previous year and a paid up share capital of Rs. 4.88 lakhs against Rs. 4.98 lakhs in 1117. They issued loans to individuals and societies to the extent of Rs. 1.16 lakhs against Rs. 1.94 lakhs in the previous year.

The primary agricultural credit societies constitute the bulk of co-operative organisations in the State and the soundness of the co-operative structure depends on the soundness of these primary societies. The following figures show their position:—

| Particulars.          | 1117            | 1118            |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Number of societies   | 1,052           | 1,085           |
| Number of members     | 1,11,832        | 1,14,618        |
| Paid-up share capital | Rs. 14.85 lakhs | Rs. 14.86 lakhs |
| Working capital       | Rs. 29.73 lakhs | Rs. 29.18 lakhs |
| Reserve fund          | Rs. 6.95 lakhs  | Rs. 6.94 lakhs  |

The number of non-agricultural societies working at the end of the year was 363. The following figures show their position:—

| Particulars.          | 1117            | 1118            |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Number of societies   | 328             | 363             |
| Number of members     | 61,797          | 66,790          |
| Paid-up share capital | Rs. 12.51 lakhs | Rs. 12.69 lakhs |
| Working capital       | Rs. 30.08 lakhs | Rs. 31.00 lakhs |
| Reserve fund          | Rs. 3.46 lakhs  | Rs. 3.49 lakhs  |



There were 8 societies exclusively for women and they were engaged in diverse non-credit activities such as dairy *Women's Societies*, farming, weaving, etc.

The number of societies for Backward Communities remained the same as in the previous year namely 112. These societies were confined mainly to five communities, *viz.*, the Arayas, *Societies for* the Valas, the Coast Fishermen, the Cheramars *Backward Com-* and the Sambavars. These societies had a total *munities.* membership of 8,715, a paid up share capital of Rs. 69,125, a working capital of Rs. 1,26,924 and a reserve fund of Rs. 27,310.

There were 33 societies with a total membership of 12,802 for Government servants against 36 societies with a membership of 13,529 in 1117. The following figures show their position:—

| <i>Particulars.</i> | 1117           | 1118           |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Share capital       | Rs. 2.38 lakhs | Rs. 2.20 lakhs |
| Working capital     | Rs. 4.82 lakhs | Rs. 4.34 lakhs |
| Reserve fund        | Rs. 71,130     | Rs. 69,166     |

There were 17 artisan societies with a membership of 1,265 during the year against 19 societies in 1117. These societies had a share capital of Rs. 9,687, a working capital of Rs. 17,859 and a reserve fund of Rs. 3,405.

An unique feature of the year was that the consumers' movement spread appreciably and received an impetus from the changed conditions of agricultural economy. Credit was no longer the immediate need of the average ryot. The demand for commodities was greater and the work of distribution caught the imagination of co-operators generally. More distributive societies were therefore organised to participate in State controlled distribution of food materials and other essential articles. The non-credit societies are classified as follows:—

- (1) 91 Distributive societies and school co-operative stores and sale societies.

- (2) 2 Dairy farming societies, one at Thirumala and the other at Neyyattinkara.
- 1 Poultry Society at Marthandam.
- (3) 16 Rural reconstruction societies of which 14 were working.
- (4) 9 Weaving societies.
- (5) 2 Restaurants and 1 Co-operative Home.
- (6) 1 Humanitarian society which was not strictly an economic concern but one engaged in human welfare.
- (7) 3 Building societies and 1 Benefit Fund.
- (8) 32 Multipurpose societies.

The number of arbitration references pending disposal at the beginning of the year was 3,096 and the number of references filed during the year was 1,761. Of these 1,859 references were disposed of during the year leaving a balance of 2,998 references pending at the end of 1118.

*Disputes and litigation.*

The 26 taluk supervising unions (including the three Banking Unions) and the Travancore Co-operative Institute Ltd., constituted the main agency on the non-official side for supervision and propaganda. The working of many of the unions did not come up to the mark. The Advisory Committee on Co-operation submitted certain proposals for revitalising these unions and the Institute. Before the scheme could be implemented the year closed.

*Non-official supervision.*

Audit is a statutory function of the Registrar and accordingly the entire work was undertaken by the departmental officers. The twelve auditors appointed in 1117 continued their work during the year under report. Of the 1,473 societies working during the year all except 28 were audited. The records of twenty societies were not made available for audit and those of eight were in civil courts.

*Inspection and audit.*

The cost to Government during the year in working the Co-operative Societies Act was Rs. 97,464 as against Rs. 91,838 in the previous year and the average cost to Government per society in 1118 was Rs. 63.9 against Rs. 62.7 in 1117. *Cost of working the Co-operative Societies Act:* The expenditure incurred by the societies themselves in their working increased from Rs. 2.03 lakhs in 1117 to Rs. 2.41 lakhs in 1118. The percentage of cost to the aggregate working capital was 3.5 against 2.9 and the average cost per society was Rs. 164 against Rs. 148 in the previous year. Government are gratified to note the increase in non-credit activities in relation to the co-operative movement.

#### Patent Office.

*Controller of Patents and Designs and Registrar of Trade Marks.*

*Mr. C. Kumara Das, B. A., M. Sc., F. I. C. (From 1-1-1118 to 18-2-1118.)*

*Mr. C. P. Gopala Panicker, B. A., B. L., (From 19-2-1118 till the end of the year.)*

Seven patents in respect of the following inventions were sealed during the year under report:—

- i. The Titanium Cosmetic Face Powder.
- ii. to iv. Improvements in or relating to the extraction of cashewnut shell oil (3 separate processes).
- v. Method and apparatus for processing raw cashewnut seeds and for extraction of oil from the nuts of the seeds.
- vi. The economic method of preparing sago preparations from tapioca starch.
- vii. An improved lamp to burn vegetable oil or kerosene oil.

Of the above, 3 patents were registered in favour of Travancoreans and the rest in favour of British Indian subjects.

The number of applications for patents received during the year was 35 against 15 during the previous year. Thirty-one patents were renewed against 33 in 1117. Eleven patents lapsed owing to non-payment of renewal fees.

No design was registered during the year.



Under Section 80 of the Travancore Trade Marks Act which enables the deposit of trade marks in the Patent Office by intending applicants for registration, 587 applications were received during the year for deposit of trade marks. Including the 25 such applications received before the close of the previous year, there were 612 applications for disposal. Of these, certificates of deposit were issued in respect of 419 applications, 3 applications were rejected as defective and the rest were pending scrutiny at the close of the year.

The total receipts in the year on account of the working of the Patents and Designs Act and the Trade Marks Act amounted to Rs. 3,612 and the expenditure to Rs. 408, the corresponding amounts for the previous year being Rs. 2,423 and Rs. 328.

#### **Uplift of Backward Communities.**

The year under report witnessed a many-sided expansion in the activities of the Department for the Uplift of Backward Communities.

*General.* There was, however, no change in the general policy or working of the department. The main items of uplift work comprised the following, *viz.*, assignment of lands on concessional terms, establishment of colonies and centres for intensive amelioration work, provision of common buildings for social and religious congregations, provision of wells, burial grounds and approach roads, exploring avenues for employment in public service, grant of educational concessions, maintenance of free hostels, organisation of thrift societies, popularisation of industries and other miscellaneous items of ameliorative work. During the year an Inspector was appointed for the organisation of thrift societies among the labouring classes belonging to the backward communities.

Land is assigned on concessional terms to individual families of backward communities and also to families living in compact blocks of lands. The total extent of land assigned on concessional terms to the members of backward communities was 120.4 acres in 1118.

*Assignment of Lands on Concessional Terms.*

Colonies for backward communities were in existence in the following places, viz., Sachivottampuram near Kottayam, Narikulam

*Colonies.* and Veliyathnad. The Sachivottampuram Colony is the largest of the colonies having an extent of about 113 acres of land. The thrift society organised in the colony worked satisfactorily during the year. The construction of a weaving factory in the colony was nearing completion towards the end of the year. The work in connection with the opening of a colony at Anchamada was in progress and 12 houses were constructed during the year.

*General Ameliorative Measures.* Provision of common buildings for social and congregational purposes was one of the important items of work attended to by the department. The work in connection with the construction of common buildings at Cherinad, Edayarammala, Elangamangalam, and Manickamangalam was continued during the year. In pursuance of the policy of providing drinking water in centres inhabited by backward communities, 14 new wells were sunk and 19 old ones were repaired. Sixteen burial grounds were also provided in different parts of the State. Intensive amelioration work was continued at the Pacode Centre.

The revised scheme for the grant of fee concessions to pupils of backward communities in Schools and Colleges and the classification of backward communities made therefor towards the

*Educational Concessions.* end of 1112 M. E. were followed during the year under report. Seventeen students of backward communities were given grants for the payment of their

University examination fees. Poor and deserving pupils of backward communities in the English, Malayalam, Tamil and Sanskrit Schools were exempted from the payment of fees for their examinations. Stipends and scholarships also were given to deserving students. The free supply of Malayalam and Tamil readers to all the children of backward communities reading in classes III and IV of the Malayalam and Tamil Schools of the State was continued during the year. A sum of Rs. 1,933 was available during the year by way of interest on the endowment of Rs. 76,329 made by the Temple Entry Proclamation Memorial Committee to afford better facilities for the higher education of members of the backward communities.

In furtherance of the established policy of Government in the matter of uplift of backward communities two free Harijan hostels were newly opened during the year, one at Kottayam and the other at Nagercoil. Grants were also paid during the year for the maintenance of 22 institutions intended for the children of backward communities comprising hostels, orphanages, reading rooms, libraries, etc.

A distinct advance was made towards the popularisation of cottage industries in the colonies of backward communities. Three candidates from among the backward communities were selected and sent to Madras at Government expense for being trained in the manufacture of hand-made paper.

The expenditure incurred in 1918 for the uplift of backward communities amounted to Rs. 1.44 lakhs.



## CHAPTER X.

### PUBLIC WORKS.

#### The Public Works Department.

Chief Engineer:

Mr. J. W. Chacko, Chief Engineer, Workshops and War Industries.

Mr. I. C. Chacko, B. Sc., Chief Engineer, Roads, Irrigation and Miscellaneous.

A sum of Rs. 30.98 lakhs was spent on public works during 1118, excluding a stock suspense of Rs. 5.19 lakhs and the cost of contribution works executed by the department on which a separate expenditure of Rs. 3.79 lakhs was incurred.

Outlay.

Of the total expenditure, a sum of Rs. 28.98 lakhs was spent on ordinary public works charged to revenue including the Road Development Fund against Rs. 26.96 lakhs in 1117. A net sum of Rs. 2.00 lakhs was spent on capital works not charged to revenue. This expenditure was mainly under the following items:—

|  | Rs. in lakhs. |
|--|---------------|
| Town Planning Scheme, Trivandrum                                 | 0.48          |
| Military works   | 0.86          |
| Travancore House, Madras   | 0.21          |
| University buildings   | 0.22          |
| Dustless surfacing to Main Southern Road from Trivandrum to Cape | 0.23          |

The development of communications has always formed an important item in the State's programme of Public Works. Funds are provided from the general revenues for the construction and maintenance of roads. A 'Road Development Fund' has been instituted, solely for the purpose of opening and improving trunk roads. The existing road

system, which is well co-ordinated within the State itself, is connected with the road systems of the adjacent British Indian Districts and the Cochin State, so as to ensure through traffic. There are main arterial roads throughout the length and breadth of the State to which is linked a network of subsidiary and feeder roads. The road system also connects the internal waterways and ports. It has further been constructed in such a manner as to open up and serve important planting areas and industrial centres. The phenomenal increase in motor traffic during recent years has led to the elaboration of a programme for widening the old highways to suit modern requirements and the allotment of increased maintenance grants. The major portion of the expenditure incurred by the Public Works Department from year to year has been under the item of communications. The expenditure during the year under report was Rs. 16.34 lakhs against Rs. 15.29 lakhs in 1117. Of this, a sum of Rs. 4.22 lakhs was spent on the construction of new roads and bridges and for improvements to the existing ones, and the balance of Rs. 12.12 lakhs was spent for the maintenance of the existing means of communication in the State. The length of the roads newly opened and of those newly improved was 9 and 58 miles respectively against 12 and 85 miles respectively in 1117. The total length of communications maintained during the year was 5,580 miles consisting of 1,242 miles of metalled roads, 2,451 miles of unmetalled roads, 997 miles of village roads including cart tracks, 62 miles of planters' roads, 438 miles of traces and 390 miles of navigation canals and backwaters. The average cost of maintenance per mile was Rs. 515 for metalled roads, Rs. 148 for unmetalled roads, Rs. 21 for village roads, Rs. 118 for planters' roads, Rs. 22 for traces and Rs. 218 for navigation canals and backwaters.

The dustless surfacing of the main Southern road from Trivandrum to Cape was completed during the year.

Till recently, Government alone were responsible for constructing and maintaining roads in the State. Within the past few years, however, private enterprise has voluntarily come forward *Ryots' Roads.* to co-operate with Government in opening new lines of communication. There is a system of "ryots' roads" under which the roads are opened by the people themselves, the department merely advising alignment and constructing the

necessary bridges and culverts. The roads, if satisfactory, are subsequently taken over and maintained by Government who assume the lands covered by the roads on payment of nominal compensation and record them as *poramboke*.

The expenditure incurred on buildings was Rs. 4.30 lakhs against Rs. 4.28 lakhs in the previous year. Of this, a sum of Rs. 2.42 lakhs was spent on the construction of new buildings and special repairs and improvements to the existing ones and the balance was spent on annual repairs and maintenance.

The expenditure incurred on protective irrigation works during the year under report was Rs. 1.22 lakhs against Rs. 1.28 lakhs in 1117. Of this, a sum of Rs. 0.98 lakh was spent on the construction of new irrigation works and preservation of existing ones and the balance on the maintenance of the existing sources of irrigation.

The Kodayar Irrigation system is the most important irrigation work in the State. The gross outlay on the work up to the end of the year was Rs. 88.07 lakhs and the net outlay till the end of the year was Rs. 81.25 lakhs. The gross revenue from the project was Rs. 1.96 lakhs and the net revenue was Rs. 0.92 lakh against Rs. 1.57 lakhs in 1117. As in the previous year, a total length of 326.94 miles of irrigation channels was maintained within the system and the area of assessed lands which had the benefit of water from the Kodayar Reservoir during 1118 was 56,596 acres against 56,498 acres in 1117.

The outlay on establishment during the year was Rs. 4.33 lakhs against Rs. 4.10 lakhs in 1117, and the cost of establishment was 14.9 per cent. on the gross outlay excluding that on capital works not charged to revenue against 15.2 per cent. in the previous year.

The P. W. D. Workshops undertake works for Government and also for private parties. The number of work orders taken up for execution during 1118 was 2,421 against 2,547 in 1117, and of these 1,855 orders were completed before the close of the year under report.



A quantity of 1,00,198 lbs. of ice was manufactured in the Workshops during the year under report. Of this, 61,321 lbs. were issued, 882 lbs. carried over to the accounts for 1119, and the balance was wasted due to melting, the wastage being nearly 38 per cent. of the total manufactured quantity against 43 per cent. in the previous year.

As in the previous year, the P. W. D. Advisory Committee held four meetings and selected the works to be included in the budget for 1119. The members of the sub-committees travelled, as usual, to the different parts of the State to study at first hand the requirements of the various localities.

The standing committee for restoration of tanks and storage reservoirs also functioned throughout the year.

Till the close of 1111 M. E. there was a separate Maramat Department, under a Maramat Engineer, for the execution of works connected with Devaswoms, *Oottupuras* (feeding houses), *sattrams* (rest houses) and other charitable institutions. The Maramat Department was amalgamated with the Public Works Department under the control of the Chief Engineer in 1112. A Maramat Committee was subsequently constituted to scrutinise the estimates of the Devaswom works. The expenditure incurred on account of Government Maramat works during the year amounted to Rs. 76,255 and that on account of Devaswom Maramat works amounted to Rs. 58,325.

During the year the Maramat Committee scrutinised 54 estimates for Devaswom Maramat works.

### Railways.

The total length of the Railway line in the State is 98 miles excluding the portion of the Cochin-Shoranur railway running through the Travancore territory in the Alwaye P. W. Division.

The Quilon-Shencotta section of the Travancore railway is worked under a guarantee in respect of interest on the capital spent thereon by the British Government. The capital required for the Quilon-Trivandrum (Chakai) line was met by this Government; but

the extension from Chakai to the heart of the City (Trivandrum Central) was constructed by the State and handed over to the South Indian Railway for working.

The capital outlay to the end of March 1943 was as follows:—

|   |     |                       |
|---|-----|-----------------------|
| Shencotta-Quilon section                  | ... | Bh. Rs. 139.80 lakhs. |
| Quilon-Trivandrum (old Chakai station)... | ..  | 50.89 lakhs.          |
| Chakai-Trivandrum Central                 | ... | 27.96 lakhs.          |

The Capital expenditure for the year ended March 1943 on the Quilon-Trivandrum section excluding the Chakai-Thampanoor extension was Bh. Rs. 1,19,436 (credit) against Bh. Rs. 6,649 (debit) in the previous year.

The working of the Travancore railway during the year under report resulted in a gain of Bh. Rs. 5.11 lakhs including interest on capital against Rs. 3.58 lakhs in 1942.

The Financial Secretary to Government continued to represent Government in the South Indian Railway (Local) Advisory Committee Board.

#### Water Works and Drainage.

At a capital cost of about Rs. 57 lakhs, Government have provided the Trivandrum City with a protected water supply which is one of

*The Willingdon Water Works, Trivandrum.* the most complete and up-to-date water supply projects in India. The project is worked by Government through the Water Works and Drainage Engineering Department; and the Trivandrum Corporation makes an annual contribution towards the working expenses meeting the cost by levying a water tax at the rate of 3 per cent. on the annual rental value of all the buildings situated within its limits and from the metered rating from house connections and other miscellaneous water receipts. In point of chemical and bacteriological purity, safety and clarity, the water distributed from the Water Works stands comparison with the water in any other town supply in the world and is decidedly superior to the water distributed in many Indian towns, the standard of purity of water distributed being similar to that adopted by the Metropolitan Water Board, London, for its supply. Samples of the

filtrate and water from the street fountains are collected daily and examined in the laboratory. A total quantity of 357.451 million gallons of water was sent down for distribution during the year against 372.316 million gallons in 1117. The cost of maintenance and operation per 1,000 gallons of water in 1118 was chs. 7 and cash 6 against chs. 6 and cash 3 in the previous year. The rate charged for 1,000 gallons was chs. 21 (annas 11 and pies 9) if the supply was for domestic purposes and double the above amount if the supply was for non-domestic purposes. The quantity of water supplied free through street taps was 202.955 million gallons against 211.214 million gallons in 1117.

The number of street fountains during the year was 620 against 622 in the previous year. There were 2,263 meters in service in 1118 against 2,215 in 1117.

The Reservoir at Aruvikarai was overflowing the dam on all days of the year and the maximum level of water in the reservoir was 148.6 feet and the minimum level was 145.29 feet.

The gross receipts from the Willingdon Water Works for the year 1118 amounted to Rs. 1,34,276 and the working expenses including miscellaneous advance amounted to Rs. 93,965.

#### Mofussil Water Works.

Her Highness Maharani Setu Parvati Bayi Water Works at Alleppey was brought into service in 1115. The Alleppey Municipality collects the water tax and pays to Government the maintenance charges under special agreement with Government that half the capital cost of the project with 4½ per cent. interest will be repaid to Government in 35 equal instalments. The Municipality is in addition to the maintenance charges, making the annual payment under the agreement. Free supply of water through street fountains to the public which was started after the inauguration of the scheme in 1115 was continued during the year 1118 also. The supply of good protected water in the town contributed much towards the prevention of the spreading of cholera.



The project was nearly completed by the end of the *Nagercoil Water Supply Scheme* year.

The installation of electric pumping plant at Shencotta, which was kept in abeyance for want of materials, was taken up towards the end of 1118 and the work was in progress when the year closed. Protected water supply to the town was however continued throughout the year as in previous years.

The laying of sewers was in progress throughout the year with the pipes available. The total length of sewers of various sizes laid till the end of the year was nearly 59½ miles against nearly 58 miles at the end of 1117. The man-holes, lamp holes and other masonry works in the portion of the sewers laid during the year were also constructed. House connections were given to the sewers already laid with syphon traps. The total number of house connections completed by the end of the year 1118 was 4,675 and further, more septic tanks of the public latrines were connected to the sewer system. The expenditure incurred on the Trivandrum Drainage Scheme till the end of 1118 including investigation was Rs. 22.52 lakhs.

#### Electrical Department.

*Electrical Engineer  
to Government.*

*Rajyasevapravina*

*K. P. Padmanabha Menon,*

*B. A., B. Sc. (Hons), D. I. C.*

*M. I. E. E., M. T. Mech. E.,*

*M. I. E.*

The Department continued to maintain its steady progress throughout the year in spite of the restrictions necessarily imposed on its activities as a result of the war in respect of the supply and transport of materials from abroad and from the available sources in India. However, with the limited stock of materials available in the departmental stores and with those that were received during the year on specific sanctions accorded by the Electrical Commissioner with the Government of India, certain extensions were carried out primarily for the supply of power for agricultural requirements to increase the food production in

the State and for meeting the needs of certain industries engaged on war supply. Owing to the growing demands for power for agricultural operations, which were necessitated as a result of the serious food shortage in the State and also to meet the further requirements of the Aluminium Factory at Always, negotiations were started with the Government of Madras and the Government of India for the purchase of a block of power from their Papanasam Project. The formal sanction of the Government of Madras for the supply of 3,000 K. W. from Papanasam was received during the year. Sanction was also received from His Majesty's Government for the importation of a 7,500 K. W. generating set and a 3rd penstock for the Pallivasal Project. The contracts already placed with the manufacturing firms for these which had to be suspended some time ago were therefore revived. In the meantime, the survey of the 66 K. V. Transmission Line to link up the Papanasam with the Pallivasal System at Kundara was taken up during the latter half of the year.

The supply of power from the Pallivasal Project continued to be maintained satisfactorily throughout the year. The total generation and the maximum demand showed a substantial increase over those of the last year.

The progress of the working of the Trunk Telephone System was also very satisfactory during the year. There was an appreciable increase in both the number of trunk calls and in the number of telephone subscribers.

The local Broadcasting Station commenced operation during the year, after it was formally inaugurated in Kumbhom and there has been weekly transmission from the station since then.

The first stage of development of the Pallivasal Hydro—Electric Project was completed in Medom 1115. The project passed through its third year of operation in Medom 1118. The capital outlay on the scheme till the end of the year under report including the Civil Works now in progress for the 2nd stage Extension and the investment on the Quilon Electric Supply was Rs. 1,95,12,037. The net revenue realised during the year was Rs. 5,40,858 and the working expenses amounted to Rs. 3,43,409. The total generation during the year was 39.44 million units with a peak load of 9,200 K. W.

To meet the situation arising out of the shortage of food in the State, several blocks of rice fields in the Vembanad Reclamation which would normally have remained fallow, were brought under cultivation during the year. These fields were dewatered by special pumps driven by electricity and an extensive net work of distribution lines was constructed for this purpose on a permanent basis. The total area thus dewatered was over 7200 acres in the Vembanad Reclamation. Besides this, the supply was extended to 9 places in North Travancore for lift irrigation and a total area of 900 acres of rice fields was brought under cultivation for raising second crop.

An important load connected up during the year was the Aluminium Factory at Alwaye which commenced operation from Makaram 1118 taking a supply of 4500 K. W. It is gratifying to note that the supply to this factory was maintained very satisfactorily throughout the year.

The supply to the Cochin State was also maintained satisfactorily during the year. The maximum demand had however to be restricted to 400 K. W. in view of the fact that there was no additional power to spare from Pallivasal.

The extension of the Hydro-Electric Supply to Trivandrum to take on a part of the load of the City came into operation from the 1st Chingom 1118. About 250 K. W. of the total load of the City was being catered by the Pallivasal *Trivandrum Electric Supply* Project on all week days and the entire load on Sundays.

The demand for house service connection continued to be on the increase during the year consequent on the shortage of kerosene oil, and the Department made every effort to comply with the demand to the extent of the availability of service connection materials. The capital expenditure on this undertaking till the end of the year was Rs. 12,16,275. The net revenue for the year amounted to Rs. 52,686 after setting apart Rs. 91,000 towards the Depreciation Fund. The total energy received from Pallivasal during the year was 1.605 million units, and the total generation from the thermal plant was 0.564 million units. The supply to the City was maintained satisfactorily throughout the year.



Besides the towns and villages served direct by the Hydro-Electric System, there are other places in the State which are supplied with electric power by private agencies who either make their own arrangements for the generation of power or purchase power in bulk from the Department. *Other Electric Supply Under-takings.* Power from the Pallivasal Hydro-Electric Project was supplied to the K. D. H. P. Company Distribution area in the High Ranges and to the Kottayam Electric Supply Agency (for the Kottayam Town), while the supply of power to Nagercoil and Shencottah was undertaken by Licensees who worked their own thermal plants. These agencies continued to supply power in their respective areas as in the previous year.

The All-Travancore Trunk Telephone Scheme was completed and linked up with the general Trunk Telephone System of British India in the year 1115. There was a large demand for telephone connections but owing to the difficulty in getting instruments and switch board equipments, several applications for services could not be complied with. *Trunk Telephone.* The total length of trunk lines at the end of the year was 714 miles.

There were 57 Exchanges and Public Call Offices at the end of the year against 35 at the end of the previous year. Owing to the increase in the cost of maintenance of telephone lines and equipments, the rentals for telephone connections were enhanced by 20 per cent with effect from the 1st Edavam 1118.

The Capital Outlay on the Telephone till the end of the year was Rs. 12,09,564. The net revenue for the year amounted to Rs. 69,178.

The Radio and Broadcasting Scheme in the State provides, for a 5 K. W. Medium Wave Station in Trivandrum. The wave length of 455.926 metres was allowed to the station by the Government of India.

The erection of the Transmitter Equipment was satisfactorily completed by the Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd., and the installation was formally taken over on 12th March 1943. One of the rooms in the Transmitter Station was fitted up as a temporary Studio and the broadcast from the station was formally inaugurated on 12th March 1943 by Her Highness Maharani Setu Parvati Bayi. For want of sufficient spares, only a weekly programme of broadcasts is being arranged at present.

The expenditure on this scheme till the end of 1118 was Rs. 1,23,003.

## CHAPTER XI.

### COMMERCE.

#### Trade.

The total value of the import trade of Travancore rose from Rs. 9.87 crores in 1117 to Rs. 14.34 crores in 1118 and that of exports from Rs. 15.38 crores to Rs. 16.54 crores. The balance of trade in favour of the State was Rs. 2.20 crores as against Rs. 5.51 crores in 1117.

*Value of Trade.*

Of the import trade, 6.59 per cent. was carried on by land, 15.27 per cent. by railway, 77.47 per cent. by backwater and 0.67 per cent. by sea. Of the export trade, 7.90 per cent. was carried on by land, 16.09 per cent. by railway, 75.56 per cent. by backwater and 0.45 per cent. by sea.

*Carriage of Trade.*

The subjoined statement shows the quantity and value of some of the most important articles imported during the years 1117 and 1118:—

| Articles.                        | Unit. | Quantity. |           | Value.      |             |
|----------------------------------|-------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-------------|
|                                  |       | 1117      | 1118      | 1117        | 1118        |
|                                  |       |           |           | Bh. Rs.     | Bh. Rs.     |
| Rice                             | Tons. | 188,737   | 109,828   | 2,53,25,100 | 2,41,34,837 |
| Paddy                            | do.   | 32,815    | 5,774     | 27,90,742   | 6,10,475    |
| Sugar and sugar candy            | do.   | 5,000     | 4,784     | 12,33,754   | 18,52,886   |
| Kerosene                         | Gals. | 6,291,471 | 4,534,046 | 66,03,630   | 52,08,683   |
| Petrol                           | do.   | 1,431,638 | 1,585,087 | 24,78,352   | 30,45,237   |
| Cashewnuts                       | Tons. | 23,786    | 7,203     | 45,05,764   | 14,29,057   |
| Tobacco and preparations thereof | ..    | ..        | ..        | 40,96,040   | 30,06,979   |
| Textiles                         | ..    | ..        | ..        | 1,63,90,713 | 1,67,27,753 |

The import of almost all the chief items under merchandise such as rice, cashewnuts, tobacco, kerosene oil, metals and ores etc., recorded a fall during the year due to war conditions.

There was an increase in the exports of betel nuts, ginger, pepper, coconut oil, copra and fish. The other important articles of export like cashew kernels, mineral sands, coir and coir manufactures and lemon grass oil, registered a heavy fall. The following statement shows the quantity and value of the important articles of export for the years 1117 and 1118 :—

| Articles.       | Unit.  | Quantity.  |            | Value.      |             |
|-----------------|--------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
|                 |        | 1117       | 1118       | 1117        | 1118        |
| Betel nuts      | Candy. | 10,101     | 16,839     | 23,11,052   | 44,69,496   |
| Pepper          | do.    | 48,250     | 54,727     | 52,34,908   | 1,12,64,211 |
| Cardamoms       | Cwts.  | 14,276     | 13,037     | 30,29,189   | 22,30,329   |
| Ginger          | do.    | 115,344    | 124,253    | 36,00,938   | 66,58,937   |
| Cashew kernels  | do.    | 232,260    | 60,791     | 91,87,581   | 26,84,252   |
| Copra           | do.    | 322,323    | 340,725    | 45,11,945   | 75,91,780   |
| Coconut oil     | do.    | 475,606    | 542,508    | 91,29,889   | 1,93,65,562 |
| Tea             | Lbs.   | 42,393,385 | 42,302,952 | 3,22,69,147 | 3,74,27,181 |
| Rubber, raw     | do.    | 30,462,320 | 28,139,888 | 1,65,48,582 | 1,68,09,257 |
| Lemon grass oil | do.    | 1,056,280  | 464,182    | 19,24,795   | 5,25,060    |
| Ilmenite        | Tons.  | 30,043     | 5,354      | 6,74,430    | 1,38,592    |
| Monazite        | do.    | 2,419      | 2,727      | 2,98,731    | 3,20,814    |
| Fish            | Cwts.  | 223,901    | 247,813    | 14,58,186   | 23,08,104   |
| Coir            | .      | ...        | ...        | 1,37,87,419 | 1,07,55,020 |



## CHAPTER XII.

### MEDICAL RELIEF, PUBLIC HEALTH AND VITAL STATISTICS.

#### Medical Department.

*Surgeon-General.*

*Dr. K. P. Raman Pillai, M. B. B. S.,  
F. R. C. S.*

*(Till 19th Makaram 1118).*

*Mr. S. John, L. M. & S., L. R. C. S. E.,  
J. R. F. P. & S., M. R. C. P., D. T. M. & H.  
(From 19th Makaram 1118 till the end of  
the year).*

The policy of Government has been to see that proper medical aid is placed within easy reach of all classes of people in the State and till the year 1116 free medical aid and free supply of medicines were made available to the public—rich and poor alike—in all the medical institutions maintained by Government. But in view of the growing attendance of patients in hospitals, Government felt that some discrimination should be shown in the matter of giving free medical aid and decided upon introducing a payment system in the hospitals. A schedule of rates for payment was introduced, as an experimental measure, in seven of the important hospitals in the State in 1116 and since the scheme worked satisfactorily, it was extended to all the hospitals in the State during 1117. The scheme was continued throughout the year 1118 also.

An encouraging feature in the working of the Medical Department is the rapidly growing co-operation of the public in providing greater facilities in hospitals. Several donations were received from the public in recent years for the construction of operation theatres, maternity wards, pay wards etc., and 17 dispensaries in different parts of the State are held in buildings provided by the public.

A scheme for the decentralisation of the Medical Department with a view to its better administration was given effect to as a temporary measure from the 1st Vrischigam 1118. According to this scheme, all the medical institutions at the headquarters and all special institutions such as the Victoria Hospital, Quilon, the Leper Colony, Noornad, the Tuberculosis Hospital, Nagercoil, etc., in the various parts of

*Administrative changes*

the State and all the grant-in-aid institutions in the State were placed under the direct control of the Surgeon-General. The remaining medical institutions in the State were divided into four groups, corresponding to the following four Districts :—

Nagercoil District,  
Quilon District,  
Alleppey District, and  
Kottayam District.

Each District was placed under the charge of a District Medical Officer of the rank of not below that of a Deputy Surgeon.

The future policy of the Government will be to concentrate on the development of a few Central Hospitals at important mofussil centres such as Quilon, Alleppey and Kottayam, besides the General Hospital at Trivandrum. The remaining hospitals and dispensaries will serve as feeder institutions to these Central Hospitals.

A scheme by which the services of retired medical officers could be utilised both by the public and the medical officers in the institutions in Trivandrum was introduced during the year under report. In pursuance of this scheme, Vaidyasastrakusala Mrs. M. Poonen Lukose B. A., M. B. B. S., L. M., Retired Surgeon General, was appointed as Consulting Obstetrician to the Women and Children's Hospital, Trivandrum, and M. R. Ry. Vaidyasastranipuna L. A. Ravi Varma Avl., M. B. C. M., D. O. M. S., Retired Senior Surgeon, was appointed as Consultant to the Ophthalmic Hospital, Trivandrum.

The number of Government medical institutions in the State rose from 99 in 1117 to 111 in 1118—32 Hospitals, 75 dispensaries and 4 leprosy survey and treatment groups. Of the *Medical Institutions* dispensaries, seven were for the treatment of malaria and one was an itinerant dispensary for the treatment of yaws. The number of medical institutions receiving grant-in-aid remained the same as in 1117 viz., 23.

The professional staff of the department during the year consisted of the Surgeon General, 5 Surgeons, 17 Deputy Surgeons, 45 Assistant Surgeons, 89 Sub-Assistant Surgeons, 16 Honorary House Surgeons, 4 temporary Assistant Surgeons and 39 temporary Sub-Assistant Surgeons. The *Medical Officers* scheme introduced in 1115 of entertaining medical volunteers in the various hospitals with a view to giving them experience and training was continued in 1118 also and three volunteers were newly entertained during the year.

The extent of medical relief afforded during 1117 and 1118 is shown in the following statement:—

*Medical Relief.*

| Particulars.                          | 1117.     | 1118      |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Number of in-patients treated         | 96,087    | 96,753    |
| Number of out-patients treated        | 23,12,095 | 20,96,994 |
| Daily average of in and out-patients  | 19,866.3  | 18,634.25 |
| Number of beds available              | 4,074     | 4,325     |
| Percentage of mortality               | 3.97      | 4.53      |
| Number of surgical operations         | 1,05,501  | 1,13,605  |
| Post-mortem examinations-Medico-legal | 589       | 677       |
| Do. Pathological                      | 61        | 29        |

The General Hospital, Trivandrum, ranked foremost in the matter of out-patient attendance, the number being 71,516. The Fort Hospital, Trivandrum, the Victoria Hospital, Quilon and the Women and Children's Hospital, Trivandrum, followed next in order with an attendance of 66,003, 61,434 and 57,280 respectively. In regard to in-patient attendance also, the General Hospital, Trivandrum, took the lead with 18,150 patients, followed by the Women and Children's Hospital, Trivandrum (12,625), the Victoria Hospital, Quilon (6,688), and the District Hospital, Kottayam (5,530).

The treatment and care of expectant mothers and of infants received careful attention at the hands of the department. One hundred and six midwives were at work during the year under report, and they attended 11,222 cases of labour making an average of 105.87 cases per midwife against 132.01 in the previous year.

There were 43 European nursing sisters, 8 Indian nursing sisters, 1 nurse, 98 trained nurses and 40 sick nurses. A class for giving training to girls in nursing was started in the General Hospital, Trivandrum, with effect from the 20th Dhanu 1118 with 31 candidates, of whom 18 were stipendiaries and the rest non-stipendiaries. The course extends over three years.



Anti-rabic treatment was introduced as an experimental measure for one year in the Government Hospital, Kozhencherry.

*Anti-rabic Treatment.*

The General Hospital, Trivandrum is the biggest hospital in the State where the latest and the most up-to-date systems of treatment and appliances are available.

*General Hospital, Trivandrum.*

The number of surgical operations performed rose from 12,224 in 1117 to 13,044 in 1118. The percentage of mortality among operated cases was 0.59 in 1118 against 0.44 in 1117.

In the X-ray and Electro-Therapeutic Section of the hospital, 2,380 patients were examined and treated against 2,460 in 1117.

The Dental Section treated 10,435 patients against 10,368 in 1117; and the Ear, Nose and Throat Section treated 2,824 patients against 3,528 in the previous year. 286 patients against 259 in 1117 were treated in the Radium Ward. The number of cases examined in the Clinical Laboratory was 35,794 against 47,954 in the previous year.

The number of in-patients treated during the year was 12,625 i. e., 372 more than in 1117; but the number of out-patients fell from 63,887 to 57,280. Obstetric and gynaecological cases numbered 3,578 and 13,010 respectively. The number of surgical operations performed in the hospital was 10,489 against 9,972 in 1117, the percentage of mortality among operated cases being 0.11 against 0.18 in 1117.

*Women and Children's Hospital, Trivandrum.*

There was a fall in the number of both in-patients and out-patients treated in the hospital from 2,047 and 34,698 in 1117 to 1,851 and 32,700 respectively in 1118. But the number of surgical operations performed rose from 1,445 in 1117 to 1,551 in 1118.

*Ophthalmic Hospital, Trivandrum.*

The number of patients treated in the hospital during the year was 225, of whom 14 were cured, 6 improved, 3 were discharged without improvement and 26 died. Thus there were 176 patients under treatment in the hospital at the close of the year under report.

*Hospital for Mental Diseases, Trivandrum.*

The Leper Colony is not only an asylum for lepers but also a hospital where the patients are treated medically. In order to make the atmosphere of the colony wholesome and congenial to the inmates, facilities are provided for their recreation, education and religious worship.

*Leper Colony,  
Noornad.*

899 patients were treated in the hospital during the year under report. In the case of 24 patients, the disease was arrested; 41 patients improved while 415 patients did not improve and 69 died. The number of patients in the hospital at the end of the year was 350 against 418 at the end of the previous year.

The Tuberculosis Hospital, Nagercoil, began functioning from the 23rd Thulam 1118. The Tuberculosis Section of the General Hospital, Trivandrum, was discontinued and the patients were removed to the Tuberculosis Hospital, Nagercoil, on the same date. The Tuberculosis Hospital is equipped with the latest appliances and X-ray apparatus. 235 in-patients were treated in the hospital during 1118. The number of out-patients treated was 4,718.

*Tuberculosis  
Hospital, Nager-  
coil.*

The receipts of the department during the year amounted to Rs. 38,775 and the expenditure was Rs. 11'89 lakhs.

*Receipts and  
Expenditure.*

#### Ayurveda Department.

*Honorary Director.*

*Mr. C. N. Narayanan Moose.  
(Till the 22nd Edavam 1118.)*

*Vaidyasastranipuna L. A. Ravi  
Varma, M. B. & C. M. (Madras)  
D. O. M. S. (London.)*

*(From 22nd Edavam till the end  
of the year.)*

An Ayurveda *Patasala* (school) was first established in 1065 M. E. (1889 A. D.) and a system of grant-in-aid to qualified *vaidyans* was also sanctioned. In 1093 M. E. (1917-1918 A. D.) the present Ayurveda Department was constituted; the *General.* curricula of studies in Ayurveda Schools were revised on a scientific basis to suit modern requirements and an Ayurveda Hospital and Dispensary was established at Trivandrum. The Ayurveda *Patasala* was subsequently raised to the status of a college.

Besides the Government Ayurveda Hospital and Dispensary at Trivandrum, there were four grant-in-aid Ayurveda hospitals. The public of Neyyattinkara at their cost constructed a building at Neyyattinkara and handed over the *Ayurveda Hos-* building at Neyyattinkara and handed over the *pitals and* building and the premises to the department for conducting a Government Ayurveda Hospital in commemoration of the Shastiabdapurthi of Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar. The hospital was opened on 6th Mithunam 1118 and work commenced from that date. The temporary Government dispensary at Ooruttampalam for the treatment of malaria was continued during the year under report.

The number of sanctioned grant-in-aid *vaidyasalas* during the year remained the same as in 1117, *viz.*, 169. There are four grades of *vaidyasalas*; 4 in the I grade on a grant of Rs. 30 per mensem, 10 in the II grade on Rs. 25 per mensem, 33 in the III grade on Rs. 20 per mensem and 119 in the IV grade on Rs. 15 per mensem. Only 163 grant-in-aid *vaidyasalas* were working during the year. Of these 21 were *visha vaidyasalas* (for the treatment of poison), 2 for *balachikitsa*, one for *marmachikitsa*, 2 for eye treatment and the rest for the treatment of general diseases.

As in 1117, temporary *vaidyasalas* were opened at seven places in connection with festivals. There were 180 recognised *vaidyasalas* functioning at the end of the year against 178 at the end of the previous year. The system of awarding State recognition to the Ayurvedic *vaidyasalas* was discontinued during the year under report consequent on the passing of the Travancore Medical Practitioners' Act and no new *vaidyasala* was awarded State recognition from Mithunam 1118.



The total number of patients treated in the various Ayurvedic institutions in the State was distributed as follows:—

| Institutions.   | 1117           | 1118    |        |
|---|----------------|---------|--------|
| Government Ayurveda Hospital  | In-patients .  | 532     | 537    |
|   | Out-patients . | 98,201  | 76,581 |
|   | Total .        | 98,733  | 77,118 |
| Sachivottama Shastiabdapurthi Memorial Ayurveda Hospital at Neyyattinkara | In-patients .  | ..      | 20     |
|   | Out-patients . | ..      | 5,399  |
|   | Total .        | ..      | 5,419  |
| Temporary Government Dispensary at Ooruttampalam                          | 27,240         | 17,548  |        |
| Grant-in-aid hospitals  | 58,536         | 54,698  |        |
| Do. vaidyasalas   | 534,367        | 539,065 |        |
| Do. temporary vaidyasalas   | 19,858         | 15,909  |        |

As in previous years various forms of *Panchakarma* treatment were given in the *vaidyasalas*.

The total number of patients treated in the hospital fell from 98,733 in 1117 to 77,118 in 1118 of which 537 were in-patients. The average daily attendance of patients including repetitions was 636.5 against 885 in 1117. The average duration of treatment undergone by each patient was 23.5 days against 25 days in 1117 and the average daily cost of dieting per head was chs. 7 cash 4 against chs. 4 cash 3 in 1117.

The number of patients treated in the *Marmachikilsa* ward for fractures, dislocation of bones, etc., was 4,242 against 5,733 in the previous year and the number of patients subjected to *Panchakarma* forms of treatment was 396 against 398 in the previous year.

The Pharmacy continued to prepare and supply the medicines required for the Government Ayurveda Hospital and Dispensary at Trivandrum and the temporary Dispensary at Ooruttampalam, and also for sale to the public. The Pharmacy gives training to students of the Ayurveda College in the preparation of medicines.

The Ayurveda College conducted courses for the *Vaidyasastrī* and *Vaidyakalanidhi* examinations, the former representing the high school course extending to 3 years and the latter representing the college course extending to 2 years. The syllabus of studies for Ayurvedic examinations was revised during the year under report on the basis of the recommendations made by the Medical Committee appointed by Government. The revised syllabus which includes a preliminary course for the students of Ayurveda followed by four years' professional course in the college was brought into effect in Edavam 1118. Twenty-seven students were undergoing the preliminary course *viz.*, the Ayurvedic Entrance course during the year.

The *Visha Vaidyavisarada* class opened in 1114 was continued till the end of the academic year 1117-1118. There was no class during the academic year 1118-1119 for want of candidates with the requisite qualification for admission to the class. The Ayurveda *Acharya* examination conducted by the College is the highest test in proficiency for which the diploma is awarded on the merits of a thesis on an approved subject on Ayurveda. The strength of the College fell from 161 in 1117 to 143 in 1118 of which 10 were females. Forty-one scholarships amounting to Rs. 1,340 were awarded to the students of the various classes during the year. Facilities were afforded as usual to the students of the College classes for practical training in the Government Ayurveda Hospital and Pharmacy. Two officers from the Medical Department gave lectures in modern Anatomy and Physiology, and students were given training in the dissection of dead bodies, in Laboratory methods, Hygiene and Physiology.

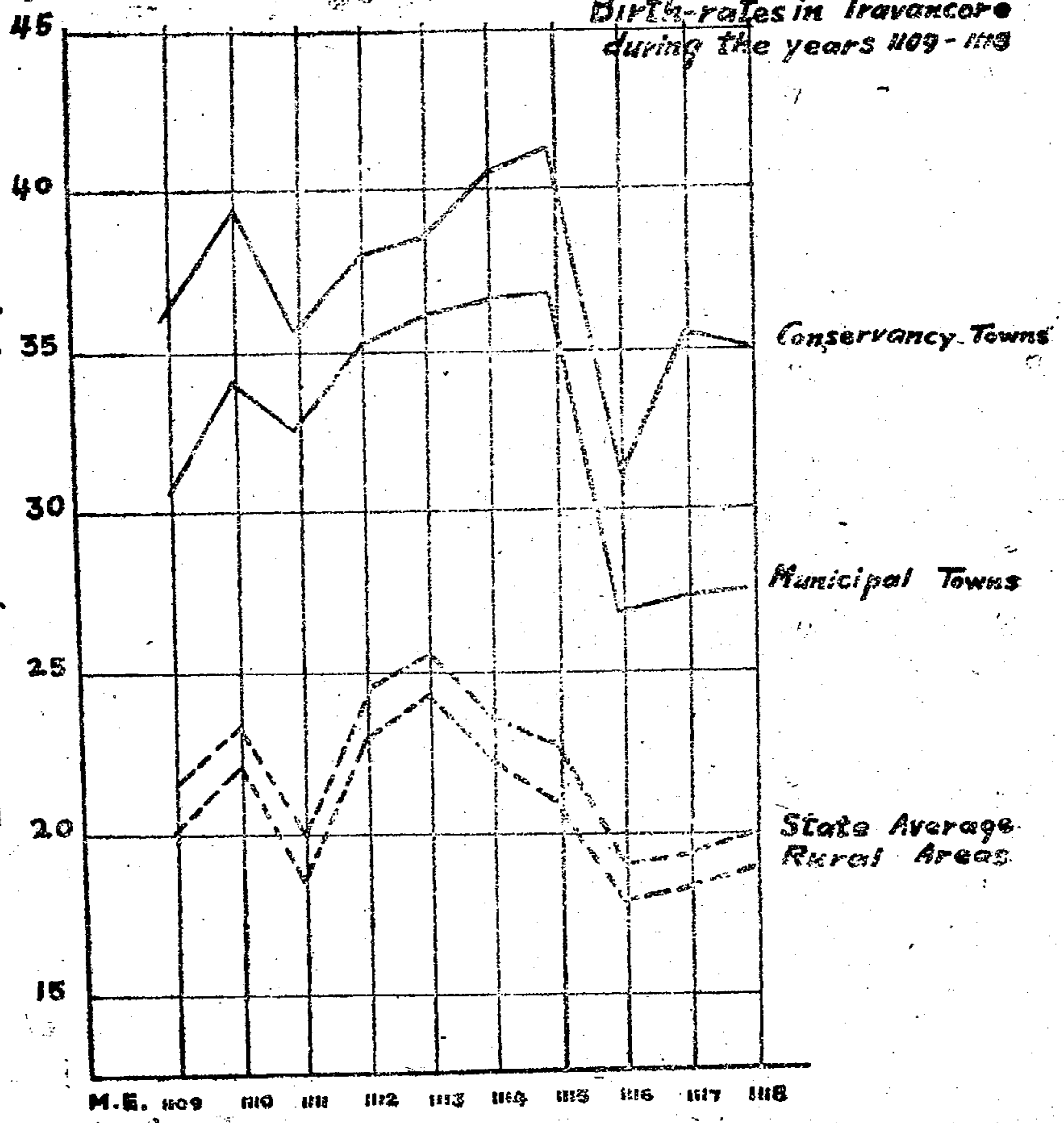
A botanical garden is attached to the College where various kinds of rare medicinal herbs are grown for the purpose of giving training to the students in the identification of herbs.

There were seven aided and four recognised Ayurveda High Schools with a total strength of 363 against six *Ayurveda High Schools.* aided and five recognised Ayurveda High Schools with a strength of 370 in the previous year.

The expenditure incurred during the year was Rs. 93,966 against *Expenditure.* Rs. 86,040 in the previous year.

Birth-rates in Travancore  
during the years 1109-1118

Birth-rates per mille of population





## Public Health Department.

*Director of Public Health.*

*Rajyasevanirata Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai, M. B. C. S., L. R. C. P., D. P. H., (Lond.) Dr. P. H., F. R. S. (Trop.), M. and H. F. R. I. P. H.*

Till 15th Mithunam 1118 the State was divided into two public health districts, *viz.*, northern and southern, with Kottayam and Neyyattinkara as the respective headquarters, each district being in the charge of a District Health Officer. An additional public health district *viz.*, for Central Travancore, with Quilon as its headquarters was brought into being from 15th Mithunam 1118 as a temporary measure with a view to facilitate more intensive attention being bestowed on anti-cholera work and other public health activities. The work of the department consists in the registration of vital statistics, control of communicable diseases, vaccination, plague and malaria control measures, medical entomology, management of the Health Unit at Neyyattinkara, maternity and child welfare, medical inspection of school children, public health education and rural sanitation.

There was a rise in the number of births from 1,17,862 in 1117 to 1,22,174 in 1118; of these 62,725 were males and 59,449 females, the ratio of male births to 100 female births being 105.51 against 106.49 in the previous year. The birth rate, calculated on the census population was 20.13 per mille against 19.42 per mille in the previous year. There were 1,044 still births against 1,189 in the previous year, the proportion of still births to 1,000 live births being 8.55 against 10.09 in 1117.

The number of deaths rose from 67,131 in 1117 to 80,637 in 1118; of these 41,153 were males and 39,484 females, the ratio of male deaths to 100 female deaths being 104.23 against 108.55 in 1117. The death rate for 1118 was 13.28 per mille on the census population and 12.81 on the estimated population for the year.

The number of infant deaths increased from 8,586 in 1117 to 8,658 in 1118, the infant mortality rate being 70.86 per 1,000 live births against 72.85 in the previous year.

The increase in population (excess of births over deaths) worked out from the vital statistics recorded in 1118 was 41,537 against 50,731 in 1117.

There was an outbreak of cholera during the year which spread throughout the State in a short time. A severe outbreak of small-pox

occurred in the Municipal town of Nagercoil and there were some sporadic cases in the rural areas.

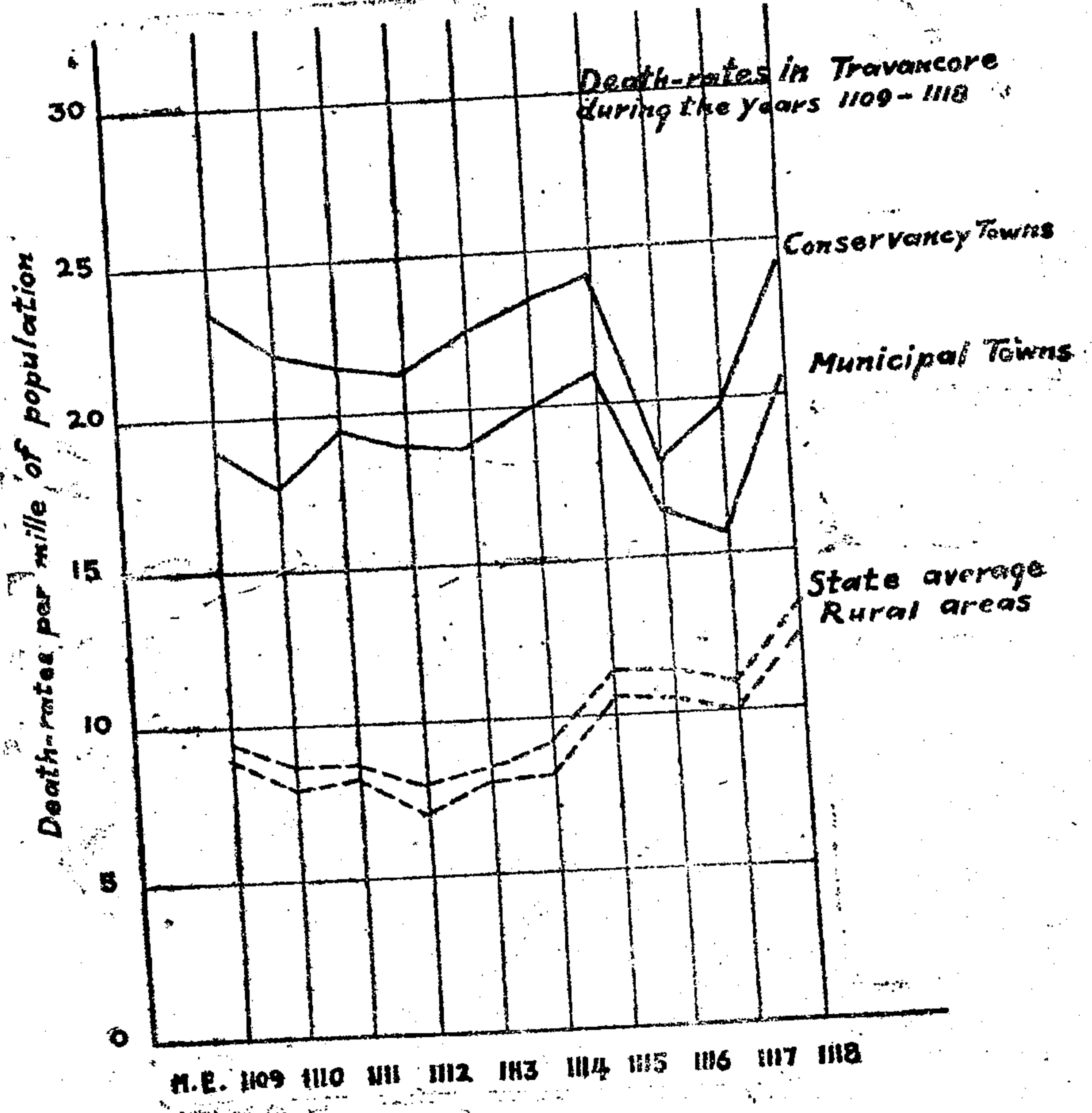
Plague broke out in the Devicolam and Muvattupuzha taluks but the disease did not develop into an epidemic. The scarcity of rice, the staple food of the people, was one of the causes that contributed to affect the public health of the State adversely.

The following statement compares the number of deaths in 1117 and 1118 due to principal diseases:—

|                        | Deaths. |        |
|------------------------|---------|--------|
|                        | 1117    | 1118   |
| Cholera                | ...     | 4,756  |
| Small-pox              | 47      | 100    |
| Plague                 | ...     | 2      |
| Typhoid                | 343     | 213    |
| Other fevers           | 15,278  | 16,388 |
| Bowel diseases         | 7,565   | 9,321  |
| Diabetes and Carbuncle | 2,197   | 2,674  |
| Respiratory diseases   | 4,303   | 4,412  |
| Injuries               | 1,073   | 983    |
| Other causes           | 36,325  | 41,788 |
| Total                  | 67,131  | 80,637 |

There were 6,837 attacks and 4,756 deaths due to cholera in the State during the year as against 9,955 and 6,056 deaths during the previous epidemics in the years 1104 and 1111 respectively.

Cholera infection made its sudden incursions into the State during Dhanu and Makaram 1118 from the adjoining British territory and the Cochin State where





it was raging for some time. The epidemic reached its climax in the month of Karkatakam and showed signs of abatement by the end of the year. All the taluks in the State excepting Thodupuzha and all the Municipal towns suffered from the infection in varying degrees. Prompt and vigorous preventive measures were adopted by the department to bring the epidemic under control. The departmental staff performed altogether 926,631 inoculations for cholera during 1118. The number of inoculations conducted in the various municipal towns during the year is estimated to have been nearly 2,50,000.

There were 349 attacks and 100 deaths from small-pox in the year 1118 as against 119 attacks and 47 deaths in the previous year. The

*Small-pox and Vaccination.* majority of deaths occurred in the municipal town of Nagercoil but owing to the prompt adoption of preventive measures, the disease did not spread much in the rural areas. Vaccination was continued to be enforced as a compulsory measure during the year. The intensive vaccination campaign inaugurated in 1109 was continued during the year under report also. The total number of vaccinations performed during the year was 844,127 against 12,32,381 in the previous year. Of the total vaccinations 1,57,153 were primary and 6,86,974 re-vaccinations. The success rates in respect of primary and re-vaccinations in the rural areas were 94.77 per cent. and 61.44 per cent. respectively.

During the year under report there were 2 deaths due to plague. The epidemic made its appearance in Munnar town but as a result of the intensive measures adopted the outbreak was effectively nipped in the bud. Preventive measures were continued at Alleppey and Quilon as in the previous year.

*Plague.*

There were 1,681 cases of attack and 213 deaths from typhoid during the year against 2,672 attacks and 343 deaths in 1117. The disease was mainly confined to the taluks of the Central Travancore. The department conducted 6,596 inoculations. Other preventive measures such as disinfection and chlorination of water supplies were also adopted.

*Typhoid.*

Mosquito control measures were continued in the municipal towns of Alleppey, Quilon, Neyyattinkara and in the City of Trivandrum. Control measures were started in the Kottayam municipal town in Thulam 1118.

*Mosquito Control.*

There were 16,601 deaths from fevers as against 15,621 deaths in the preceding year. The ratio of deaths per mille of population was 2.57 in 1117 and 2.73 in 1118. Due to attacks of *Fever* and dysentery and diarrhoea there were 9,321 deaths in *Other Diseases*. the year against 7,565 deaths in the previous year. 4,412 deaths occurred due to respiratory diseases with a rate of 0.73 per mille of population as against 4,303 deaths with a rate of 0.71 per mille in 1117. The number of deaths on account of injuries was 983 against 1,073 in 1117.

These operations were in progress during 1118 within an area of 38 sq. miles in the Shertala taluk. During the year 393.49 acres of water surface were cleared of Pistia as against *Filaria* In- 397.62 acres in the previous year. The Pistia *vestigations and* clearance included 17,285 ponds, 7,670 drains and *Control.* 1,844 fields. The scheduled area of 38 sq. miles was cleared of Pistia five times during the year and in the town area the sixth round was completed. In the Research Section, adult mosquitoes were collected from three localities and were sent to the Public Health Laboratory after identification, dissection and detailed examination. Two hundred selected breeding places were serially numbered and examined every month to find out the seasonal and relative intensity of breeding of different kinds of mosquitoes with particular reference to mansonioides.

The Health Unit, Neyyattinkara, is an all-comprehensive rural health organisation covering an area of 40 sq. miles and it serves also as a demonstration and training centre for health *Health Unit,* workers. The activities of the health unit consisted *Neyyattinkara.* of registration of vital statistics, control of communicable diseases, maternity and child welfare work, school medical inspection, rural sanitation and public health education. As in the previous year the public health of the Unit was fairly satisfactory. Satisfactory progress was also maintained in the various activities of the Unit in spite of the fact that there were frequent changes in the staff in connection with anti-cholera measures outside the Unit. The general death rate was 10.0 against 11.37 in the previous year.

The main activity of the Unit for the second half of the year was confined to the control of cholera and 7,092 anti-cholera inoculations were performed during the year, mostly among the people inhabiting the coastal areas as a protective measure.

Maternity and child welfare work of the Unit was continued on the same lines as in the previous year. Of the total births 41.1 per cent. were attended to by the Health Unit midwives as against 42.7 in the previous year. The number of pregnant women registered during the year was 2,106. There were 11 maternal deaths for the entire Health Unit area giving a maternal death rate of 3.9. The number of infant deaths was 185 against 188 in 1917. The number of school children examined in the area was 1,889 as against 3,560 in the previous year. The per capita expenditure of the Health Unit during the year was chs. 6 cash 11 against chs. 6 cash 5 in the year 1917.

The activities pertaining to maternity and child welfare work in the rural areas were considerably extended during the year. In addition to the 10 rural midwifery centres that were working ten more were opened during the year. *Maternity and Child Welfare Work.* The midwives paid home visits, registered ante-natal cases, conducted urine examinations, rendered midwifery aid and clinic service and gave hygienic advice. The departmental midwives made as many as 99,420 home visits during the year. The total number of pregnant women registered by them was 4,001 and the number of delivery cases conducted was 1,938.

*School Medical Inspection.* School medical inspection work consists of thorough examination of the pupils, bringing to the notice of the parents the defects found in the children, treatment in the nearest hospital of the defects observed, inspection of sanitary conditions in schools and educating children in the principles of public health and sanitation. During the year under report 199 schools were visited and 22,136 pupils examined as against 381 schools and 41,136 pupils respectively in the previous year. Of the pupils examined 8,690 were found to have various defects requiring treatment at the hospital, the number actually treated being 6,688. The most prevalent defect observed among the school children was mal-nutrition which was accentuated by the prevailing scarcity of food stuffs. The other defective conditions were hookworm, roundworm and diseases of teeth and gums. The importance of giving a balanced diet to the school children was pointed out to their parents by the school medical officers who also gave 61 talks on health habits. More than 80 per cent. of the defective students attended hospitals and had their defects cured.



The object of the Health Education Section of the department is to enlist the co-operation of the public in the successful conduct of the various activities of the department and to arouse in the people a sense of their responsibility in the matter of preservation and promotion of public health. The total number of lectures and group talks on public health subjects given was 3,923 to an estimated audience of 318,000 persons against 3,551 talks to 232,300 persons in 1117 M. B. Nearly 20,000 pamphlets, posters etc., were distributed during the year. Particular importance was attached to extending the benefits of health education work to rural areas and to schools. The Travancore Radio inaugurated during the year was made use of by the department and a few talks were given by various officers.

A vacation course in hygiene for the benefit of the teachers of Malayalam Primary Schools was conducted at Quilon in Madam 1118. Three health exhibitions were conducted during the year and a health conference was held at Oachira.

The principal activities under rural sanitation were sinking of new wells, repairs, cleaning and disinfection of existing wells; street lighting and sweeping, sanitation of markets and centres of fairs and festivals, installation of sanitary privies and control measures against epidemics. 211 markets were inspected during the year and necessary steps were taken for attending to their sanitation. Sanitary arrangements were also made in connection with important fairs and festivals which numbered 38 during the year. The number of bore-hole latrines constructed during the year was 356 against 539 in the previous year.

The receipts of the department for the year amounted to Rs. 9,106 and the expenditure to Rs. 3.21 lakhs.

*Receipts and  
Expenditure.*

## CHAPTER XIII.

### PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

From very early times, the village school master, styled the *Asan*, imparted education of a rudimentary character in Malayalam or Tamil. He was remunerated by the people themselves. The principal subjects taught were reading, writing, arithmetic and the elements of astronomy necessary for the simple calculations required for domestic rituals and for determining the chief periods of agricultural operations. The old village schools taught boys and girls together. The State's direct activity in the field of education began over a century ago. The duty of the State to impart public instruction was recognised so long ago as 992 M. E. (1817 A. D.) when Her Highness Rani Gouri Parvati Bayi issued a rescript in which Her Highness resolved "that the State should defray the entire cost of the education of its people in order that there might be no backwardness in the spread of enlightenment among them, that by diffusion of education they might become better subjects and public servants and that the reputation of the State might be advanced thereby." The pioneers of English education in the country were Christian Missionaries who opened two English schools, one at Kottayam and the other at Nagercoil in the years 1816-19, and they were given substantial aid from the Government in the shape of grants of land. The first Government English School was started in 1834 at Trivandrum and this institution slowly and steadily developed into the Maharaja's high school and college. An English school for girls was opened at Trivandrum in 1863 by the Zenana Mission and next year was opened the Maharaja's English High School for girls which has since developed into a college for women. The first Normal School was founded in 1885 and it developed in 1911 into the Training College. A Sanskrit school was opened in 1889 which subsequently developed into the Sanskrit College. The first Director of Public Instruction was appointed in 1084 M. E. (1909 A. D.) and this was followed in the next year by the promulgation of the Education and Inspection Codes, which marked the inauguration of the existing educational system and policy. The University of Travancore was established by Act I of 1113 M. E. promulgated by His Highness the



Maharaja Sri Chitra Tirunal on the 1st November 1937. The University has made adequate provision for pure academic studies of the highest standard and the pursuit of knowledge in all the various branches, the distinctive characteristic of this University being the emphasis laid on technological studies, scientific research and the promotion of indigenous art and culture.

The educational system of Travancore consists of three important branches, viz., the Malayalam and Tamil schools, the English schools and the colleges. There are also institutions for the training of teachers, special schools for the teaching of Sanskrit and technical schools for giving vocational instruction. Malayalam and Tamil schools are of three classes, viz., primary schools, middle schools and high schools. Primary schools teach up to class IV, the course of instruction being confined mainly to reading, writing, elementary arithmetic and simple lessons in history and geography. In girls' schools special attention is paid to singing, needle work and domestic economy. Primary education is free throughout the State. Malayalam and Tamil Middle schools teach up to class VII and high schools to class IX. At the end of the primary course, the pupil either pursues studies in the Malayalam and Tamil middle and high schools or joins the preparatory class in the English middle schools. English middle schools teach up to Form III and English high schools consist of all or any of the forms IV, V and VI. Facilities are provided for the admission of pupils, with sufficient knowledge of English, from Malayalam and Tamil middle schools to English Middle schools, English being an optional second language in Malayalam and Tamil middle schools. The Malayalam and Tamil school leaving certificate issued to candidates who pass class VII confers eligibility for appointment in the subordinate ranks of the public service. Similarly, the English school leaving certificate gives eligibility to University courses of study and to the public service. On the English, Malayalam and Tamil branches, except at the primary standard, there are separate schools for boys and girls with practically the same course of instruction. All primary schools except those for Muslim girls are mixed schools for boys and girls and co-education is adopted as the departmental policy for all primary schools. In the higher classes and forms too co-education is allowed in places where separate schools or colleges for girls are not available. Girls were paying only half the rates of fees prescribed for



boys in schools and colleges till 1107. From that year full rates began to be realised from girl students in colleges and three-fourths of the rates from girl pupils in schools. A notable feature in the domain of education is the part played by private enterprise. There are institutions of all grades from the lowest primary standard to the highest college course, run by private agencies. These agencies share with the Government the task of public instruction and receive substantial grants-in-aid from Government. The expenditure incurred by Government in 1118 on account of grants-in-aid to private educational institutions amounted to Rs. 11.46 lakhs.

In the matter of education, the Government have always pursued a liberal and progressive policy, and the remarkable advance made by Travancore during the past few decades which has brought the State to the forefront of educated India, has been due to their sedulous and fostering care.

*Educational Policy.*

As regards primary education, its utmost importance has always been recognised and everything practicable is being done to make it universal. Consistent with the educational policy of the State, the education of backward communities has been systematically encouraged by the grant of special concessions and facilities to pupils belonging to such communities. Special schools are also provided for the benefit of certain communities like the Kshatriyas and Malayala Brahmins who still show reluctance to send their children to school if there are no separate schools for them. Including the Government grant of Rs. 9.50 lakhs to the Travancore University, the total expenditure on Education incurred by Government in 1118 amounted to Rs. 53.94 lakhs.

**The University of Travancore**

There was steady expansion of the various activities of the University during the year under report. M. Sc. courses in Physics and Chemistry were started in the University College. The University continued to contribute both officers and men to the various Defence Services. Owing to the increase in the number of students choosing Hindi as Second Language, it was found necessary to appoint an additional Lecturer and accordingly a part-time Junior Lecturer in Hindi was appointed in the College for Women. The Boards of Studies in Engineering and in European Languages were re-constituted during the year. The

University College continued to provide instruction in science for the students of the College of Engineering and of the Institute of Textile Technology. Considerable progress was made during the year in equipping the laboratories of the College of Engineering with the necessary apparatus.

Under the administrative control of the University there are 6 Government Colleges in Trivandrum besides the Institute of Textile Technology. There are four private colleges in the Institutions and Strength. mofussil admitted to the privileges of the University. The total number of students in the University (including 24 research students) at the end of the year was 4,193. The following table shows the number of students in the various colleges:—

|  | Strength. |        |
|--|-----------|--------|
| His Highness the Maharaja's University College | 1,445     | *(173) |
| Do. College for Women                          | 373       | (373)  |
| Do. Training College                           | 79        | (26)   |
| Do. Law College                                | 185       | (6)    |
| Do. Sanskrit College                           | 90        | (7)    |
| The College of Engineering                     | 225       |        |
| The Institute of Textile Technology            | 52        | (1)    |
| St. Berchmans' College, Changanacherry         | 725       |        |
| Union Christian College, Alwaye                | 419       | (47)   |
| C. M. S. College, Kottayam                     | 347       | (112)  |
| Scott Christian College, Nagercoil             | 229       | (16)   |

Of the total strength 761 were women. The strength of the Government institutions alone was 2,449 (including 586 women).

The fourth Annual Convocation of the University was held on the 5th November 1942 in the Legislative Chamber, Trivandrum. His Highness the Chancellor presided over the Convocation. Sir C. Ramalingam Reddi, M. A. (Cantab.), Hon. D. Litt., M. L. C., Vice-Chancellor, Andhra University delivered the address. The Honorary Degree of Doctor of Letters (D. Litt.) was conferred on Brahmasri Gayakasikhamani L. Muthia Bhagavathar, formerly Principal of the Sri Swathi Tirunal Academy of Music, and the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Science (D. Sc.), was conferred on Dr. K. L. Moudgill, Director of Research in the University.

\*(The figures in brackets indicate the number of women students.)



The Central Research Institute continued to function during 1118. The departments of Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology in the University College and the sections of the Engineering College continued their research activities under the Institute. The rules of the Council of Research were revised during the year. Various schemes of research, many of them having a practical bearing on the economic life of the country, were under investigation. Experiments were conducted on the improved methods of manufacturing salt. Experiments on the production of bromine and magnesium salts were also carried on as in the previous year. High speed diesel oil and kerosene substitute on a commercial basis were manufactured. Work on the collection and analysis of samples of water from the retting grounds as also the work on the production of standard charcoal for producer-gas engines for motor cars was continued. Investigations on the chemical principles of indigenous drugs were pushed through during the year by the research workers. The question of the utilisation of the agariferous sea weeds of Travancore for the production of Agar-Agar became prominent during the year and the preliminary work connected therewith which was suspended in 1116 was resumed in 1118. Experiments were conducted on the production of iodine from sargassum. A five-year scheme for a comprehensive study of the cultivation of tapioca, improvement of varieties, cytological studies and anatomical studies of the storage cells to increase the starch content, manual treatment and hybridisation was considered and approved by the Council of Research during the year. The soil survey of Onattukara was completed and investigations on the causes of the infertility and frequent failure of crops on the Kari soils were continued during the year. The Assistant Research Officer, Entomology Section conducted a preliminary survey of the pests of stored products in the various localities of Trivandrum. As in the previous two years the entire quantity of anti-rabic vaccine required in the State was produced in the Public Health Laboratory. Vaccine was also supplied to the Veterinary Department at the concession rate of Rs. 2 per animal for the treatment of domestic animals. The demand for cholera vaccine consequent on the outbreak of cholera in the State was met by increasing the production nearly a hundred fold and 1,247,855 cc. of vaccine were issued during the year. The manufacture of sharliverol was carried on by the Department of Marine Biology and Fisheries.



The system of compulsory physical instruction for the Intermediate classes worked satisfactorily. Besides the Games and Athletic Clubs in the various colleges, the Department of Physical Education ran clubs for indigenous exercises, cricket and boxing. In the Kerala Cricket Tournament held at Ernakulam under the auspices of the Cochin Athletic Association the cricket club won the runners-up-cup. The Director of Yogic Physical Culture held regular classes; 56 students attended them. Some of the students who were suffering from chronic complaints got cured of their ailments while others got noticeable relief. The medical examination of the students in the first and third year classes was conducted by medical officers. The total number of students examined during the year was 1,993 (1,608 men and 385 women) against 1,811 (1,514 men and 297 women) in the previous year.

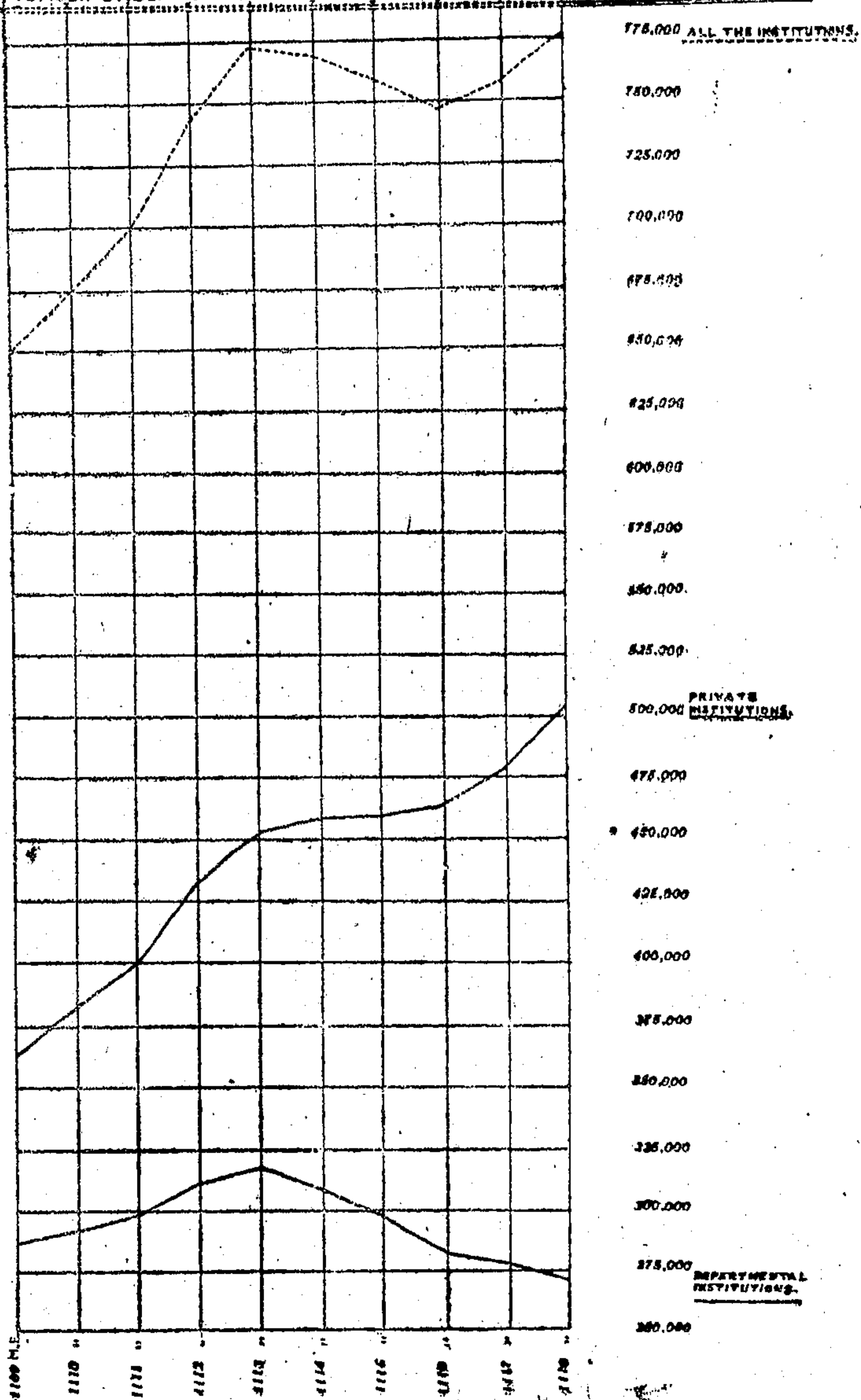
The Travancore University Labour Corps continued its activities during the year. The strength of the Corps at the end of the year was 240. The Annual Camp was held from the 13th to 19th December 1942. His Highness the Elaya Raja the Colonel of the Corps, was pleased to visit the Camp. Cadets and N. C. Os. of the trained company were taken to the Long Range of the State Forces at Mukkunnimalai to fire with service rifles.

His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras, accompanied by Lady Hope visited the Corps on the 9th November 1942 and saw the various demonstration units at work. Fifty-seven cadets were awarded ribbons for good attendance. The Corps continued to contribute both officers and men to the various Defence Services.

The Technical Scheme organised at the College of Engineering and the Institute of Textile Technology, continued to function satisfactorily. His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope visited the Engineering College Centre and expressed his high appreciation of the training given there. A hostel was started for the trainees in the Institute of Textile Technology. The Institute undertook the supply of blankets, vests, turban cloths, towels, etc., to the various departments. The order placed by the Government of India Supply Department for the supply of 20,000 drawers was executed during the year.

EDUCATION.

NUMBER UNDER INSTRUCTION IN DEPARTMENTAL AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS.



A glossary of terms in botany was published during the year. A list of technical terms in education was under revision. Lists of technical terms in Zoology, Geology and Sociology, with tentative Malayalam equivalents were prepared by the department.

*Department of Publications.*

#### Education Department.

*Director of Public Instruction.*

*Mr. A. Gopala Menon,  
M. A., B. Com.*

There were during the year 3,752 recognised institutions of all types and grades under the control of the Education Department with 7,76,825 pupils under instruction as against 3,768 institutions and 7,57,150 pupils in 1117, showing a decrease of 16 institutions and an increase of 19,675 in the number of pupils. Of the total number of institutions 1,038 were departmental and 2,714 private as against 1,040 departmental and 2,728 private in 1117 M. E. The decrease in the number of institutions was due to the amalgamation and closure of overlapping institutions and the withdrawal of recognition of inefficient ones. Of the total number of pupils under instruction during the year 4,45,277 were boys and 3,31,548 were girls against 4,36,515 boys and 3,20,635 girls in the previous year. The percentage of the total number under instruction to the total population during the year was 12.8 as against 12.4 in 1117. The percentage of male scholars to the male population was 14.7 in 1118 as against 14.3 in the previous year and the percentage of the female scholars to the female population was 10.8 in 1118 as against 10.6 in 1117. Of the total number of pupils under instruction 65 per cent. were reading in private institutions and 35 per cent. in departmental institutions. The corresponding percentage for 1117 was 63.2 for private institutions and 36.8 for departmental institutions.

#### English Schools.

The number of English schools of all grades in the State both departmental and private rose from 321 in 1117 to 328 in 1118 and their strength from 75,507 to 86,574. The following comparative



statement gives the figures for the different grades of schools for the years 1117 and 1118:—

| Class, grade and management.               | 1117.  |          | 1118.  |          |
|--|--------|----------|--------|----------|
|  | Number | Strength | Number | Strength |
| Departmental English High Schools for boys | 25     | 11,523   | 26     | 13,162   |
| Do. for girls                              | 3      | 1,439    | 3      | 1,474    |
| Do. English Middle Schools for boys        | 10     | 1,270    | 11     | 1,848    |
| Do. for girls                              | 3      | 358      | 4      | 480      |
| Private English High Schools for boys      | 83     | 29,940   | 84     | 34,483   |
| Do. Do. for girls                          | 20     | 5,874    | 22     | 6,776    |
| Private English Middle Schools for boys    | 154    | 22,425   | 157    | 25,741   |
| Do. Do. for girls                          | 23     | 2,678    | 21     | 2,610    |
| Total                                      | 321    | 75,507   | 328    | 86,574   |

Of the total number of 86,574 pupils under instruction in English Schools during the year 29,116 were girls against 24,955 in 1117. There were 25 English High Schools and 25 Middle schools mainly intended for girls. The strength of girl pupils in English Schools increased during the year. The total increase in strength in the case of boys' schools was 10,076 and in the case of girls' schools 991 as against 6,250 and 504 respectively in the previous year. The strength of private English Schools was 69,610. Tamil was taught as a second language in 9 departmental English High Schools and two Middle Schools. Hindi was taught in 8 departmental English High Schools and 13 private English High Schools. The Travancore Athletic Association to which an annual grant of Rs. 1,500 is given has been devoting special attention to the organisation and conduct of sports and tournaments for school boys.

#### Malayalam and Tamil Schools.

The number of Malayalam and Tamil Schools decreased from 3,35 in 1117 to 3,328 in 1118 but their strength increased from

6,73,196 to 6,82,188 or by 8,992. The following table shows the number and strength of the departmental and private Malayalam and Tamil Schools in 1117 and 1118:—

| Management.          | 1117.   |           | 1118    |           |
|----------------------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|
|                      | Number. | Strength. | Number. | Strength. |
| Departmental Schools | 983     | 2,63,491  | 977     | 2,54,101  |
| Aided do.            | 2,188   | 3,84,105  | 2,199   | 4,08,209  |
| Unaided do.          | 180     | 25,600    | 152     | 19,878    |
| Total                | 3,351   | 6,73,196  | 3,328   | 6,82,188  |

There was an increase in the number of Malayalam and Tamil High Schools and Middle Schools due mainly to the recognition of unrecognised schools and to the opening of middle school classes in the existing Primary Schools and a decrease in the number of Primary Schools due to the abolition or amalgamation of inefficient schools and the withdrawal of recognition of schools on account of the non-fulfilment of conditions imposed by the department. The strength in the Malayalam and Tamil Schools increased on the whole although there was a fall in strength in the case of Malayalam and Tamil High and Middle Schools for girls due to the abolition of a few girls' schools which were working unsatisfactorily. The total strength in the primary section increased while that in the Middle and High School sections decreased. The number of girls studying in boys' schools during 1118 was 48,925 as against 46,168 in the previous year. The increase was due to the co-education of pupils in all the classes and the appointment of mixed staff in schools. There were 16 private night schools aided by Government with a total strength of 419. Except in the Peermade and the Devicolam taluks almost all pakhuthies in the State have more than one Malayalam or Tamil School. Of the total number of 682,188 pupils in the Malayalam and Tamil Schools 299,570 were girls as against 292,805 in the previous year. Instruction in Tamil was provided in 71 depart-



mental schools, of which 9 were English High Schools, 2 English Middle Schools, 3 Malayalam and Tamil High Schools, 12 Middle Schools and 45 Primary Schools.

In the interests of efficiency appointment of trained teachers was insisted on wherever possible. The total number of trained teachers in 1118 was 15,457 as against 15,861 in 1117 and the percentage of trained teachers to the total number of teachers was 65.9 as against 62.8 in 1117.

### Special Schools.

In addition to the Training College, there are some special institutions which provide for undergraduate higher grade and lower grade training. The number of such training schools at the end of the year was 48 of which 12 were departmental including one for women and the rest private, with a total strength of 1,470. The training schools in the State were reorganised with effect from Edavom 1118. As a result of the reorganisation, the distinction between higher grade, lower grade and undergraduate training schools was abolished.

There were 12 aided technical schools for girls attached to the Education Department with a total strength of 1,106 at the end of the year. Weaving, embroidery and lace work were the main subjects taught in these institutions.

*Technical Schools for Girls.*

The strength of the Reformatory School at the beginning of the year was 52. During the year six pupils were admitted directly on conviction and 11 admitted on remand out of whom 8 were subsequently convicted. There were 9 releases during the year and one under remand escaped. Thus at the end of the year, the strength of the school stood at 59—57 convicted and 2 on remand. All the pupils were given instruction in agriculture. Spinning was introduced as an experimental measure during the year. The inmates were also given training in printing, binding and weaving. A few selected boys who had special aptitude for cookery were given training in that subject. All the inmates were enrolled as scouts and those who had

*Reformatory School.*



special aptitude for Indian as well as Band music continued to receive proper training. Moral, religious and general instruction was imparted to the inmates as usual.

There were altogether 53 Sanskrit Schools of which 30 were recognised and 23 unrecognised. The total strength of the recognised schools was 5,178 as against 5,498 in 1117. The *Sanskrit Kavya* Section attached to the Sanskrit College, Trivandrum continued to be under the control of the Education Department and it had a strength of 227 as against 242 in the previous year.

Among other special schools of a vocational character under the control of the Education Department the following *Other Special* deserve mention:—  
*Schools.*

- (i) the screwpine vocational weaving school for girls at Trivandrum;
- (ii) the vocational bias school attached to the S. L. B. English High School at Nagercoil;
- (iii) the weaving school attached to the Kannamangalam Malayalam Middle School for girls;
- (iv) four kindergarten nursery schools;
- (v) the *Sri Chitrodaya Nartakalaya* which is a grant-in-aid institution for imparting training in Indian dancing;
- (vi) two aided music schools, one 'The *Sangeeta Vidyalaya*' at Shertala, and the other 'The Swathi Tirunal School of Music' at 1st Poojapura, Trivandrum; and
- (vii) The *Keerakerala Gymkhana* which is an aided school of physical culture at Trivandrum.

All these institutions were working satisfactorily during the year.

The Sri Swathi Tirunal Academy of Music, Trivandrum which was started under the management of the Education Department in Chingom 1115 for the purpose of popularising the *The Sri Swathi* compositions of Sri Swathi Tirunal Maharaja and *Tirunal Acad-* for imparting advanced instruction in music was *demy of Music.* made permanent with effect from 1st Chingom 1118 M. E. At the beginning of the year there were altogether 80 students in the academy, 37 being in class I, 25 in class II

and 18 in class III. The final examination at the end of the third year of training was conducted as a Public Examination and out of the 18 candidates who appeared for the examination 13 were successful.

#### Education of Special Classes.

There are special Schools for the education of the members of the Kshatriya families at Mavelikara, Pandalam, Aranimula, Kilimanur and Poonjar. The school at Mavelikara is an *Special Schools* English Middle School and it had a strength of 47 *for Kshatriyas.* in the English section at the end of 1118. There is a boarding house attached to the institution run by the department where meals and lodging are given free. There were 36 boarders in the boarding house during 1118. The special schools at the other four places were all Malayalam primary schools.

There is a Special English Middle School at Kulakkada in the Kunnattur taluk exclusively for the pupils of the Malayala Brahmin community. The strength of the school at the end *Special Schools* of 1118 was 104 as against 114 at the end of the *for Malayala* previous year. All the Malayala Brahmin pupils *Brahmins.* studying in the school were boarding and lodging in the school.

Special inducements have been offered to Mahomedan pupils in the matter of education. In addition to fee concessions, special scholarships for Mahomedans are awarded at all stages *Education of* of education, based on the results of a competitive *Mahomedans.* examination held exclusively for them. All Mahomedan girls who are poor are taught free in Malayalam and Tamil Schools as well as English Schools and all Mahomedan girls in English Schools are given scholarships. Special schools for the exclusive use of the members of the community have also been provided in certain areas and an English High School is maintained at Alleppey for the benefit of the community. There is also an Inspector for Muslim education for the inspection of Arabic and Koran teaching in schools and for encouraging generally the spread of education amongst the members of the community. He also acts as a consultant in matters relating to Mahomedan education. The number of Mahomedan pupils under instruction in English Schools increased from 2,627 in 1117 to 2,840 in 1118 while that in Malayalam and

Tamil Schools fell from 30,097 to 29,858 in 1118. The number of Mahomedan girls in English Schools rose from 796 in 1117 to 834 in 1118 and that in the Malayalam and Tamil Schools from 9,475 to 9,678. The number of schools having provision for the teaching of Arabic fell from 283 in 1117 to 281 in 1118. The designation of the Mahomedan Inspector of Schools was changed into "Inspector for Muslim Education". He inspected 113 institutions during the year and visited various Muslim centres and mosques for propaganda work.

The education of pupils belonging to the backward communities is systematically encouraged by the grant of special fee concessions, stipends, scholarships, boarding grants etc. The *Education of Backward Communities.* schools in backward areas were afforded additional facilities and the rules regarding site, building, appliances, qualification of teachers etc., were relaxed to a considerable extent in their case. As in the previous years text-books and class readers were distributed gratis to the pupils belonging to the backward communities studying in classes III and IV of the departmental and private schools. The number of pupils belonging to backward communities under instruction in English Schools rose from 13,063 (including 3,774 girls) in 1117 to 14,911 (including 4,483 girls) in 1118. In Malayalam and Tamil Schools their number increased from 69,926 in 1117 to 71,355 in 1118. Of the total number of pupils 46,381 were boys and 24,974 were girls as against 46,458 boys and 23,468 girls in the previous year. On the whole 84 Harijan schools were aided during the year and an amount of Rs. 6,086 was sanctioned on that account.

#### Miscellaneous.

There were altogether 69 hostels and boarding houses under the control of the Education Department, 33 attached to the English Schools for boys; 5 attached to Malayalam and Tamil Schools and 30 to girls' schools and 1 to *Hostels and Boarding Houses.* S. P. B. M. Training School, Manarcad.

There were 16 orphanages working during the year with a total strength of 741. Of these, 204 were in the Infant Jesus Orphanage, Mulagumood. A sum of Rs. 2,644 was spent as *Orphanages.* grant-in-aid to these institutions in 1118.



In order to encourage adult education, a system of awarding grant-in-aid to reading rooms and libraries was introduced from the year 1092 M. E. Sixty-four such institutions (16 *Libraries and Reading Rooms.* urban and 48 rural) under private management were in receipt of grants and an expenditure of Rs. 2,643 was incurred on this account during 1118.

The system of opening rural libraries attached to departmental schools has been very helpful in preventing the lapse into illiteracy of those who have received primary education. There were 96 such libraries during 1118 as against 92 in the previous year. Government have been encouraging the working of these rural libraries by the award of grants. The expenditure incurred by Government in connection with financial aid to rural libraries was Rs. 13,572.

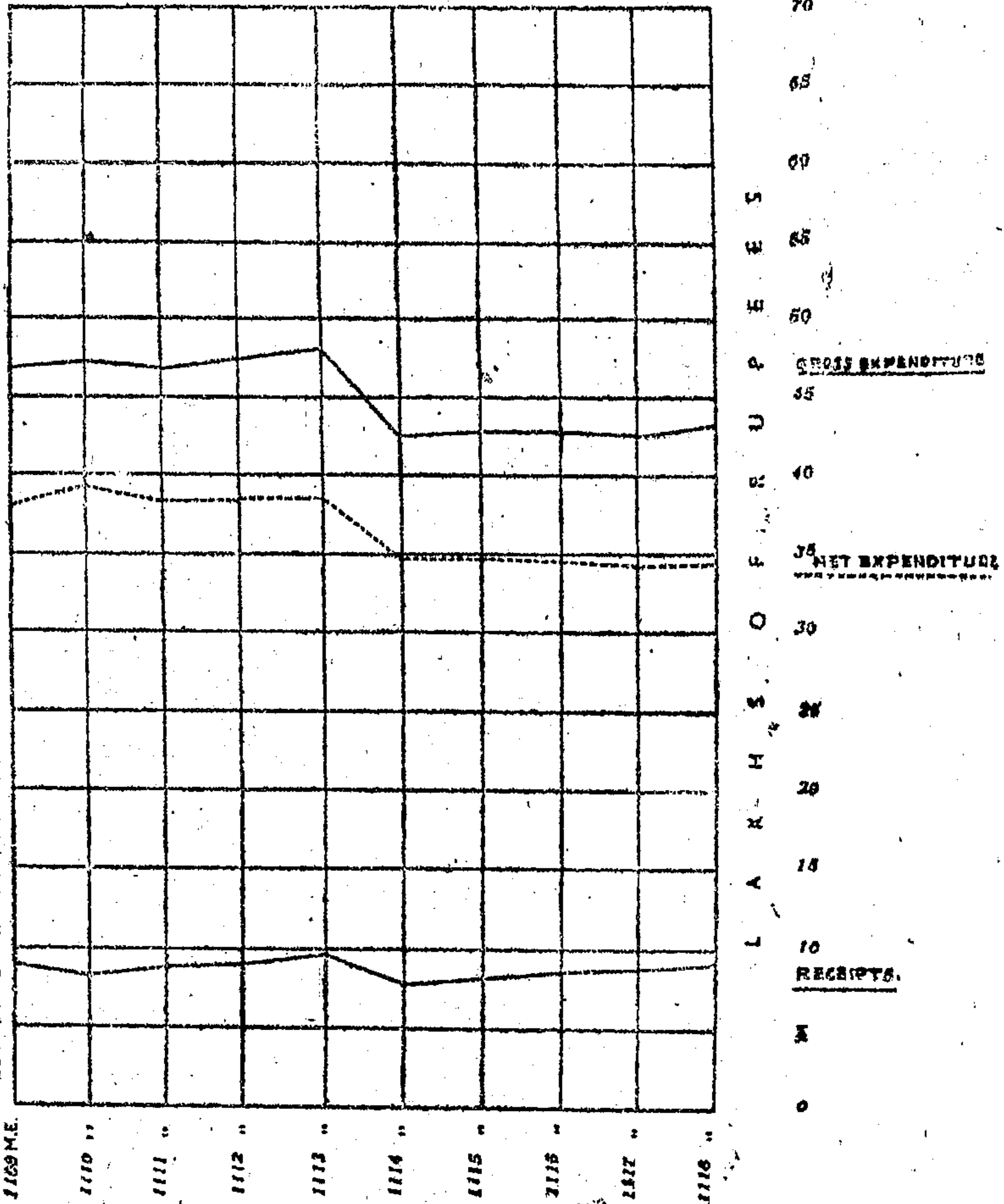
The policy of encouraging the scout movement in schools was continued during the year and there was definite progress in the movement. The number of scouts, cubs, etc., during *Scouting.* 1118 was 4,126 as against 3,720 in the previous year. The Travancore Boy Scouts Association was given the usual grant of Rs. 5,000 as in the previous year. Three training courses were conducted and 81 new workers were enrolled in the movement. The total number of girl guides, blue birds etc., in English Schools for girls during 1118 was 84 as against 228 in the previous year.

The expenditure incurred during the year on account of scholarships paid by Government and stipends paid to teachers deputed for training from departmental as well as private institutions amounted to Rs. 41,110 of which a sum of *Scholarships and Stipends.* Rs. 26,975 was on account of scholarships and the balance on stipends to teachers deputed for training from departmental and private institutions.

According to the rules for the award of fee concessions the percentage of literacy of the several communities as well as their economic condition was adopted as the basis *Fee Concessions.* for the grant of the concessions. A sum of Rs. 77,177 was spent on account of fee concessions during the year against Rs. 64,799 in the previous year.

# EDUCATION.

## GROSS-EXPENDITURE, RECEIPTS, AND NET-EXPENDITURE.



The results of the public examinations conducted by the department are shown in the following statement :—

*Examinations.*

| Name of Examination.   | Number of candidates that appeared. | Number passed. |
|--|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. English School Leaving Certificate Examination .                | 6,349                               | 3,292          |
| 2. English Middle School Examination .                             | 10,893                              | 7,465          |
| 3. Malayalam/Tamil High School Examination .                       | 4,238                               | 1,832          |
| 4. Malayalam/Tamil Middle School Examination .                     | 9,782                               | 4,476          |
| 5. Trained Teachers' Certificate Examination :—                    |                                     |                |
| (a) English Higher Grade .   | 376                                 | 215            |
| (b) Malayalam/Tamil Higher Grade .                                 | 974                                 | 544            |
| (c) do. Lower Grade .  | 1,019                               | 497            |
| 6. Music Test Examination :—                                       |                                     |                |
| (a) Higher Grade .   | 56                                  | 27             |
| (b) Lower Grade .  | 75                                  | 43             |
| (c) Final Examination of the Sri Swathi Tirunal Academy of Music . | 18                                  | 13             |
| 7. Sanskrit Examination :—<br>Sastri .                             | 709                                 | 320            |
| 8. Arabic Munshi's Examination :—                                  |                                     |                |
| (a) Higher Grade .   | 9                                   | 5              |
| (b) Lower Grade .  | 9                                   | 6              |
| 9. Needlework and Garment-making Examination .                     | 257                                 | 96             |

The receipts of the Education Department in 1918 amounted to Rs. 8.94 lakhs and the expenditure including the

*Receipts and Expenditure.* grant to the University to Rs. 53.94 lakhs.



## CHAPTER XIV.

### LOCAL-SELF-GOVERNMENT.

The earliest legislation relating to local self-government in Travancore was Act II of 1069. Prior to that, a set of rules passed in 1053 M. E. governed sanitation and other matters connected with the improvement of towns.

*History.* The rules applied to the town of Trivandrum and regulated only certain matters relating to conservancy. They had not the force of law and were not comprehensive enough to meet the growing needs of the capital or of the important mofussil towns. The Act passed in 1069, to provide for the conservancy and improvement of towns, created town improvement committees and town funds; but the powers of the committees were limited and their duties confined to the supervision of sanitary arrangements. The committees had no power of taxation. Five committees *viz.*, those at Trivandrum, Nagercoil, Quilon, Alleppey and Kottayam, were appointed under this Act. The number of members on those committees varied from 5 to 9 with a permanent official majority. This Act was superseded by Act III of 1076 which for the first time authorised local taxation with the previous sanction of Government and thereby enabled the committees to augment their resources and to widen the scope of their usefulness. The experience gained in the working of this Act, the demands from the various committees for greater powers and the progress of local bodies elsewhere led to the promulgation of Act V of 1095 on the lines of the law in force in British India at the time. Under this Act, municipal councils were constituted and the maximum official, as well as the minimum elected non-official element were fixed. The scope of municipal activities was enlarged and the obligatory and discretionary duties of municipal councils were defined.

The provisions of Act V of 1095 which governed the working of the municipality of Trivandrum, as also of the mofussil municipalities for a couple of decades were not in many respects, suitable enough to meet the increasing needs of these municipalities. It had also been felt that the municipal town of Trivandrum, the capital of the

State which had grown into a city should be treated on a separate footing and be governed by a law for itself. The Trivandrum City Municipal Act, IV of 1116 M. E., drawn up on the lines of the Madras City Municipal Act of 1919 A. D. was therefore passed; and the Trivandrum Municipality was constituted into a Corporation on the 14th Thulam 1116, with larger autonomous powers in the matter of managing its own affairs. The new Act provides for the vesting of the administration of the City in a council composed of 24 elected and 8 nominated councillors one of whom shall be a woman. The municipal authorities charged with the carrying out of the provisions of the new Act are (1) the Council (2) the Standing Committees and (3) the Commissioner, who is the chief executive authority of the Corporation responsible for the proper conduct of the municipal administration and for carrying out the decisions of the council.

The Travancore District Municipalities Bill intended to stimulate the efficient progress of municipal administration in Travancore was drafted on the lines of the Madras District Municipalities Act of 1919 and was passed into law as Act XXIII of 1116.

The number of municipalities excluding the Trivandrum City Corporation was 17. Six of the municipal towns are in the Trivandrum Division, six in the Quilon Division and the remaining five in the Kottayam Division. The municipal councils are composed of members, partly elected by the rate-payers and partly nominated by the Government, the elected members forming the majority. Of the nominated, some are officials and the others non-officials. All the municipal councils have the right of electing their Chairmen who may be chosen either from amongst the members or from outside. The area comprised within the limits of the municipalities was roughly 102 sq. miles, with a total population of 494,782 according to the census of 1941.

The aggregate opening balance to the credit of the 17 municipal councils excluding the Trivandrum City Corporation at the beginning of the year was Rs. 2.73 lakhs and the total receipts of all the councils together amounted to Rs. 5.57 lakhs. A sum of Rs. 5.51 lakhs was spent by the councils during the year.

The main function of municipal administration continued to be the care of sanitation and public health. Among the obligatory functions devolving on municipalities, lighting of public streets, vaccination and registration of births and deaths were attended to by all municipal councils. Conducting leper clinics and child welfare centres, rendering free midwifery aid, running libraries and reading rooms, subsidising vaidyasalas, etc., were some of the other important items of work attended to by the councils.

*Work of the Municipalities.*

#### **Village Panchayats and Village Unions.**

The Village Panchayats constituted in 1107, under the Village Panchayat Act, VII of 1100 at Bhoothapandy, Nedumangad, Paravur, Samburvadakara, Ettumanur and Perumbavur have been working since 1109 and the Panchayat at Aiyroor in the Tiruvalla taluk has been working since the year 1112. The seven Panchayats had a total of 65 members of whom 44 were elected and the rest nominated by Government. Sanitation and lighting of roads and improvement of tanks and wells were the main items of work undertaken by the panchayats.

With a view to affording better opportunity to the people for making the village organisations more useful and beneficial Government decided that side by side with the Village Panchayat Act, another measure to suit modern conditions should be brought into being and accordingly the Village Unions Act of 1115 was promulgated. Besides the first instalment of 26 village unions constituted under the Act in 1115 another batch of 13 unions was established in 1116. At the end of the year under report, there were 39 unions working; 11 in the Travandrum Division, 15 in the Quilon Division and 13 in the Kottayam Division. Each of these Unions is composed of six non-officials and five officials. Subject to certain rules prescribed by Government in this behalf, it is the function of village unions to attend to works of public utility, such as the cleaning of streets, water supply, irrigation, sanitation, etc., of the places coming within their respective jurisdiction.



## CHAPTER XV.

### Hindu Religious and Charitable Institutions.

*Devaswom Commissioner.*

*Mr. S. Ramakrishna Aiyar, B. A.*

*General.* In pursuance of the Devaswom Proclamation dated the 12th April, 1922 the control of the Sirkar Devaswoms, which had been vested in the Land Revenue Department, was taken away from that department and vested in the Devaswom Department, newly formed from the commencement of 1098 M. E. To meet the annual expenditure on Devaswoms, it was also resolved to credit to Devaswoms, annually, a sum representing not less than 40 per cent. of the State's recurring land revenue and to constitute a Devaswom Fund comprising this allotment and the other miscellaneous items of revenue like offerings etc., received by them. The newly formed Devaswom Department was entrusted with the administration not only of the Sirkar Devaswoms but also of *Japadakshina* and *Ottus* or charitable institutions, with the exception of the Sri Padmanabhaswami temple and the *Agrasala* at the Capital, and of Personal Deposit Devaswoms and of their properties situated in and outside the State. Towards the close of 1100, the Dewan was relieved of his duties and responsibilities in connection with the administration of the Devaswoms within the purview of the Devaswom Proclamation; and their administration was entrusted to the Devaswom Commissioner, who was made directly responsible to the Sovereign, except in certain important matters in respect of which the previous approval of the Dewan had to be obtained. From Vrischikam 1107, however, the notification giving effect to this arrangement was cancelled and the Devaswom Department was again placed under the Dewan like the other departments of Government.

Scheduled Devaswoms are grouped into three classes *viz.*, major, minor and petty, according to the annual expenditure. Major Devaswoms are those whose annual expenditure is Rs. 1,000 or more, minor between Rs. 100 and Rs. 1,000 and petty below Rs. 100. The number of major, minor and petty Devaswoms at the close of the year was 166, 374 and 879 respectively.

*Devaswoms—  
Major, Minor  
and Petty.*

Apart from the scheduled Devaswoms, there are the Personal Deposit Devaswoms which are unincorporated religious institutions which came under the control and management of Government at different times and under varying circumstances. The accounts, in respect of these are not merged in the general Devaswom accounts, but are maintained separately. They have personal deposit accounts with the Government treasuries. The total number of such institutions at the end of the year was 90, against 86 at the end of the previous year. The most important of these are (i) the Pattazhi Devaswom; (ii) the Erumeli and Paschima Devaswoms, (iii) the Turavur Devaswom, (iv) the Perumbavur Devaswom and (v) the Perumanam Devaswom in the Cochin State, the *Uchapooja* service in which is conducted by the Travancore Government by virtue of the right acquired from the Parur Raja by the annexation of that principality to the Travancore State.

The *Sri Chitrodaya Devapooja Patassala* at Tiruvalla for the training of persons in the performance of *Santhi* or devotional service in temples, the *Vedapatassala* at Trivandrum and the *Thevara patassala* at Suchindram continued during the year.

The Sri Chitra Central Hindu Religious Library and Lecture Hall at Trivandrum functioned throughout the year. There were 3,005 books in the library besides 20 magazines and journals. Regular religious classes were conducted in the lecture hall. The library and lecture hall opened at Nagercoil in 1117 continued to work during the year.

Religious discourses were as usual conducted in most of the major Devaswoms in connection with *Utsavoms* and other important religious ceremonies. Religious conventions were held at Kottayam, Kalady and Vaikom. The discourses conducted during the conventions were well attended and appreciated by the audience.

The Devaswom Fund consists of the Government's contribution and the income derived from *Nadavaravus*, interest on investments, sale proceeds of surplus provisions and old materials, revenue from Devaswom lands etc. The Government's contribution to the Devaswom Fund, which till 1106 M. E., had been a lump allotment of Rs. 16

lakhs per annum, subsequently fixed at forty per cent. of the *Ayacut* and *Sanchayam* land revenue of the State from 1107, was further revised in 1110, when it was decided that the contribution should be a sum not less than Rs. 16 lakhs, provided that it does not fall below forty per cent. of the total *Ayacut* and *Sanchayam* land revenue, the *Kandukrishi* land revenue also being included in the *Ayacut* land revenue in calculating the percentage. The Government's contribution from the year 1113 was accordingly Rs. 16 lakhs per year. The total receipts of the Fund, including the above contribution amounted to Rs. 19.73 lakhs and the total expenditure charged to the Fund was Rs. 15.75 lakhs. This does not include the pay of the officers and the establishment of the Devaswom Department which is met from the general revenues of the State.

The Public Works Department attended to major works connected with temples, all works under petty construction and repairs being, as usual, carried out by the Devaswom Department. The Maramat Committee scrutinised the estimates for major works. A sum of Rs. 2.54 lakhs was spent by the Public Works Department on the renovation of the Devaswom buildings and appurtenances and Rs. 28,626 by the Devaswom Department on petty construction and repairs.

The Hindu Religious Endowments Act, III of 1079, provides for the better administration of Hindu religious endowments in the State.

Under this Act it is competent to the Government to intervene in the affairs of such institutions and assume their management whenever necessary. Enquiries under Section 6 of the Act were ordered in respect of six institutions and enquiries in respect of seven institutions were completed during the year. The management of the affairs of four Devaswoms was assumed by Government.

Verification of *Thiruvabharanam*s and other valuables in Devaswoms was continued during the year. The Sub-Group Officers' and the Devaswom Officers' Tests were also conducted.

*Miscellaneous.* A text book on the fundamental principles of Hindu Religion was published.



The live-stock in the possession of the department at the end of the year consisted of 16 elephants, 12 bulls, 22 cows, 4 cow-calves, 1 bull-calf and 1 peahen.

The expenditure incurred by Government on Devaswoms and charities during the year over and above the Government's contribution to the Devaswom Fund amounted to Rs. 3.25 lakhs against Rs. 6.80 lakhs in 1117.

*Expenditure.* lakhs against Rs. 6.80 lakhs in 1117.

The Government of Madras has been advised by the Government of India to contribute to the Devaswom Fund for the year 1117 the sum of Rs. 3.25 lakhs over and above the Government's contribution to the Devaswom Fund of Rs. 6.80 lakhs.

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## CHAPTER XVI.

### Food Control Measures.

Immediately after the declaration of the War, Government began to take steps to prevent profiteering and hoarding and to stabilise the market in respect of foodstuffs, textiles, medical preparations, kerosene, and other essential commodities. There was a sudden rise in the prices of paddy and rice in particular, due to the scarcity of shipping space for imports from Burma, but until the fall of Burma the food situation in the State required merely the fixation of the maximum selling price for imported rice and the direct import by Government of consignments of rice intended as a reserve to steady the local market to meet any emergency.

The last ship-load of rice from Burma arrived at Cochin on the 1st March 1942. The fall of Burma compelled the Government on the one hand to seek alternative sources of food supply in British India to meet the monthly deficit of over 30,000 tons of rice and on the other to intensify the efforts to conserve and regulate the production and distribution of local supplies. Help from outside was first secured from the Madras Government who allowed Travancore and Cochin to purchase a specified monthly quota of rice from the Tanjore and Bezwada areas of the Presidency. The quota thus allotted, was worked through a few selected wholesale merchants. An officer of this Government was posted at Tanjore to supervise the purchase and transport of the consignments by the wholesale merchants; and the disposal of this stock after its arrival in the State was also subject to the general control by the Food Grains Controller and the respective Division Peishkars.

Simultaneously with this, Government introduced the Food Grains Control Order and the Essential Commodities Census Order with a view to exercise the necessary statutory control over the dealers and stockists of foodgrains, and to regulate the possession and dealings in similar essential commodities.

The year under report opened with the unexpected termination of the arrangement for monthly quota from the Madras Presidency. To meet the unforeseen situation thus created, Government, as explained by them in the Press Note dated the 29th September 1942, immediately adopted the following measures:—

(a) The collection of statistics regarding the stock of paddy and rice in the possession of landowners, cultivators, stockists and dealers;

(b) Regulating the possession and disposal of these stocks in order to ensure an equitable distribution to all the localities in the State at reasonable prices; and

(c) Scrutinising and authorising the transactions in regard to such stocks; and for that purpose, of granting permits in regard to sale of paddy and rice.

A Notification was published prescribing that not more than 25 per cent. of the bran should be removed when husking paddy. Appropriate areas in the vicinity of Reserve Forests and certain hill slopes were made available on the basis of *Kuthagapattom* for the cultivation of paddy, tapioca and vegetables. Imposition of a cess on the export of tapioca flour, prohibition of the export of bones of cattle, and restriction on the export of dried fish from the State formed other important measures adopted by Government at this juncture to conserve existing supplies and intensify local production.

Similar measures, under the "Grow More Food Campaign" adopted during the year consisted of the following items of major importance:—

(a) Cultivation of large areas of lake reclamations which had been left fallow;

(b) Conversion of single crop lands into double crop lands in North Travancore under the Lift Irrigation scheme and the throwing open of fresh lands for cultivation;

(c) Opening of manure depots in different parts of the State; and

(d) Development of minor irrigation facilities in Central Travancore.

The cessation of imports of rice from Burma more or less coincided with the rise of an unprecedented demand for tapioca starch by the textile industries in British India, and the extensive manufacture of tapioca flour spread throughout the country. The imposition of a cess of Re. 1 per cwt., on the export of tapioca flour had no effect and the exports were mounting up at a time when the commodity was



greatly in demand in the State to supplement the attenuated supplies of rice. On the 25th October 1942 Government published a Notification prohibiting the export of tapioca in any form except under a permit from the Excise Commissioner. Still, the manufacture was proceeding and the local supplies of this valuable foodstuff were being rapidly depleted. The problem was finally solved by Government by the absolute prohibition of all manufacture of tapioca powder in the State: the stock already in the possession of manufacturers and ready for export being alone permitted to be exported subject to certain conditions. The maximum selling prices of raw tapioca and tapioca chips were also fixed.

It was, however, evident that even the utmost efforts from the Government and the maximum possible co-operation from the public could not by themselves solve the food problem in the State unless substantial help was forthcoming from outside. Joint representations from Cochin and Travancore and the intervention of the Government of India owing to the growing seriousness of the All India Food Problem resulted in the first allotment of a quota to the State. A small supply was obtained from the Madras Presidency; but the scheme itself failed before it had begun to function. This was followed by a series of conferences in Delhi at which both Travancore and Cochin, which have all along been acting as one unit in regard to the food problem, were represented by the Dewans of the two States. The result of the negotiations was the basic plan of Procurement and Distribution under which the Government of India allotted to the State 2,00,000 tons of rice, 1,68,000 tons of millets and over 10,000 tons of wheat. Within one month of the allotment and after the receipt of 7,000 tons of rice by the State, this plan too failed. The position was reviewed at a meeting of the representatives of the Food Department and of some of the Provinces and States in Bombay; but no decision was taken on the occasion and the whole matter was placed before the Food Conference held in Delhi in July 1943. The Dewan of Travancore attended this conference on behalf of Cochin and Travancore and strongly pleaded for the imposition of more effective central control to implement the basic plan. The year closed with a revised allotment of 25,653 tons of rice and 15,084 tons of millets for August to November and of 94,450 tons of wheat and wheat products including foreign imports and 5,418 tons of gram for August 1943 to March 1944.

To the extent allowed under the basic plan and independent quotas from time to time, the State, along with Cochin, was purchasing foodgrains from Tanjore, Bezwada, Central Provinces, Sind, Baluchistan and other North Indian Areas. Messrs. Volkart Brothers of Cochin were functioning as the Purchasing Agents of the two States. To receive the stock arriving by train at Ernakulam and arrange for its transport to the different centres in the State a special officer was appointed at Cochin with the necessary staff.

Along with the purchase of the quota from British India, steps were taken to purchase the excess stock of paddy with the landowners in the State. Export of rice and paddy from the State had already been prohibited by a Notification published in June 1942. It had also been provided that stocks of paddy or rice above a prescribed quantity should not be kept in the possession of any landowner or dealer except under a permit from the Division Peishkar or under a licence from the Food Grains Controller. The available excess stock of paddy in the possession of landowners was at first arranged to be purchased through wholesale merchants but this system failed. The landowner very often withheld the stock from the authorised purchaser with a view to divert it to the black market. This led to the introduction of the method of direct purchase of all available excess stock by Government through the local officers. To afford the necessary statutory basis and authority for such purchases the Rice and Paddy (Acquisition and Distribution) Order was passed by Government investing the District Magistrates with the required powers. A uniform rate of Re. 1-4 As., was also fixed as the price of paddy per Standard Para throughout the State.

There was, however, no uniformity in the system followed in the three Divisions in the purchase of excess stock; and the absence of a co-ordinating authority in this respect was also felt in the slow pace of purchases. A special officer designated as the Food Grains Purchase Officer was therefore appointed and he was invested with the powers of a District Magistrate throughout the State. Since there were no definite criteria for the ascertainment of purchasable excess and to remedy the defects inherent in the system which was vesting the discretion in this respect with the local purchasing officer, Government fixed a graded quota as the quantity to be sold by owners of paddy lands beyond two acres in area. The quota which was in the nature of a sliding scale was applied uniformly throughout the State. The actual purchase was made by the local Revenue Officers out of



advances sanctioned from time to time. In order to cope with the additional work involved, 5 Additional Assistant Peishkars were appointed in addition to 24 clerks, 247 Proverthicans and 85 peons in the various Taluk Offices.

The purchase was made as far as possible in close collaboration with the local Kara Committees. To facilitate purchases and to prevent the black market, all private sales of paddy and rice were statutorily prohibited and it was also prescribed that no paddy or rice should be transported in the State without permits from competent authorities. The uniform application of the system of purchase on the basis of the acreage of the field was seen to be unfair in certain cases since the fertility of the field was found to be widely varying. Substantial quantities of excess stock were also left with the bigger landowners. With a view to rectify these defects and to accelerate the purchase from the next crop onwards, the whole subject was discussed at a meeting of the Food Advisory Committee on the 28th June 1943 and it was decided that future purchases should be effected on the basis of the yield of the land as ascertained from the Pattom fixed at the time of the Settlement. Settlement Pattom was treated as the basic minimum to be purchased from every field; the purchasable excess beyond the Settlement Pattom being fixed by the local Purchase Officer having regard to the reasonable requirements of the cultivator for purposes of seed, cultivation expenses and *bona-fide* domestic consumption. The price of paddy was also raised and fixed at Re. 1 As, 8., per Standard Para.

The stock transported from outside and purchased in the State was being distributed on the authority of the respective Division Peishkars through the Tahsildars in the case of rural areas and the Municipal Councils in the case of urban centres. Towards the end of the year under report steps were taken to introduce rationing throughout the State; and for this purpose the Rationing Preparatory Measures Act was passed.

Since then, statutory rationing has been introduced throughout the whole State and the procurement operations have been intensified. A definite quota of foodgrains consisting of 1,63,000 tons of rice, 16,000 tons of wheat and wheat products, 51,000 tons of millets, 8,900 tons of maize and 9,000 tons of pulses has also been allotted to the State by the Central Government for the year 1944. As a result of all these, there has been a definite improvement in the food situation in the State.



## CHAPTER XVII.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

#### Anchal (State Postal Department.)

*Superintendent.*

Mr. P. A. Kasim B. A., B. L.

The Sirkar Anchal is one of the earliest institutions in the State. Its reorganisation so long ago as 1784 A. D. is the earliest available record relating to the department. Its *Early History.* original function was confined to the transmission of State papers and sundry articles like vegetables, flowers, etc., from mofussil stations, for use in the Palace and the Sri Padmanabha Swami temple. In 1848, the department was thrown open to Government servants and petitioners, private letters of Government servants and petitions from members of the public being carried free. Private covers were accepted from 1860; and postage on letters, packets etc., was regulated during the succeeding year. Registered envelopes were introduced in 1865, Anchal stamps and cards in 1888, the money order system in 1901, the value payable system in 1906 and the savings bank work in 1912.

There were 372 Anchal offices at the end of the year 1117. One departmental Anchal office and 3 non-departmental Anchal offices were newly opened during the year. One non-*Anchal Offices* departmental Anchal office was abolished during *and Letter Boxes.* the year as it was working at a loss. Thus at the end of 1118, the total number of Anchal offices was 375 of which 194 were departmental and 181 non-departmental. Of the 181 non-departmental Anchal offices, 40 were in the experimental stage. The number of letter boxes at the end of the year was 615 as against 608 at the end of the previous year.

The number of private articles posted during the year was 1,71,69,249 as against 1,84,14,378 in the previous year. The number of official articles was 39,37,036 and that of privileged articles 1,252,205 as against 5,215,524 and 1,076,635 respectively in 1117.

The number of articles delivered during the year was 24,977,447 as against 25,277,527 articles in the previous year. This gave a total average of 35,939 articles and a daily average of 101 articles for each Anchal man to deliver against a total average of 36,902 articles and a daily average of 101 articles in the previous year.

*Delivery of Articles.*

As in the previous year, 20 Anchal offices were doing insurance work. The number of articles insured during the year was 214 as against 334 in the previous year. The total number of value payable articles both inland and foreign issued in Travancore during the year was 17,218 against 16,965 in the previous year. Of these, 1,205 value payable articles were received for delivery in the Cochin State. Including the 139 undelivered value payable articles of the previous year and 3,821 received from the Cochin State for delivery, the total number of value payable articles for delivery was 19,973 as against 19,043 in the previous year, of which 18,806 were delivered to the addressees and 954 returned to the senders leaving a balance of 213 at the end of the year.

The hundi branch of the department deals with inland hundies, foreign hundies for payment in Cochin, revenue hundies, Government revenue remittance hundies and pension payment hundies. All the 375 Anchal offices in the State were doing hundi business. The total number of hundies both inland and foreign issued in 1118 was 615,860 against 582,413 in the previous year. The total number of hundies for delivery in 1118 was 610,925 of which 605,208 were delivered in Travancore, 311 were re-directed to Cochin for payment leaving a balance of 5,406 pending payment at the end of 1118. The total amount of hundies paid was Rs. 69,99,201-17-8 which showed an increase of Rs. 16,86,430-4-15 in the delivery of money orders over that of the previous year. The number of revenue hundies issued during the year was 10,477 for Rs. 63,657-10-2 against 10,286 hundies for Rs. 56,251-22-13 in 1117 and that of Government revenue remittance hundies was 483 for Rs. 62,678-16-2 against 515 for Rs. 75,483-14-15 in the previous year. Eighty-three pension payment hundies for Rs. 1,127-22-0 were issued against 64 hundies for Rs. 962-15-0 in 1117. During the year money orders for Rs. 91,614-12-8 were issued in different offices free of commission against Rs. 60,055-11-2 in the previous year.

and State Life Insurance money orders for Rs. 89,359-13-2 were paid to the Accountant-General's office against Rs. 59,682-20-2 paid during 1117.

The number of Anchal offices doing savings bank work rose from 157 to 160 and the number of savings bank transactions effected during the year was 235,620 against 230,089 in the year 1117. There were 134,019 deposits amounting to Rs. 2,12,48,551-21-10 and 101,601 withdrawals amounting to Rs. 1,25,37,450-7-8. The balance held by the savings banks at the end of the year was Rs. 2,19,68,125-5-5 as against Rs. 1,34,87,286-10-9 in the previous year.

The total number of Anchal offices doing telephone work at the close of the year was 29 against 26 in 1117. Telephone Work 24 hours service is guaranteed in all the telephone in Anchal Offices. public call offices.

The total length of mail lines at the end of 1118 was 1,705½ miles as against 1,652¾ miles in the previous year and the transport of mails was made by railway for 99 miles, by motor boats for 18 miles, by motor buses for 891½ miles and by runners for 696¾ miles.

The work of collection of used Anchal stamps both service and ordinary and their sale to the public (Philatelists) was introduced during the year. 105,310 washed stamps were accordingly sold in public auction for Bh. Rs. 201 (Sr. Rs. 204-16-8) and the amount was added to the revenue of the department.

The Anchal Superintendent conducted inspections of 168 Anchal offices during the year, most of which were surprise inspections.

#### Transport Department.

Director.

Mr. F. G. Salter.

There was no extension of ordinary services during the year. The express services were extended from Nagercoil to Cape Comorin and from Kottayam to Parur but the former was withdrawn as it did not prove to be sufficiently popular.

Extensions and Re-adjustments of Service.



The number of passengers carried during the year was 7.6 millions against 8 millions in 1117 and the mileage operated *Mileage, Fare and Traffic.* was 4,829,685 as against 5,392,215 in the previous year. The fares for passengers as well as parcels were increased with effect from 15th Kanni 1118, the former by 25 per cent. and the latter by 50 per cent., but the luggage charges remained unaltered. The fares for express service were also increased by 50 per cent. With a view to persuading short distance passengers to avail themselves of the shuttle services wherever they existed, the fares on the shuttle services were kept at a level lower than in the case of those for through services.

There were agents in all the important stations to receive parcels from consignors and to distribute them to consignees *Parcels and Goods Transport.* and the number of such agents at the end of the year was 49 as against 37 in the previous year. The receipts from parcels during the year amounted to Rs. 1,30,690 as against Rs. 49,311 during the previous year.

There was a slight fall in the quantities of goods transported during the year between Alwaye and Munnar. The total tonnage for 1118 M. E. was 16,105 as against 19,627 in the previous year.

Most of the buses are equipped with saloon bodies which are so designed as to provide maximum riding comfort. *Amenities to Passengers.* A high standard of tidiness is maintained and the seats are regularly sprayed with insecticides. Waiting rooms are provided in important stations. Civility and courtesy on the part of the operators towards passengers are insisted on, and any member of the staff acting otherwise is severely dealt with.

The grant of concession tickets to students was continued during the year. Buses were given on hire for excursions, tours, marriages, etc., and special services were operated in connection with festivals and other important events.

There were 46 accidents during the year as against 43 in the previous year. *Accidents.* Of these 21 were petty accidents, 17 were serious and 8 fatal accidents. The accident rate was one for every 105,000 miles run which was a little above the previous year's. The endeavours of the department to minimise accidents by propaganda and education were continued.

The total gross receipts for the year 1118 amounted to Rs. 30,12,899 and the expenditure to Rs. 22,66,064 and *Expenditure* as against Rs. 20,72,544 and Rs. 17,53,210 respectively during the previous year.

### Mint.

The history of Travancore coins dates back to a period far earlier than the establishment of the Travancore Mint at Padmanabhapuram in 965 M. E. (1789—90 A. D.) To begin with, gold coins known as *anandarayan fanams*, silver *chuckrams* and copper *cash* were issued. The Mint was permanently transferred to Trivandrum in 1824 A. D. Gold, silver, zinc and copper coins were once in circulation. Travancore gold coins are not now legal tender. The existing currency is described in Chapter I.

During the early part of 1118, there was a marked tendency towards the hoarding of small coins thereby preventing their free circulation while on the other hand there was an unusually keen demand for small coins on account of the development of small scale industries. Government had therefore to call the pointed attention of the public by means of Press Communiques and Notifications to the provisions in the Defence of Travancore Rules penalising the hoarding of coins more than to the extent of one's personal or business requirements. A fresh supply of small coins was also minted and put into circulation. The weight of the State copper coins was reduced as shown below and coins of the reduced weight issued from the 25th Dhanu 1118 :—

|                        | <i>Original weight.</i> | <i>Reduced weight.</i> |
|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 chuckram             | 157 gr. Troy            | 120 gr. Troy           |
| $\frac{1}{2}$ chuckram | 78.5 gr. Troy           | 60 gr. Troy            |
| $\frac{1}{4}$ chuckram | 39.25 gr. Troy          | 30 gr. Troy            |
| Cash                   | 9.8125 gr. Troy         | 7.5 gr. Troy           |

The administrative control of the Mint is vested in the Financial Secretary to Government, the immediate charge of the Mint being with the Superintendent of that institution.

The activities of the Government Mint were as in the past limited to the minting of copper coins, the only change being the manufacture of blanks also as a temporary measure till blanks were obtained from Bombay. The face value of the copper coins minted during the year was Rs. 19,001.

*Minting.*

The following table shows the Sirkar coins assumed to be in circulation :—

*Coins in Circulation.*

| Description of coins.      | Face value of coins minted. |          |           | Value of coins held in treasuries. | Value of coins withdrawn from circulation. | Value of coins assumed to be in circulation. |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------|-----------|------------------------------------|--|--|
|                            | Up to the end of 1117.      | In 1118  | Total.    |                                    |  |  |
| <b>SILVER.</b>             | Rs.                         | Rs.      | Rs.       | Rs.                                | Rs.  | Rs.  |
| Half rupees                | 20,35,906                   | 5,06,934 | 25,42,840 | 1,92,767                           | 1,24,273                                   | 22,25,800                                    |
| Quarter rupees             | 2,81,487                    | 13       | 2,81,500  | 4,213                              | 1,19,659                                   | 1,57,628                                     |
| Fanams                     | 7,62,084                    | 4,52,625 | 12,14,709 | 34,117                             | 3,42,240                                   | 8,38,352                                     |
| Total                      | 30,79,477                   | 9,59,572 | 40,39,049 | 2,31,097                           | 5,86,172                                   | 32,21,780                                    |
| <b>COPPER.</b>             |                             |          |           |                                    |  |  |
| One chuckram               | 12,82,202                   | 16,354   | 12,98,556 | 10,996                             | ..   | 12,87,560                                    |
| Half chuckram              | 5,22,832                    | 2,109    | 5,24,941  | 2,494                              | ..   | 5,22,447                                     |
| Quarter chuckram           | 2,60,477                    | 538      | 2,61,015  | 1,224                              | ..   | 2,59,791                                     |
| Cash                       | 1,79,989                    | ..       | 1,79,989  | 2,159                              | ..   | 1,77,830                                     |
| Total                      | 22,45,500                   | 19,001   | 22,64,501 | 16,873                             | ..   | 22,47,628                                    |
| Total of silver and copper | 53,24,977                   | 9,78,573 | 63,03,550 | 2,47,970                           | 5,86,172                                   | 54,69,408                                    |

Four hundred and fourteen Sirkar coins of various denominations to the face value of Rs. 68 chs. 15 and also one British Indian Rupee coin were cut by the Treasury Officers during the year as defective.

*Coins Cut.*

The total receipts of the department during 1118 amounted to Rs. 1,37,070 of which Rs. 1,37,666 represented the gain on silver coinage. An expenditure of Rs. 3,638 was incurred on account of establishment charges and contingencies.

*Receipts and Expenditure.*



**Government Press.***Superintendent.**Mr. P. E. Mathew, B. A.*

The Government Press was first organised about the year 1856 A. D. In addition to the Government Gazette published every Tuesday, the most important publications printed at the Government Press, in conjunction with the Central Prison Press, are the State Administration report, the departmental reports, the statistical volume, the proceedings of both the houses of the Legislature and the Readers and text books for schools. The strength of the Press staff at the close of the year under report was 420 consisting of 2 gazetted officers, 156 salaried employees, 188 permanent piece-workers and 74 temporary piece-workers including 20 women.

The value of the plant at the end of the previous year stood at Rs. 1.78 lakhs. Types etc., cast in the Government Press and purchased from outside valued at Rs. 21,672 were added to the stock. Deducting depreciation and making allowance for battered types etc., issued and deducting the value of plant transferred to other departments, the value of the plant at the end of the year stood at Rs. 1.81 lakhs.

The number of standard pages of foolscap folio set in the composing section was 55,977 against 60,847 in the previous year. The total number of impressions struck in the machine section was 23,823,224 against 24,510,011 in 1117. In the type foundry 16,242 lbs. of types, spaces, quads and quotations and 3,691 square inches of engraved line blocks plates etc., were cast and cut during the year. The binding section executed works valued at Rs. 57,489 against Rs. 47,295 in the previous year. The total value of printing and binding works done for the various departments during the year amounted to Rs. 2.51 lakhs against Rs. 2.67 lakhs in the previous year. 4,920 lbs. of types valued at Rs. 3,690 were cast in the Thompson type-casting machines against 6,004 lbs. in the previous year. Metal and rubber stamps to the value of Rs. 629 were made and supplied during the year.

Comparing the cost of production with the total out-turn, it is seen that for every rupee spent, the Press was able to show Rs. 1.8 worth of work,

The average circulation of the Gazette and the departmental Gazette, sheets in the years 1117 and 1118 M. E. is given below:—

|                     | Year. | Number subscribed for. | Number issued free. |
|---------------------|-------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Gazette             | 1117  | 1,006                  | 249                 |
|                     | 1118  | 1,304                  | 247                 |
| Departmental sheets | 1117  | 214                    | 3,986               |
|                     | 1118  | 113                    | 3,094               |

In addition to the 52 weekly issues of the Gazette, 25 Extraordinary Gazettes were also published against 18 in the previous year.

#### Stationery

The subjoined statement shows the receipts and expenditure under stationery during 1118 M. E.:—

| Particulars.  | 1116.    | 1117.    | 1118.    |
|---|----------|----------|----------|
|   | Rs.      | Rs.      | Rs.      |
| Receipts  | 14,301   | 7,787    | 20,062   |
| Expenditure   | 2,24,676 | 1,91,771 | 2,55,472 |
| Deduct cost debitable to Achnal, Water Works, Electricity and Ceramic Factory | 11,081   | 14,909   | 15,631   |
| Net expenditure   | 2,13,595 | 1,76,862 | 2,39,841 |

During the year under report purchases to the value of Rs. 2,83,107 were made against Rs. 2,02,316 during the previous year. The value of articles issued during the year 1118 amounted to Rs. 2,55,472 against Rs. 1,91,771 in the previous year. The value of stock on hand at the close of the year was Rs. 2,38,724.

### Presses and Publications.

There were 172 printing presses at the close of the year 1118 against 177 in 1117. The number of books published from the various presses was 90. Of these, 56 were published in *Newspapers and Periodicals.* Malayalam, 18 in English, 5 in Tamil, 7 in English and Malayalam, 1 in Sanskrit and Malayalam, 1 in English and Tamil and 2 in other languages. As in the previous years, the majority of the publications issued from private presses related to general literature and the rest dealt with religion, history, education, medicine, science and other subjects.

There were 79 newspapers and periodicals published in the State during the year against 70 in 1117. Of these, 30 were published in Malayalam, 14 in English, 5 in Tamil, 25 in English and Malayalam, 1 in English, Malayalam and Latin, 1 in Sanskrit and Malayalam, 2 in English and Tamil and 1 in English and Latin. Of the newspapers and periodicals in circulation, 6 were dailies, 16 weeklies, 1 bi-monthly, 47 monthlies, 3 published once in two months, 1 quarterly, 3 published once in four months, 1 bi-annually and 1 annually. Of the 79 newspapers and periodicals, 20 were devoted to general and political, 34 to social and religious, 1 to commercial, 1 to medical and public health, 3 to legal, 3 to humorous and 17 to general, educational and literary topics. During the year under report, 7 licenses were issued to newspapers and periodicals under Section 3 of the Travancore Newspapers Act, V of 1101, as amended by Act IV of 1110. The total number of newspapers and periodicals that were being published at the close of the year was 70.

The Press Room and Enquiry Office in the General and Revenue Secretariat which was organised in 1090 M. E. (1915 A. D.) is now under the immediate control of the Director of Information. He serves as a link between the Government and the Press, issues communiques and press notes whenever necessary, furnishes correct reports about Government activities, keeps the Government informed of the trend of public opinion as reflected in the newspapers within and outside the State and gives effective publicity to matters relating to the State. He also attends to the correspondence relating to the issue of licenses to newspapers and the working of the Copyright Act. Information regarding the State is promptly supplied to tourists and others



when required. In the Press Room, accredited press representatives are given all possible information relating to important administrative measures and appointments of Government, the working of the various departments, the new schemes planned by Government, the programmes of the tours of His Highness the Maharaja, etc.

Since September 1940, the Department of Information has been publishing an illustrated monthly journal called 'Travancore Information' the object of which is to keep the public of Travancore and outside the State informed of the various activities on which the Government are engaged for the agricultural and industrial rehabilitation of the country and also to enable a bird's eye view to be taken of the happenings in the State from time to time in proper perspective. In April 1943, the name of the journal was changed into "Travancore Information and Listener." The advance programmes of the Travancore Radio are included in the publication.

*Travancore  
Information  
and Listener.*

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#### Archaeological Department.

*Director of Archaeology.*

*Mr. R. Vasudeva Podaval, B. A.*

Government sanctioned the establishment of an Archaeological Department in 1971 M. B. The work of the department is embodied in the Travancore Archaeological Series published from time to time.

*General.*

During the year under report sixteen unpublished inscriptions were copied and deciphered. The department undertook a survey of ancient works of art which have not hitherto been brought to light. A unique discovery of the year was that of an illustrated Ramayana manuscript in palm leaf. A collection of ancient gold coins numbering over 2,100 in the custody of the Government was examined and listed.

*Epigraphy.*

#### Museum of Antiquities.

The Museum of Antiquities at Padmanabhapuram received considerable attention during the year and many valuable additions were made to the stock of exhibits. The total number of visitors in the year was 70,540 as against 74,665 during the previous year.

## Museums.

*Art Adviser to Government  
to supervise Government  
Museums and Picture  
Galleries.*

*Professor J. H. Cousins.*

*Officer in charge of the  
Museums.*

*Mr. R. Vasudeva Podival  
B. A.*

The Museum was originally started about the year 1853 A. D. and was located in its present site in 1880. The object of the foundation was to encourage science and art. The Public Gardens came into existence in 1859 A. D. Soon after, a Zoological section was formed with His Highness the Maharaja's private menagerie as its nucleus. The Museum, the Public Gardens and the Zoo formed one administrative unit till the end of 1111 M. E., when the first as also the second and third were placed under the control of two separate officers designated officers-in-charge. The two latter branches together are now known as the 'Government Gardens' under the control of an Honorary Director, assisted by a full-time Superintendent. The institutions, as they exist to-day, are the growth of well over half a century and they have been giving instruction and pleasure to several thousands of people every year.

One important feature of the year under report was the bifurcation of the institution and the removal of the Natural History collections to the Shankumughom Palace building to relieve congestion. The space gained in the Government Museum by the transfer of the Natural History specimens was utilised for the better display of the collections of art and handicrafts consisting of bronzes, stone and wooden *vigrahas*, metal lamps, jewellery, ivory articles and musical instruments which were all tastefully arranged.

The following are some of the most important additions to the collections in the Museum during the year :—

*Additions.*

1. A ratham from Padmanabhapuram richly carved with figures of the Hindu pantheon and Puranic Heroes ;

2. Four wooden images, one of Brahma, one of Narasimha and 2 of Dakshina Murtis, from the Thiruvattar temple; and
3. A collection of gold coins and bronze images purchased from Madras.

The Museum was kept open to the public for 305 days in the year.

### Government Gardens and the Zoo.

*Honorary Director.*

*Dr. D. Jivanayakam.*

The Zoo live-stock at the commencement of the year was 696 consisting of 252 mammals, 385 birds, 37 reptiles and 22 fishes. During the year 36 mammals, 17 birds and 6 reptiles were added to the stock. The number that died during the year was 86 and the number disposed of by sale was 105, the total number of live-stock at the end of the year being 564.

The number of visitors to the Zoo increased from that of the previous year, the average number of visitors per day being 271 against 238 in the previous year. In addition to the visitors admitted on payment of the nominal gate fee, many parties of students and teachers were admitted free.

The Gardens are divided into two sections, the top garden and the lower garden. The top garden where there are many drives and paths, lawns and flowering plants is an evening resort of the people. The attraction of the lower garden is that it has a small lake for boating.

### The Sri Chitralayam.

*Art Adviser to Government to supervise Government Museums and Picture Galleries.*

*Professor J. H. Cousins.*

*Officer in charge.*

*Mr. M. R. Madhavan  
Unnithan, B. A.*

The Sri Chitralayam which is the State Art Gallery was founded in Kanni 1111 M. E., and has been rendering valuable service by its



display of representative paintings, particularly in Kerala and of examples of Asian paintings in affinity with those in India.

The following paintings and illuminated manuscripts were added to the Gallery during the year under report:—

*Additions.*

1. Paintings by the late Raja Ravi Varma —
  - (a) Vishnumaya in oil colours;
  - (b) An oil painting of the Valia Raja of Parappanad;
  - (c) Portrait, in oils, of Mr. Ramanatha Rao;
  - (d) A portrait, in oils, of Mrs. Ramanatha Rao, daughter of Sir T. Madhava Rao;
2. Two old anonymous paintings, Radha Krishna, and Krishna's dance with the Gopis;
3. Four miniature paintings by Mr. Bireswar Sen, M. A. (presented by the Dewan);
4. Portrait of the Emperor Aurangzeb riding an elephant: an old Mughal painting of high artistic quality and historical value;
5. Panj Surah-Chapters of Quran; in the Emperor Aurangzeb's own calligraphy; and signed by himself (1078 Hijari);
6. Dasama-Skanda (Life of Sri Krishna) in Gurumukhi script by Ratan Singh; with 300 miniature Rajput paintings;
7. Maha Bharata in Persian—Translated from the Sanskrit by Faizi of Akbar's Court with Rajput paintings;
8. Voyage Du Chevalier Chardin, in French: (presented by the Dewan); and
9. Miniature Quran in a tiny Gold Case.

The total number of visitors to the Gallery during the year was 12,527. Groups of students from various institutions in the State and outside as well as excursion parties visited the Gallery during the year.

*Visitors.*

**The Sri Chitra Home for the Destitute and the Infirm.**

The Sri Chitra Home for the Destitute and the Infirm was established at Trivandrum in 1110 M. E. with the donation of Rs. 50,000 given by His Highness the Maharaja. Further donations, including a

sum of Rs. 1,000 from Her Highness Maharani Setu Parvati Bai were received subsequently. The control and management of the Home are vested in a Board appointed by Government.

There were 81 inmates in the Home at the end of the year—40 adults and 41 orphans. Twenty-three adults and 40 orphans were fed during the year. The average cost of feeding per head per diem was chs. 4 and cash 12 for adults and chs. 3 and cash 8 for minor orphans. The total expenditure in running the Home amounted to Rs. 6,714 as against Rs. 5,924 in the previous year.

The number of school-going children in the Home at the end of the year was 30. Twenty-five orphans were given training in weaving and articles worth Rs. 1,124 were manufactured during 1118.

### The Public Service.

*Public Service Commissioner.*

*Mr. S. N. Ure, M. A.*

The year under report is the eighth year of the working of the Public Service Department. During the last seven years the department was working on a temporary basis. It was made permanent with effect from the beginning of the year under report. The Public Service Commissioner is assisted by a non-official Advisory Committee which met twice during the year.

The number of recruitments advised was 2,036 against 748 in 1117 and 1,321 in 1116. In addition to these there were about 700 advices which became ineffective owing to the non-availability of the candidates, a majority of them having left the State for military service.

*Recruitment—  
General.*

Of the six candidates in the first batch of Civil Service Probationers who have completed their training, two have been posted as Superintendents in the Accounts Department, two as Tahsildars, one as Inspector of Police and one as Assistant Excise Commissioner. The training of the second batch of Civil Service Probationers was continued during the year.

*Recruitment to  
the Higher Division—The  
Civil Service.*

Fourteen selective tests were held for appointments in the Intermediate Division of the public service during the year. The total number of candidates interviewed was 35 out of a total number of 57 applicants and the number of advices made for appointments in this division was also 35.

Selective tests were held in respect of 43 appointments. The total number of applicants for appointments in the Lower Division was 2,122 and the total number of recruitments advised was 926.

The following statement shows the number of candidates advised for recruitment from the several recognised communities during 1118:—

| Name of community. |                       | No. advised for recruitment to the Intermediate Division. (All these are selected on the basis of the results of selective tests.) | No. advised for recruitment to the Lower Division.   |  |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|--|--|
|                    |                       |  | Appointments carrying a pay ranging from Rs. 20 to Rs. 70 and including appointments of Proverthicals and Pakuthy Accountants. | Appointments below Rs. 20 excluding Proverthicals and Accountants. |
| HINDU              | Brahmin               | 3  | 38   | 21   |
|                    | Ezhava                | 1  | 161  | 199  |
|                    | Kammala               | ::   | 41   | 37   |
|                    | Kurava                | ::   | 3  | 13   |
|                    | Nadar                 | ::   | 30   | 45   |
|                    | Nayar                 | 8  | 215  | 255 + 1 L. S.  |
|                    | Other Hindu           | ::   | 50   | 44   |
|                    | Other specified Hindu | ::   | 20   | 22   |
|                    | Paraya                | ::   | 2  | 8  |
|                    | Pulaya                | ::   | 8  | 32   |
|                    | Vellala               | 1  | 25   | 20   |
| CHRISTIAN          | Anglican              | 1  | 18   | 19   |
|                    | Jacobite              | 9  | 69   | 65   |
|                    | Latin Catholic        | 1  | 56   | 80   |
|                    | Marthomite            | 2  | 32   | 23   |
|                    | Other Christian       | ::   | 18   | 16   |
|                    | S. I. U. C.           | 5  | 30   | 20   |
| MUSLIM             | Syriac Catholic       | 2  | 73   | 73   |
|                    | Muslim                | 2  | 37   | 82   |
| Total              |                       | 35   | 926  | 1,074 + 1 L. S.  |



### New Churches and Mosques.

During the year, permission was granted for opening 3 churches and 2 mosques.

### The State Life Insurance (Public Branch.)

The State Life Insurance Scheme—Public Branch completed its second quinquennium by the end of the year under report. The revised rules brought into effect from 1115 provide *inter alia* for the enhancement of the period of grace in the case of monthly and quarterly instalments from fifteen days to one calendar month, an automatic non-forfeiture scheme, special claim concessions and facilities for grant of cash loans on policies of over three years' duration etc. These facilities are much appreciated by the public. The maximum risk on male lives has also been raised from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 10,000. Policy holders have been enabled to make remittances of premium etc., through the departmental Anchal Offices free of commission, so that they may pay up with the least delay. The progress of the scheme during the year 1118 was rapid and phenomenal as compared with previous records. A most satisfactory feature of the scheme is that it has become very popular with the middle classes in the State.

During the year 1,913 proposals amounting to Bh. Rs. 19,273 lakhs were received against 1,097 proposals for Bh. Rs. 12,35 lakhs in 1117. Inclusive of 39 proposals for Bh. Rs. 0,508 lakh pending disposal at the beginning of the year there were in all 1,952 proposals for Bh. Rs. 19,781 lakhs to be dealt with during the year. Out of these, 25 proposals for Bh. Rs. 27,500 were either rejected or cancelled, 75 proposals were subjected to a reduction of Bh. Rs. 0,912 lakh and 1,443 proposals for Bh. Rs. 13,559 lakhs were accepted leaving a balance of 409 proposals for Bh. Rs. 4,463 lakhs under various stages of consideration.

Policies completed after age had been admitted amounted to 993 for Bh. Rs. 10,135 lakhs as against 1,008 policies for Bh. Rs. 10,83 lakhs in 1117. The total number of policies issued to the last day of 1118 was 9,657 for a total assurance of Bh. Rs. 87,055 lakhs.

Forty-five claims on 46 policies for Bh. Rs. 31,600 arose during the year. Including the thirty-four claims on 35 policies for Bh. Rs. 27,200 relating to the previous year, seventy-nine claims on 81 policies came up for settlement. Out of these, twenty-two claims on 23 policies for Bh. Rs. 18,400 were settled and five claims on 6 policies for Bh. Rs. 5,500 were rejected, leaving a balance of fifty-two claims on 52 policies for Bh. Rs. 34,900 unsettled at the end of the year under report. The delay in the settlement of claims was mainly due to the non-receipt of the requisite documents.

Nine policies for Bh. Rs. 5,600 were surrendered during the year for Bh. Rs. 521-5-0 and payments made thereon.

During the year under report, 1,203 policies for Bh. Rs. 10·343 lakhs lapsed and by taking prompt action, revivals were effected in respect of 942 policies for Bh. Rs. 8·799 lakhs realising a revival fee of Bh. Rs. 449-6-6.

305 cash loans to the extent of Bh. Rs. 26,337 were granted to policy holders charging interest at the rate of 6½ per cent. per annum, i. e., one pie per rupee per mensem.

Receipts for the year inclusive of repayment of cash loans, interest on investments etc., amounted to Sr. Rs. 4·49 lakhs while the disbursements of the year inclusive of loan on policies, agents' commission, medical fee, salaries and establishment charges, postage, etc., amounted to Sr. Rs. 86,646.

After making the disbursements, the cash balance to the credit of the fund at the end of the year 1118 stood at Sr. Rs. 16·79 lakhs which was Sr. Rs. 3·63 lakhs more than the closing balance of 1117.

The proportion of expenditure incurred on the management of business to the premium income realised during the year was 10·01 per cent. as compared with 10·05 per cent. during the previous year.

**State Life Insurance.****(Government Servants' Branch.)**

Government servants in the permanent pensionable service of the State and those of the funds whose services are pensionable from the general revenues are eligible for insurance in this branch. Palace subordinates who are eligible for pension either from Government or from Palace funds and who hold permanent appointments are also eligible for insurance in this branch and officers in temporary service are also eligible under certain conditions. The administrative control of the fund is vested in the Accountant-General.

There were four proposals for which policies were pending issue at the end of 1117 and during the year under report ten fresh proposals were received. Eight policies were issued in the year and the number of proposals pending at the end of the year was six.

The number of policies in force at the end of the year 1117 was 603, the total sum assured being Rs. 5.39 lakhs. Eight policies for an aggregate sum of Rs. 12,215 were issued during the year and eighteen policies for a total amount of Rs. 30,705 were removed. The number of policies in force at the end of the year 1118 was 593 for a total sum assured of Rs. 5.21 lakhs.

There were 2 claims on 2 policies pending settlement at the end of 1117 and during the year under report 24 claims on 30 policies arose afresh. Out of these 26 claims on 32 policies, 16 claims on 18 policies were settled during the year. The amounts paid on the three death claims and the thirteen claims by maturity were Rs. 2,328 and Rs. 28,377 respectively. Ten claims on fourteen policies were pending settlement at the end of the year under report.

Thirty loans on 31 policies were paid during the year for a total sum of Rs. 2,747. The receipts during the year on account of loan repayments including interest amounted to Rs. 5,108.



The year opened with a balance of Rs. 4.80 lakhs. The receipts for the year including interest allowed to the fund amounted to Rs. 39,313 and the expenses amounted to Rs. 41,941.

*Receipts and Payments.*

#### State Savings Bank.

Savings-bank business is conducted in all the State treasuries and also in important Anchal Offices. During the year under report, the savings bank business was abolished in two Anchal Offices and introduced in five other Anchal Offices, thus increasing the number of offices doing this business from 188 in 1117 to 191 in 1118. Besides the ordinary deposit accounts open to the public, there are security deposit accounts allowed in favour of Government contractors for the due performance of the work undertaken by them and also in favour of Government servants who have to furnish security in respect of the appointments held by them. Public Accounts are permitted in the case of municipalities, co-operative societies and other public bodies and institutions constituted for purposes other than the personal advantage of the contributors. Fixed deposit accounts are allowed to be opened in the treasuries by the Municipalities and Devaswoms having personal deposit accounts at treasuries and also on behalf of some of the Funds.

*General.*

The number of savings bank accounts rose from 180,679 at the end of 1117 to 191,097 at the end of 1118. The total balance of deposits also showed a rise from Rs. 288.80 lakhs at the end of 1117 to Rs. 406.15 lakhs at the end of the year under report. There was a steady rise in the number of depositors and in the deposit balances during the last ten years except in regard to the closing balance in the year 1112. This steady rise indicates not only a gratifying increase in the volume of business but also the popularity and the usefulness of the Government savings bank among the general public for investing their small savings.

*Volume of Business.*

#### State Provident Fund.

The State Provident Fund was instituted in the year 1107 with the object of providing facilities for Government servants to invest a portion of their pay every month and to withdraw the accumulated savings when they retire from service. It is a provision for the families of the subscribers in the event of the premature death of the latter. All employees in permanent pensionable service under Government and local bodies may subscribe to the fund. Subscription to the fund is compulsory for all permanent entrants into Government service after

1-8-1107 who are not policy-holders in the official branch of the State Life Insurance Scheme. The minimum rate of monthly subscription to the fund is fixed at chuckram one per rupee of the pay for officers who draw a pay of Rs. 15 and above limited to Rs. 100 per month and chuckrams one and a half for officers drawing a higher salary. The maximum rate of subscription is fixed at chuckrams four in all the above cases. For employees getting a pay of less than Rs. 15 the amount that they may contribute monthly is chs. 14 or chs. 7 as they choose.

1,807 subscribers were admitted to the fund in 1118 against 1,291 in the year 1117. The total number of subscribers admitted to the fund up to the end of 1118 was 18,948. The amount of subscription realised in 1118 was Rs. 3.53 lakhs against Rs. 3.47 lakhs in 1117. Interest paid on the deposits in 1118 amounted to Rs. 81,725 against Rs. 69,288 in 1117.

The number of accounts finally closed in 1118 was 246 against 242 in 1117, the amount paid being Rs. 91,319 against Rs. 1.28 lakhs in 1117. There were 1,091 temporary withdrawals for Rs. 61,455 against 1,235 withdrawals for Rs. 65,943 in 1117. A sum of Rs. 62,775 towards principal and Rs. 1,822 as interest was realised in 1118 while the amounts realised in 1117 were Rs. 58,898 and Rs. 2,608 respectively. The closing balance at the end of 1118 was Rs. 24,62,835 against Rs. 21,18,226 at the close of 1117. The fund continued to maintain its steady progress in 1118.

#### Defence Savings Provident Fund.

To enable Government servants of the State to take part in the Defence Savings movement, Government have started with effect from 1st Thulam 1116 the Travancore Defence Savings Provident Fund similar to the one instituted in British India. The contributions to this fund are invested in the 3 per cent. Defence Bonds of the Government of India. The fund is administered by the Travancore Government in the Finance Department and the accounts are kept by the Accountant-General. The amount at the credit of the subscribers can be finally withdrawn on their quitting service or on the expiry of 12 months from the date of termination of the war whichever is earlier. Of the thirty-three subscribers admitted to the Fund in 1116, thirty-two continued their subscription in 1117 and thirty-one in 1118, there being no new entrants in 1117 or 1118.

Huzur Cutcherry, Trivandrum,  
29th June 1944.

C. P. RAMASWAMI AIYAR,  
Dewan.





# INDEX

|  | PAGE   |  | PAGE   |
|--|--------|--|--------|
| Abkari contract . . . . .                              | 42     | Bills . . . . .  | 73     |
| "    policy . . . . .                                  | 41     | Boarding Houses and Hostels<br>under the Education De-<br>partment . . . . . | 151    |
| Academy of Music, the Sri<br>Swathi Tirunal . . . . .  | 149    | Boundaries—State—inspection of . . . . .                                     | 35     |
| Accidents—Motor . . . . .                              | 80     | British Representative—personnel<br>of . . . . .                             | 8      |
| Administration—State . . . . .                         | 13     | Broadcasting—Radio . . . . .   | 122    |
| Advisory Committee, P. W. D. . . . .                   | 116    | Budget—Annual—framing of . . . . .   | 15     |
| Agricultural Department . . . . .                      | 87     | "    Control by the Legislature<br>over . . . . .                            | 18     |
| "    conditions—general . . . . .                      | 88     | Buildings—expenditure incurred<br>by the P. W. D. . . . .                    | 115    |
| "    education . . . . .                               | 91     | Calendar . . . . .   | 4      |
| Aluminium Production Company<br>of India Ltd. . . . .  | 96     | Cattle breeding . . . . .  | 91     |
| Anchal (State Postal Service) . . . . .                | 166    | Ceramic Factory, Kundara . . . . .   | 93     |
| "    offices and boxes . . . . .                       | "    " | Central Prison . . . . .   | 81     |
| "    mail lines . . . . .                              | 168    | Central Co-operative Bank . . . . .  | 105    |
| Appeals—Income Tax . . . . .                           | 38     | Central Research Institute . . . . .   | 143    |
| "    High Court . . . . .                              | 65     | Cheras . . . . .   | 3      |
| Appellate work—Sessions Courts . . . . .               | 64     | Child welfare work and<br>maternity . . . . .                                | 137    |
| Application of revenue . . . . .                       | 15     | Chitra—Sri Central Hindu<br>Religious Library . . . . .                      | 158    |
| Archaeological Department . . . . .                    | 175    | Chitralayam—Sri . . . . .  | 177    |
| Area of the State . . . . .                            | 21     | Chitra Home for the Destitute<br>and the Infirm . . . . .                    | 178    |
| Arrack . . . . .                                       | 42     | Cholera . . . . .  | 134    |
| Ascu Treatment . . . . .                               | 56     | Churches and mosques, new . . . . .  | 181    |
| Assembly—The Sri Mulam . . . . .                       | 16     | Civil Justice . . . . .  | 66     |
| Assets and Liabilities—State . . . . .                 | 27     | "    litigation . . . . .  | "    " |
| Assessment—method of . . . . .                         | 31     | Civil List, Palace . . . . .   | 13     |
| "    Income-tax . . . . .                              | 38     | Civil Service . . . . .  | 179    |
| Assignment of lands on concessional<br>terms . . . . . | 110    | Colleges . . . . .   | 142    |
| Ayurveda Department . . . . .                          | 129    | Co-education . . . . .   | 147    |
| "    hospitals . . . . .                               | 130    | Co-operative Department . . . . .  | 102    |
| "    college . . . . .                                 | 132    | Coins in circulation . . . . .   | 171    |
| "    high schools . . . . .                            | 132    | Commerce—Trade . . . . .   | 123    |
| Backward Communities—uplift of . . . . .               | 110    | Conversion of dry lands<br>into wet lands . . . . .                          | 35     |
| "    colonies for . . . . .                            | 111    | Consumption—tobacco . . . . .  | 45     |
| "    educational concessions . . . . .                 | "    " | Constitution—early . . . . .   | 15     |
| "    education of . . . . .                            | 151    |  |        |
| Banks, Savings . . . . .                               | 184    |  |        |
| Bench Magistrates' Courts . . . . .                    | 63     |  |        |

|   | PAGE |                                       | PAGE |
|---|------|---------------------------------------|------|
| Contract—Abkari . . . . .               | 42   | Duty on matches . . . . .             | 47   |
| Courts—Magistrates . . . . .            | 62   | Economic Development Board . . . . .  | 99   |
| " Bench . . . . .                       | 63   | " Journal . . . . .                   | 100  |
| " Sessions . . . . .                    | 64   | Education Department . . . . .        | 145  |
| " High Court . . . . .                  | " "  | " Agricultural . . . . .              | 91   |
| " Civil Courts—                         |      | " Physical . . . . .                  | 144  |
| number of . . . . .                     | 66   | " of Mahomedans . . . . .             | 150  |
| Convocation . . . . .                   | 142  | " Public Health . . . . .             | 138  |
| Convicts—education of . . . . .         | 82   | Educational—System . . . . .          | 140  |
| Counterfeiting coins and                |      | " Policy . . . . .                    | 141  |
| currency notes . . . . .                | 77   | " Progress — general                  |      |
| Customs—revenue . . . . .               | 45   | statistics . . . . .                  | 145  |
| Cultivation of land—extent of . . . . . | 32   | Electrical Department . . . . .       | 119  |
| Crimes—grave . . . . .                  | 77   | Electric supply—Trivandrum . . . . .  | 121  |
| " detection and                         |      | " Nagercoil . . . . .                 | 122  |
| prevention of . . . . .                 | " "  | " Shencotta . . . . .                 | " "  |
| Criminals—Habitual—                     |      | Enactments—Legislative . . . . .      | 71   |
| prevention of . . . . .                 | 78   | English Schools . . . . .             | 145  |
| Criminal Intelligence Bureau . . . . .  | " "  | Elephants—Forest Department . . . . . | 55   |
| Criminal Justice . . . . .              | 61   | Epigraphy—work done . . . . .         | 175  |
| " Tribunals . . . . .                   | " "  | European British subjects—            |      |
| " offences . . . . .                    | 62   | Special Tribunals for trial of        |      |
| Currency . . . . .                      | 5    | offences committed by . . . . .       | 60   |
| Debt Heads . . . . .                    | 21   | Examinations—Education                |      |
| Decrees—execution of . . . . .          | 68   | Department . . . . .                  | 153  |
| Demand, collection and balance          |      | Excise—Revenue . . . . .              | 41   |
| under current revenue . . . . .         | 33   | " System . . . . .                    | " "  |
| " Income Tax . . . . .                  | 38   | " Offences . . . . .                  | 45   |
| Department of Information . . . . .     | 174  | Executive Officer . . . . .           | 13   |
| Dewan—the Chief Executive               |      | Expenditure—State . . . . .           | 21   |
| Officer . . . . .                       | 13   | Export duty . . . . .                 | 47   |
| Discipline in the Police Depart-        |      | Exploitation of timber . . . . .      | 54   |
| ment . . . . .                          | 76   | Extradition—to and from the           |      |
| " Jails . . . . .                       | 82   | State . . . . .                       | 66   |
| District Courts . . . . .               | 67   | Factories and Labour . . . . .        | 97   |
| Distribution of population . . . . .    | 2    | Factories Act . . . . .               | 98   |
| Documents registered—number             |      | Farming—Dry . . . . .                 | 90   |
| of . . . . .                            | 84   | Fee concessions—Backward              |      |
| Devaswom Department . . . . .           | 157  | Communities . . . . .                 | 151  |
| Devaswoms—major, minor and              |      | Filariasis . . . . .                  | 136  |
| petty . . . . .                         | " "  | Finance—State . . . . .               | 19   |
| " Personal Deposits . . . . .           | 158  | Finger Print Bureau . . . . .         | 79   |
| " Fund . . . . .                        | " "  | Food Control measures . . . . .       | 161  |
| District Municipalities . . . . .       | 155  | Food Production—lease of              |      |
| Drainage Scheme, Trivandrum . . . . .   | 119  | lands . . . . .                       | 51   |
| Duty—Import . . . . .                   | 45   | Forest Department . . . . .           | 50   |
| " Export . . . . .                      | 47   |                                       |      |

|                                | PAGE |                                | PAGE   |
|--------------------------------|------|--------------------------------|--------|
| Forest Revenue                 | 50   | Hospital—Ayurveda,             |        |
| „ Policy                       | „    | Trivandrum                     | 131    |
| „ Lands                        | 51   | Hospital—Sachivottama Shastri- |        |
| „ Lands reserved               | „    | bdapurthi Memorial Ayur-       |        |
| „ Fuel and fodder reserves     | „    | veda, Neyyattinkara            | 130    |
| „ Produce—minor                | 55   | Hydro-Electric Project,        |        |
| „ Protection                   | 52   | Pallivasal                     | 120    |
| Foreign Liquor                 | 43   | Import duty                    | 45     |
| Franchise                      | 16   | Income Tax                     | 38     |
| Fruit culture                  | 90   | Independence—Judiciary         | 61     |
| Fund—Devaswom                  | 158  | Industries Department          | 93     |
| Fund—Defence Savings           |      | Information—Department of      | 174    |
| Provident                      | 185  | Irrigation—Protective          | 115    |
| „ State Provident              | 184  | „ Productive                   | „      |
| „ Road Development             | 113  | „ Kodayar                      | „      |
| Game—protection of             | 56   | Instructional Institutions—    |        |
| Ganja and Opium—system and     |      | Devaswoms                      | 158    |
| sale of                        | 44   | Insurance—State Life           | 181    |
| Gardens—Government             | 177  | Interportal Trade Convention   | 45     |
| Gazette                        | 173  | Jamabandy                      | 36     |
| General Hospital, Trivan-      |      | Jails                          | 81     |
| drum                           | 128  | Joint Stock Companies          | 100    |
| Geology                        | 93   | Judicial system                | 59     |
| Government—system of           | 13   | Justice—Civil                  | 66     |
| Government Press               | 172  | „ Criminal                     | 61     |
| Government suits and appeals   |      | Juvenile Offenders             | 62     |
| in courts                      | 70   | Kodayar Irrigation System      | 115    |
| Hackney Carriage               | 80   | Kshatriyas—Special Schools for | 150    |
| Health Unit, Neyyattinkara     | 136  | Land Revenue Department        | 29     |
| High Court                     | 64   | Land rights—basis of           | „      |
| „ appeals                      | 65   | Lands for landless classes     | 34     |
| Hinduism                       | 2    | Land Acquisition work          | 35     |
| Hindu Religious Endowments     |      | Land Records Maintenance       | 36     |
| Act—working of                 | 159  | Laud—registry of               | 34     |
| Historical sketch—Travancore   | 3    | Labour Commissioner            | 99     |
| Honours conferred by His High- |      | „ Laws and welfare             | 97     |
| ness the Maharaja              | 6    | Labour Corps, University       | 144    |
| Hostels and Boarding Houses    |      | Legislature                    | 15, 71 |
| under the Education            |      | „ present                      | 16     |
| Department                     | 151  | „ powers                       | 18     |
| Hospital-General, Trivandrum   | 128  | „ meetings                     | 71     |
| „ Women and Children's,        |      | Library—The Sri Chitra Central |        |
| Trivandrum                     | „    | Hindu Religious                | 153    |
| „ Ophthalmic, Trivandrum       | „    |                                |        |
| Hospital—For Mental Diseases,  |      |                                |        |
| Trivandrum                     | „    |                                |        |



|                                | PAGE |                                | PAGE |
|--------------------------------|------|--------------------------------|------|
| Lithography—Maps               | 37   | Museum                         | 176  |
| Life Insurance—Public Branch   | 181  | Newspapers and Periodicals     | 174  |
| " Government Servants'         |      | Offences—Excise                | 45   |
| branch                         | 183  | Offenders—Women                | 62   |
| Litigation—Civil               | 66   | " Juvenile                     | "    |
| " Original                     | 67   | Opium and Ganja—system of      |      |
| Literacy                       | 3    | sale                           | 44   |
| Liquor—Foreign                 | 43   | " Consumption of               | "    |
| Lock-ups                       | 84   | Orphanages—Education Depart-   |      |
| Local Self-Government          | 154  | ment                           | 151  |
| Madras Government Technical    |      | Paddy                          | 89   |
| Examinations                   | 96   | Pallivasal Hydro—Electric      |      |
| Magistrates' Courts            | 62   | Project                        | 120  |
| " Stipendiary                  | 63   | Paper Manufacture              | 94   |
| Mail, Anchal                   | 168  | Paper—hand-made                | 95   |
| Mahomedans—education of        | 150  | Patents and Designs            | 109  |
| Maintenance—Land Records       | 37   | Periodicals and Newspapers     | 174  |
| Malayalam and Tamil Schools    | 146  | Personal Deposit Devaswoms     | 158  |
| Malayala Brahmins—Special      |      | Physical Features of the State | 1    |
| Schools                        | 150  | Plant Pathology                | 88   |
| Malabar Era                    | 4    | Plant pests and plant diseases | 91   |
| Maps—Lithography               | 37   | Plague                         | 135  |
| Markets                        | 35   | Plywood—Industries             | 94   |
| Marketing                      | 92   | Police Department              | 76   |
| Marthanda Varma—consolida-     |      | Population                     | 2    |
| tion of Travancore             | 3    | Position of women              | 3    |
| Maramat works                  | 116  | Press, Government              | 172  |
| Maternity and Child Welfare    |      | Presses and Publications       | 174  |
| work                           | 137  | Principles of Taxation         | 29   |
| Matches—Excise duty on         | 47   | Produce—Minor—Forest           | 55   |
| Medical Department             | 125  | Proclamations                  | 72   |
| Medical Aid—System of          | "    | Proclamation, Temple Entry     | 4    |
| Medical Institutions           | 126  | Prospecting for minerals       | 93   |
| Medical Officers               | "    | Protection—Forest              | 52   |
| Medical Relief                 | 127  | " of Game                      | 56   |
| Medical Inspection of Schools  | 137  | Provident Fund—State           | 184  |
| Minerals                       | 93   | Public Conveyance              | 79   |
| Mint                           | 170  | Public Health Department       | 133  |
| Mosques and churches—new       | 181  | " Education                    | 138  |
| Motor Accidents                | 80   | Public Instruction             | 139  |
| Motor vehicles—registration of | 79   | Public Service                 | 179  |
| Mosquito Control               | 135  | Public Works Department        | 113  |
| Municipalities—District        | 155  | " Advisory Committee           | 116  |
| Munsiffs' Court                | 67   | Physical Education             | 144  |
|                                |      | Questions answered in the      |      |
|                                |      | Legislature                    | 74   |

|                                | PAGE |                                  | PAGE |
|--------------------------------|------|----------------------------------|------|
| Radio and Broadcasting         | 122  | Schools for girls—Technical      | 148  |
| Railways                       | 116  | „ Reformatory                    | „    |
| Rainfall                       | 87   | „ Sanskrit                       | 149  |
| Reading Rooms                  | 152  | „ for Kshatriyas                 | 150  |
| Recruitment—Judiciary          | 61   | „ of vocational character        | 149  |
| „ Police                       | 76   | „ of Commerce                    | 98   |
| Reformatory School             | 148  | Scouting                         | 152  |
| Referred Trials, High Court    | 64   | Scholarship                      | „    |
| Registration Department        | 84   | Season and Rainfall              | 87   |
| Registry offices               | „    | Sessions Courts                  | 64   |
| Religion                       | 2    | Situation and area of the State  | 1    |
| Research Institute, Central    | 143  | Small-pox                        | 135  |
| Resolutions of the Legislature | 75   | Special classes—education of     | 150  |
| Revenue—Land                   | 29   | „ „ —Kshatriyas                  | „    |
| „ Customs                      | 45   | „ Malayala Brahmins              | „    |
| Revenue rights—land—fixity of. | 29   | Sri Chitra State Council         | 16   |
| Revenue settlement             | 30   | Sri Chitralayam                  | 177  |
| „ Cases                        | 34   | Sri Chitra Home for the Des-     | „    |
| Revenue—Excise                 | 41   | titute and the Infirm            | 178  |
| „ Forest                       | 50   | Sri Mulam Assembly               | 16   |
| „ Salt                         | 39   | S. M. R. V. Technical Institute, | „    |
| Revisional work—Magistracy     | 64   | Nagercoil                        | 96   |
| Road Development Fund          | 113  | Stamps                           | 57   |
| Rubber Factory                 | 93   | „ manufacture                    | „    |
| Ruling Family                  | 5    | State Provident Fund             | 184  |
| Rural Sanitation               | 138  | Stipends                         | 152  |
| Ryots' roads                   | 114  | Stipendiary Magistrates'         | „    |
| Salt Revenue                   | 39   | Courts                           | 63   |
| Salt—Home                      | 40   | Stationery                       | 173  |
| „ Foreign                      | „    | Sugarcane                        | 90   |
| „ Consumption                  | „    | Sugar manufacture                | 94   |
| Salute                         | 5    | Suits and appeals by             | „    |
| Sanitation—rural               | 138  | Government                       | 70   |
| Savings Bank—State             | 184  | Survey                           | 36   |
| „ Aunchal                      | 168  | „ Special and cadastral          | 37   |
| Savings—Provident Fund         | 185  | „ Schools                        | „    |
| Scholarships                   | 152  | Sylviculture                     | 53   |
| School of Commerce, Alleppey   | 96   | System—Judicial                  | 59   |
| Schools—Industrial             | 97   | System of Government             | 13   |
| „ Survey                       | 37   | „ of voting                      | 17   |
| Schools—English                | 145  | Tamil schools                    | 147  |
| „ Malayalam and Tamil          | 146  | Tapioca                          | 89   |
| „ Special                      | 148  | Taxation                         | 14   |
| „ Training                     | „    | „ principles of                  | 30   |

|                             | PAGE |                                 | PAGE |
|-----------------------------|------|---------------------------------|------|
| Technical Institute,        |      | Uplift of Backward              |      |
| S. M. R. V., Nagercoil      | 96   | Communities                     | 110  |
| Technical Examinations,     |      | Urban Banks                     | 106  |
| Madras Government           | 148  | Vaccination                     | 135  |
| Technical schools for girls | 122  | Value payables—Anchal           | 167  |
| Telephone—Trunk             | 31   | Veterinary Aid                  | 92   |
| Tenures—classification of   | 4    | Victory—Tunisian                | 75   |
| Temple Entry Proclamation   | 54   | Village Panchayat Courts        | 67   |
| Timber—Exploitation of      | 45   | Village Panchayats              | 156  |
| Tobacco—consumption of      | 44   | Village Unions                  | "    |
| " system of supply          | 43   | Voting—system of                | 17   |
| " sale of                   | 6    | Vital Statistics, Public Health |      |
| Toddy                       | 123  | Department                      | 133  |
| Tour of His Highness the    |      | War efforts                     | 9    |
| Maharaja                    | 98   | Recruitment                     | 11   |
| Trade—value of              | 99   | State Forces                    | 9    |
| " carriage of               | 168  | Supplies                        | "    |
| Trade Disputes              | 3    | Technicians                     | 10   |
| Trade Unions Act            | 4    | War and the people              | 12   |
| Transport Department        | 43   | Women's Work                    | 12   |
| Travancore compared with    |      | Water Works                     | 117  |
| other States                | 56   | Willingdon                      | "    |
| Treaties between Travancore |      | Nagercoil                       | 119  |
| and the East India          | 122  | Alleppey                        | 118  |
| Company                     | 80   | Shencotta                       | 119  |
| Tree tax                    | 135  | Weights and Measures            | 86   |
| Trees tapped                | 141  | Women offenders                 | 62   |
| Treatment—Asau              | 142  | Women's Societies—              |      |
| Trunk Telephone             | 144  | Co-operative                    | 107  |
| Tunisian Day                |      | Workmen's Compensation Act      | 99   |
| Typhoid                     |      | Workshops, P. W. D.             | 150  |
| University of Travancore    |      | Zoo                             | 177  |
| " Institutions and strength |      |                                 |      |
| " Labour Corps              |      |                                 |      |



**Acc: 39448**

***Travancore Administration Report 1118 ME/1942-43 AD***

IV Contents

|     |   |
|-----|---|
| 1   | Chap 1: General   |
| 5   | Ruling Family   |
| 9   | Chap 2: War Efforts   |
| 13  | Chap 3: System of Government                                |
| 19  | Chap 4: Finance   |
| 29  | Land Revenue  |
| 29  | Chap 5: Main Heads of Revenue                               |
| 38  | Income Tax  |
| 39  | Excise Department   |
| 57  | Stamps  |
| 59  | Chap 6: Justice and Crime                                   |
| 61  | Criminal Justice  |
| 66  | Civil Justice   |
| 71  | Chap 7: Legislature   |
| 76  | Chap 8: Protection  |
| 87  | Chap 9: Production Industry                                 |
| 99  | Economic Development Board                                  |
| 100 | Joint Stock Companies                                       |
| 103 | Co-operative Department                                     |
| 109 | Patents and Designs   |
| 113 | Chap 10: Public works                                       |
| 123 | Chap 11: Commerce   |
| 125 | Chap 12: Medical Relief, Public Health and Vital Statistics |
| 139 | Chap 13: Public Instruction                                 |
| 154 | Chap 14: Local Self-Government                              |
| 157 | Chap 15: Hindu Religious and Charitable Institutions        |
| 161 | Chap 16: Food Control Measures                              |
| 166 | Chap 17: Miscellaneous                                      |
| 174 | Presses and Publications                                    |
| 187 | Index   |