

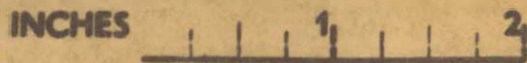
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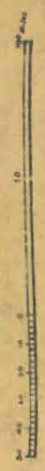
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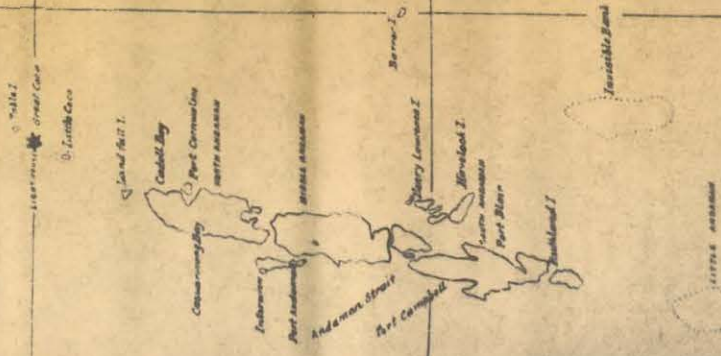
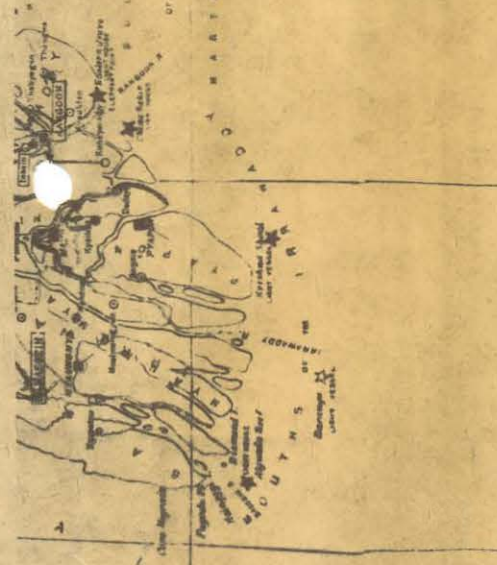
MAP
 OF
BURMA
 SHOWING
DIVISIONS AND DISTRICTS.

SCALE: 1 INCH = 35 MILES.



REFERENCES.

Divisional Boundary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
District Boundary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Divisional Headquarters	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
District Headquarters	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Municipality	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Centrals and Township Headquarters (also at District Headquarters).	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Railways completed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Railway stations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Railways in progress	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Metalled Roads	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Unmetalled Roads	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Light-houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lightships	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lighthouses and Light-vessels	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...



ON THE
ADMINISTRATION OF BURMA

FOR THE YEAR

1907-08



RANGOON
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRINTING, BURMA
1908

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TABLE OF CONTENTS.

REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF BURMA FOR THE YEAR 1907-08.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

	<i>Para.</i>	<i>Page.</i>
Changes in the Administration	1	i
Frontier affairs	2	ib.
The Shan States and Karenni	3	ib.
The Chin Hills	4	ii
Realisation of land revenue	5	ib.
Surveys	6	ib.
Settlements	7	ib.
Land Records	8	ib.
Transfers of land	9	ib.
Disposal of waste lands	10	iii
Revenue and rent-paying classes	11	ib.
Legislation	12	ib.
Police	13	ib.
Criminal Justice	14	iv
Prisons	15	ib.
Civil Justice	16	v
Registration	17	vi
Municipal Administration	18	ib.
Military	19	ib.
Marine	20	ib.
Agriculture	21	vii
Weather and Crops	22	viii
Experimental cultivation	23	ib.
Horticulture	24	ib.
Forests	25	ib.
Mines and Quarries	26	ib.
Manufactures	27	ix
Seaborne Trade	28	ib.
Transfrontier Trade	29	ib.
Public Works—		
(i) Roads and Buildings	30	ib.
(ii) Railways and Tramways	31	ib.
(iii) Canals	32	x
Irrigation	33	ib.
Provincial Settlement	34	ib.
Gross Revenue	35	ib.
Imperial Revenue and Finance—Land Revenue	36	ib.
Customs	37	ib.
Salt	38	ib.
Opium and Excise	39	xi
Stamps	40	ib.
Assessed Taxes	41	ib.
Forests	42	ib.
Imperial Expenditure	43	ib.
Provincial Revenues	44	xii
Local Funds	45	ib.
Municipal Revenues	46	ib.
Births and Deaths	47	ib.
Emigration and Immigration	48	xiii
Medical Relief	49	ib.
Sanitation	50	ib.
Vaccination	51	xiv
Education	52	xv
Archæology	53	xvi

CONTENTS.
PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

	Para.	Page.
Physical features of the country, area, climate and chief staples	...	1
POLITICAL.		
Historical Summary	...	1
Character of Land Tenures; System of Survey and Settlements	...	ib.
Civil Divisions of British Territory	...	ib.
Details of the last Census; Tribes and Languages	...	ib.
<i>Form of Administration.</i>		
Lieutenant-Governor and Council	1	1
Administrative Divisions—Shan States	2	2
Chin Hills	3	ib.
Upper Burma	4	ib.
Commissioners	5	ib.
Other executive officers	6	1
Village system	7	ib.
Revenue Administration	8	ib.
Judicial Administration	9	ib.
Public Works	10	4
Police	11	ib.
Medical	12	ib.
Forests	13	ib.
Excise	14	ib.
Ports	15	5
Customs	16	ib.
Education	17	ib.
Ecclesiastical	18	ib.
Local Self-Government	19	ib.
Miscellaneous	20	ib.
<i>Changes in the Administration.</i>		
The Lieutenant-Governor	21	5
Administrative territorial units	22	ib.
Additions to and changes in the Administrative staff	23	6
RELATIONS WITH TRIBUTARY STATES AND FRONTIER AFFAIRS.		
<i>(i) Shan and Karenni States.</i>		
General	24	6
Events of the year	25	ib.
Internal affairs	26	ib.
Public Works	27	7
New projects	28	ib.
Forest Administration	29	ib.
Education	30	8
Medical and Veterinary Departments	31	ib.
<i>(ii) The Chin Hills.</i>		
Frontier Tribes	32	8
Chin Hills proper	33	ib.
Pakókku Hill Tracts	34	9
Arakan Hill Tracts	35	ib.
<i>(iii) The Kachin Hills.</i>		
Chinese Frontier	36	9
Unadministered Territory	37	ib.
Internal Administration	38	ib.
<i>Condition of the People.</i>		
	39	10
CHAPTER II.		
ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.		
<i>Realisation of the Revenue.</i>		
Demand, recoveries, remissions and outstandings	40	11
Coercive processes	41	ib.
<i>Surveys.</i>		
Demarcation preliminary to Survey	42	12
Surveys by Imperial Agency	43	ib.
Surveys by Provincial Agency:—		
(i) Revision Surveys	44	ib.
Surveys by Provincial Agency:—		
(ii) Extension Surveys	45	13
<i>Settlements.</i>		
Changes of procedure	46	14
Operations of the year	47	ib.
Settlements in progress	48	ib.
Orders on completed Settlements	49	15

CONTENTS.

Land Revenue.

	<i>Para.</i>	<i>Page.</i>
Area under Supplemental Survey	50	15
Cost of Supplemental Survey	51	15
Survey Schools	52	16
Transfers of Land	53	16

Waste Lands.

Grants and leases for cultivation	54	17
Revenue from grants	55	17

Government Estates and Wards' Estates.

	56	17
--	----	----

Revenue and Rent-paying Classes.

Land revenue paying classes	57	17
Tenants	58	17

CHAPTER III.

PROTECTION.

Legislating Authority	59	18
-----------------------	----	----

Course of Legislation.

Work of Legislating Council	60	18
General Acts affecting Burma	61	19
Extension of Enactments to the Shan States	62	18

Police.

Police Commission Reforms	63	20
Important incidents	64	18
Strength, distribution and cost	65	21
Recruitment and conduct	66	18
Buildings	67	18
Crime and the working of the Police	68	18
Detection	69	20
Preventive law	70	18
Surveillance and identification	71	18
Railway Police	72	23
Military Police	73	18
Punitive Police	74	18
Village Administration	75	18
Wild animals and snakes	76	24
Rangoon Town Police	77	25

Criminal Justice.

Courts	78	26
Disposal of cases	79	18
Punishments	80	27
Appeals	81	18
Revisions	82	18

Prisons.

Accommodation	83	27
Prisoners	84	28
Discipline	85	18
Financial	86	18
Vital	87	29

Civil Justice.

Courts	88	29
Volume and classification of litigation	89	18
Disposal of cases	90	30
Execution of decrees	91	18
Insolvency proceedings	92	18
Appeals	93	18

Registration.

General	94	30
Deeds registered	95	18
Income and expenditure	96	31

Joint Stock Companies.

Number of Companies	97	31
Capital	98	18
General	99	18

Local Boards Administrative.

	100	31
--	-----	----

Municipal Administration.

Rangoon Municipality	101	32
Minor Municipalities and their Committees	102	18
Minor Municipalities: taxation	103	18
Minor Municipalities: public health and convenience	104	18

CONTENTS.

	<i>Para.</i>	<i>Page.</i>
<i>Military.</i>		
Strength of the Garrison	105	33
Military works	106	ib.
<i>Military (Volunteering).</i>		
	107	34
<i>Marine.</i>		
Light-houses and light-ships	108	34
Port Administration, Rangoon	109	ib.
Pilot Service, Rangoon	110	35
Minor Ports	111	ib.
Commercial Marine	112	ib.
Commercial Marine: wrecks and casualties	113	36
Government steamers and launches	114	ib.
Marine works and surveys	115	ib.
CHAPTER IV.		
PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.		
<i>Agriculture.</i>		
Agricultural stock and cattle disease	116	38
Pony and cattle breeding	117	ib.
Prices	118	39
Agricultural loans	119	ib.
Co-operative Credit Societies	120	40
Protection from floods	121	ib.
Area irrigated	122	ib.
<i>Weather and Crops.</i>		
Character of the seasons	123	41
Area under cultivation	124	ib.
Cropped area	125	ib.
Area under various crops	126	42
Experimental cultivation	127	ib.
<i>Horticulture.</i>		
Agri-Horticultural Societies	128	43
Experimental gardens	129	44
<i>Forests.</i>		
Forest Reserves	130	46
Demarcation and surveys	131	45
Working-plans	132	ib.
Communications and buildings	133	ib.
Forest offices	134	ib.
Protection of forests	135	ib.
Plantations and experimental cultivation	136	46
Extraction and sale of timber	137	ib.
Miscellaneous	138	ib.
<i>Mines and Quarries.</i>		
Grant of new concessions	139	46
Petroleum	140	57
Gold	141	ib.
Rubies	142	48
Other minerals	143	ib.
Quarry stores	144	ib.
<i>Manufactures.</i>		
Principal industries	145	48
Factories	146	49
<i>Trade.</i>		
Maritime Trade—Total value	147	49
Foreign Imports—Rangoon	148	50
Foreign Imports—Minor Ports	149	ib.
Foreign Exports—Rangoon	150	ib.
Foreign Exports—Minor Ports	151	51
Coasting Trade	152	ib.
Transfrontier Trade	153	52
Trade routes—Western China	154	ib.
Northern Shan States	155	ib.
Southern Shan States	156	ib.
Northern Siam	157	53
Southern Siam	158	ib.
Karenni	159	ib.
<i>Public Works.</i>		
General	160	53

(i) Roads and Buildings.

							<i>Para.</i>	<i>Page.</i>
Communications	...	...	...	...	...	...	165	53
Metalled roads	...	...	...	...	...	...	165	54
Unmetalled roads	...	...	...	...	...	...	165	54
Communications—Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	165	54
Buildings—Imperial	...	...	...	...	...	...	166	55
Buildings—Provincial	...	...	...	...	...	...	166	55
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	167	56

(ii) Railways and Tramways.

Railways—Construction	...	...	...	...	...	...	168	56
Railways—Interruptions and accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	169	57
Railways—Finance and traffic	...	...	...	...	...	...	170	57
Tramways	...	...	...	...	...	...	171	58

(iii) Canals.

Navigation Canals	172	57
-------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Irrigation.

Major Works, Imperial—								
(i) Completed works	...	...	...	...	...	...	173	58
Major Works—								
(ii) Works under construction	...	...	...	...	...	...	174	58
Minor Works—Provincial	...	...	...	...	...	...	175	58

CHAPTER V.

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

Provincial Settlement.

.....	176	59
-------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Gross Revenue.

.....	177	60
-------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

(a) IMPERIAL REVENUE AND FINANCE.

Land Revenue.

Land revenue receipts	178	60
-----------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Canal (Navigation and Irrigation) Revenue.

.....	179	61
-------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Sources of Imperial Revenue other than the Land.

Customs	...	...	...	...	...	...	180	61
Opium	...	...	...	...	...	...	181	61
Salt	...	...	...	...	...	...	182	61
Excise	...	...	...	...	...	...	183	62
Stamps	...	...	...	...	...	...	184	62
Assessal taxes	...	...	...	...	...	...	185	62
Forests	...	...	...	...	...	...	186	62
Imperial expenditure	...	...	...	...	...	...	187	62

(b) REVENUE AND FINANCE OTHER THAN IMPERIAL.

Provincial Revenues.

Provincial receipts	...	...	...	...	...	...	188	63
Provincial expenditure	...	...	...	...	...	...	189	63

Local Funds.

Incorporated Local Funds	...	...	...	...	...	...	190	63
Excluded Local Funds	...	...	...	...	...	...	191	63

Road and Education Cesses.

.....	192	64
-------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Municipal Revenues.

Rangoon Municipality	...	...	...	...	...	...	193	64
Other Municipalities	...	...	...	...	...	...	194	64

Other Funds.

.....	195	64
-------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Paper Currency.

.....	196	64
-------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

CHAPTER VI.

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

Births and Deaths.

Number of births and deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	197	69
Causes of death	...	...	...	...	...	...	198	70

Emigration and Immigration.

.....	199	71
-------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

							Para.	Page.
<i>Medical Relief.</i>								
Hospitals and dispensaries	...	...	...	...	...	...	200	71
Attendance	...	...	...	...	...	...	201	72
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	202	74
Lunatic Asylums	...	...	...	...	...	...	203	ib.
<i>Sanitation.</i>								
Expenditure	...	...	...	...	...	...	204	74
Water-supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	205	75
Conservancy and drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	206	ib.
Sanitary Board	...	...	...	...	...	...	207	ib.
<i>Vaccination.</i>								
-----	...	...	...	...	...	...	208	75

CHAPTER VII.

INSTRUCTION.

General System of Public Instruction.

General organization	...	...	...	...	...	...	209	77
Education Department	...	...	...	...	...	...	210	ib.
Government control	...	...	...	...	...	...	211	78
Schools and Colleges	...	...	...	...	...	...	212	ib.
Education Code	...	...	...	...	...	...	213	79
Administration	...	...	...	...	...	...	214	ib.
Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	...	215	ib.
Distribution of work	...	...	...	...	...	...	216	ib.
Classification of institutions	...	...	...	...	...	...	217	ib.
Colleges	...	...	...	...	...	...	218	ib.
Classification of schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	219	ib.
Definition of an Indigenous School	...	...	...	...	...	...	220	ib.
Special Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	221	80
Reformatory School	...	...	...	...	...	...	222	ib.
Manual training	...	...	...	...	...	...	223	ib.
Standards of instruction	...	...	...	...	...	...	224	ib.
Vocational Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	225	ib.
Teaching of English	...	...	...	...	...	...	226	ib.
Management	...	...	...	...	...	...	227	ib.
System of aid	...	...	...	...	...	...	228	ib.
Indigenous schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	229	81
Training institutions	...	...	...	...	...	...	230	ib.
Education of special classes	...	...	...	...	...	...	231	ib.
Aid to European orphans	...	...	...	...	...	...	232	ib.
Pfli examinations	...	...	...	...	...	...	233	ib.
Examinations	...	...	...	...	...	...	234	82
Scholarships and prizes	...	...	...	...	...	...	235	ib.
Scholarships tenable in European schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	236	83
Engineering scholarships	...	...	...	...	...	...	237	ib.
St. Barbe's Scholarship and Bigandet Medical Scholarship	...	...	...	...	...	...	238	ib.
Bigandet Medal	...	...	...	...	...	...	239	ib.
Gilbert Scholarship	...	...	...	...	...	...	240	ib.
Railway Workshop apprentices	...	...	...	...	...	...	241	ib.
Text-Book Committee	...	...	...	...	...	...	242	ib.

Education.

Number of schools and scholars and expenditure	...	...	...	...	...	...	243	83
Primary Education	...	...	...	...	...	...	244	84
Secondary Education	...	...	...	...	...	...	245	ib.
Collegiate Education	...	...	...	...	...	...	246	85
Technical Education	...	...	...	...	...	...	247	ib.
Training Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	248	ib.
European Education	...	...	...	...	...	...	249	86
Education of special classes	...	...	...	...	...	...	250	ib.
Female Education	...	...	...	...	...	...	251	ib.
Indian Reformatory School	...	...	...	...	...	...	252	87

Literature and the Press.

Publications registered	...	...	...	...	...	...	253	87
Presses, newspapers and periodicals	...	...	...	...	...	...	254	88

Literary Societies.

-----	88
-------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Arts and Sciences.

-----	255	88
-------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

CHAPTER VIII.

ARCHAEOLOGY.

-----	256	89
-------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF BURMA

FOR THE YEAR 1907-08.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

The Hon'ble Sir Herbert Thirkell White, K. C. I. E., was Lieutenant-Governor of Burma throughout the year of report. Further improvements were carried into effect in several branches of the administration. The introduction of reforms and the re-organisation of the police force consequent on the report of the Police Commission of 1902-03 were practically completed. Separate Provincial and Subordinate Judicial Services were constituted in place of the Township Judicial Service. A new Sessions Division was created in Lower Burma and the existing divisions were re-arranged.

2. Friendly relations were maintained with transfrontier authorities and no untoward incident of political significance occurred during the year. A raid was committed on the village of Wajao by an armed gang from Santa State in Chinese territory and four buffaloes were carried off in satisfaction of a "debt." Steps were taken to settle the case by negotiation with the Chinese authorities. The customary meeting with Chinese officials for the arrangement of outstanding cases was held with satisfactory results. On the Myitkyina border several incursions into British territory were carried out by Kachins from the unadministered tracts to the North. The most serious raid was committed by the Sana Kachins, who attacked the Military Police Post at Auchè in the previous year. In this raid an unoffending Gurkha with his wife, child and servant were murdered in cold blood. The feud between the Shandus and Kons living in unadministered territory between the Chins Hills and Northern Arakan which was mentioned in the last report was satisfactorily settled during the year.

3. The most important event of the year in the Shan States was the visit of His Excellency the Viceroy to Lashio. Steady improvement is recorded in all branches of administration and the reports indicate the progress of the country and the prosperity of the people. The attention of Government was directed to the difficult question of Forest Administration and steps are being taken with due care for the interests of the people to declare certain further areas to be reserved forests. Trade shows steady expansion and there are signs of development of the mining industry. The project for the construction of a railway into the Southern Shan States appears to be at last on the verge of realisation.

and an attack by Kachins from beyond the administered frontier on the Military Police post at Auchè in the Myitkyina District. The statistics of the year indicate a satisfactory decrease in the total volume of crime. So far as can be judged the number of true cases reported to the Police does not tend to increase in proportion to the growth of wealth and population. On the other hand there was an unwelcome rise in the number of dacoities and robberies and in the number of crimes in which fire-arms were used. The efforts of the Police and of District Officers in dealing with gangs of dacoits were vigorous and successful and several organised gangs were completely broken up. The large decrease in the number of prosecutions under the preventive provisions of the law may be regarded as satisfactory. Consideration of the year's work leads to the conclusion that while there is a tendency to an increase in serious crime, police work is being zealously and efficiently done. It is believed that police officers realise their responsibilities, that recent reforms have already operated to increase the efficiency of the force in all ranks and that gradual but marked improvement in results may be expected. The Military Police continued to be efficient and useful. Towards the end of the year a substantial increase to the Lower Burma Military Police was sanctioned and the distribution of that force was revised. Orders were issued during the year to ensure the more efficient working of Military Police patrols.

Criminal
Justice.

14. An additional appointment of Divisional and Sessions Judge was sanctioned and the Thayetmyo District was transferred from the Bassein to the Prome Sessions Division. The redistribution of offices in Rangoon, which was effected at the beginning of the year under review, resulted in the appointment of a District Magistrate whose functions are entirely of a judicial or quasi-judicial nature. The arrangements for the administration of Criminal Justice in Rangoon were carefully examined and it is believed that improvements have been effected. The District Magistrate was able to take a substantial part of the more important criminal judicial work. The reports of the year bring to notice the failure of Magistrates to make sufficient use of the power to dismiss complaints under section 203 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, and the need of making fuller use of the provisions of section 562 of the Code for the release of first offenders. The practice of passing short sentences of imprisonment is still too common and in Upper Burma the number of persons summoned as witnesses and not examined was unduly large. The volume of criminal work of a more important nature decreased in Lower Burma and somewhat increased in Upper Burma. The Honorary Magistrates, especially in Rangoon and Mandalay, continued to do good work and to afford substantial relief to Stipendiary Magistrates.

Prisons.

15. There was a further increase in the jail population of the Province in 1907, but the increase was not so marked as in the previous year. An actual decrease is recorded in the number of prisoners admitted. The total daily average rose, and the total population at the close of the year amounted to 14,304. The total accommodation available, though it shows a slight decrease from the figures of the previous year in consequence of the closing of the Taungdwingyi jail and the reduction in the number of prisoners assigned to the Ma-ubin jail, is still quite sufficient. The average cost of maintenance per head was less than in 1906.

But as there was also a decrease in the cash earnings per head of average strength the net cost per prisoner rose slightly. Some progress was made during the year in formulating proposals for the separation of habitual from casual prisoners, and the structural alterations required for effective separation are being carried out in jails where it is possible to secure the end in view without undue expenditure. The supervision of habitual prisoners by convicts of their own class has been definitely abandoned and it is proposed to introduce instead a system under which habitual convicts will be supervised exclusively by paid warders. This change involves considerable expense and it cannot be introduced immediately in all the jails of the Province. The employment of an increased number of paid warders for the supervision of habituals in the Mandalay, Insein and Myingyan jails has been sanctioned, and for the present casual convict officers will be employed for the purpose in other jails. The jail at Meiktila has now been set apart for juvenile prisoners and arrangements are being made to provide separate accommodation for juvenile first offenders and juvenile habituals. The number of juvenile prisoners admitted to jail in the year fell from 171 to 89. The continued improvement in the health of the jail population must be regarded as very satisfactory. Both the ratio of admissions to hospital and the rate of mortality have decreased steadily in recent years. These successful results are due to the close attention which has been devoted to the sanitary and medical management of jails by Superintendents and to the careful supervision of the Inspector-General. Another satisfactory feature is the further reduction in the total number of offences committed by convicts, and, in particular, the smaller number of offences relating to assaults, mutinies and escapes. The total number of actual escapes fell from 12 to 6.

16. One of the most important measures brought into effect during the year Civil Justice was the constitution of the Provincial Judicial Service. As far as possible the Provincial and Subordinate Judicial Services have now been placed on the same footing as the corresponding executive Services; and officers who elect to serve in the judicial branch have similar prospects to those of executive officers. It is hoped that this will result in an improvement in the Subdivisional and Township Courts which dispose of the bulk of the litigation affecting the mass of the people: and there is reason to believe that the process of improvement has begun. Consistent efforts have been made to raise the standard of efficiency and integrity in the case of judicial officers, and officers of all classes have helped in the attainment of this end. During the year an additional appointment of Divisional Judge was sanctioned, the pay of the first grade of Divisional Judges was raised, and a number of subordinate Judgeships were created. The cost of all Courts, Civil, Criminal and Revenue, rose from 45 to 50 lakhs. The year's figures show a considerable falling off in the volume of civil business for which no clear explanation has been put forward. The state of business in the Chief Court and in the Court of the Judicial Commissioner of Upper Burma is somewhat congested. It has been represented that in both cases permanent addition to the strength of the Courts is required. In the case of the Chief Court, the subject is under the consideration of Government. A temporary arrangement has been made to enable the Judicial Commissioner of Upper Burma to clear off the arrears which have accumulated in his Court. It is not clear that permanent relief is required in Upper Burma at present. If litigation continues to decrease, as it

decreased in the past year, and if some limitation in the facility of appeal in petty cases is introduced, the present arrangement may be found sufficient for some time to come.

Registration.

17. The number of compulsory registrations in Lower Burma shows a decided falling-off which is generally attributed to restrictions imposed by Government on transfers of land to non-agriculturists. The number of instruments of sale registered in Lower Burma exceeded the number of mortgages registered ; whereas in previous years mortgages have usually outnumbered sales by some 40 per cent. One of the chief causes assigned for this is the sale of mortgaged lands by Chetties, who are said to be restricting advances on landed property and realizing outstanding advances. In Upper Burma there was some expansion in the number of documents compulsorily registered coupled with an extraordinary rise from 49 to 164 lakhs in the value of transactions. The increase in value was due to abnormal activity as regards the transfer of oil sites and wells on the Yenangyaung oil field.

**Municipal
Administration.**

18. The number of municipalities in the Province remained at 44. In the Rangoon Municipality the tax on bullock carts was increased and a tax on dogs was sanctioned. Increased expenditure has been accompanied by a gratifying increase of activity in many directions. Some of the problems which the Committee have to face are the question of milk-supply, the housing problem, the enforcement of building regulations and the improvement of the roads. Plague was less prevalent and the spirit with which the people of Rangoon have accepted plague measures as well as the tact shown by plague subordinates deserve commendation. The work of the Vaccination staff was satisfactorily carried on. Further powers are needed by the authorities in respect of Vaccination and legislation is contemplated. The work of reclamation progressed steadily during the year.

In the remaining 43 Municipalities plague has again had an injurious effect on the finances of Municipalities, and many important and necessary schemes for the improvement of sanitary conditions have had to be abandoned or postponed for want of funds. For this reason the grant of 3 lakhs made from Imperial Funds in the current year for expenditure on sanitary improvement is particularly welcome. This grant is to be a recurring one, and with its aid it should be possible gradually to effect a general improvement of sanitary conditions in the larger towns throughout the Province. Schemes for water-supply and drainage will have the first claim for aid from the grant, but applications for aid in support of any other proposals for sanitary improvement will be carefully considered. Municipalities have been generally administered with efficiency, and for the most part members of Municipal Committees, both official and non-official, take an interest in the affairs of their towns.

Military.

19. The expenditure on Military works declined by about 13 per cent., but the figure was still high compared with previous years. The greater part of the expenditure was incurred in completing the accommodation for troops at Maymyo. The year was a prosperous one as regards Volunteering and both the total strength of the Volunteer Corps and the number of efficient Volunteers show noticeable improvement.

Marine.

20. In spite of a slight decrease in the number and tonnage of vessels entering the port, the ordinary revenue of the Rangoon Port Trust in 1907-08

considerably exceeded the revenue of the preceding year. This satisfactory result is largely due to the imposition of a river due of one and a half annas a ton on imports and exports which was sanctioned in August 1907 and from which nearly two lakhs were realised during the year. The capital expenditure amounted to Rs. 22,57,205, of which 16½ lakhs were spent on extensions to wharves. The new wharves, in the equipment of which recourse has been had to the latest developments of engineering science, are worthy of a great port, and should be highly appreciated by the shipping and mercantile community. In other directions the activities of the Port Commissioners have been devoted to the preparation of schemes which are likely to bear fruit in the near future. A final decision on the River Training Scheme has not yet been arrived at. Shipping figures for the Province indicate some decline in the numbers of vessels arriving from foreign ports compensated by continued expansion of the coasting trade. A steamer was wrecked on the Arakan Coast near Akyab. The small number of casualties which occurred to vessels in charge of pilots during the year is satisfactory.

21. The new Agricultural Department settled down to work during the year ^{Agriculture.} and the Director reports a gratifying increase of interest in the doings of the Department on the part both of Government officials and of the general public. The returns of live stock show a general increase of numbers. In some districts the gradual substitution of bullocks for buffaloes is observable. Cattle disease was much less prevalent than in the previous year. Arrangements are being made for holding cattle shows under the management of the Agricultural Department. Prices of paddy and of other crops were generally much above the normal figures. Larger advances were made by Government to cultivators in the shape of agricultural loans and there was a considerable increase in the amount outstanding on this account. The result of the work of the past two years indicates that the Co-operative Credit movement has attracted much attention among Burmans, and it has every prospect of becoming a vital and efficient factor in the solution of various problems connected with agricultural progress and development. It is gratifying that it has been found possible to establish Societies without pecuniary aid from Government, and that the credit of the Societies has attracted offers of larger sums as deposits than the Societies have been able to accept. One essential necessity, at the outset, is that the constitution and working of the Societies should be closely supervised in order that there may be no risk of failure in the fulfilment of their obligations. This is clearly recognized by the Registrar. It may now be held that the Co-operative Credit system has passed beyond the experimental stage. There is good reason to believe that it is suited to the temperament and needs of the people of Burma. Subject, therefore, to the limitations imposed by the necessity of close supervision, the formation of new Societies will now be encouraged and the injunction to proceed on experimental lines will be relaxed. But it is not intended that more Societies should be formed than can be properly controlled and guided by the Registrar and such of his assistants or other officers as are qualified to undertake that part of the work. A small extension of the cultivated area protected by artificial embankments resulted in a corresponding improvement in the net revenue derived from this source. The growth of the irrigated area in Upper Burma due to the development of the Government canal systems is noticeable.

Weather
and crops.

22. In Lower Burma the agricultural season was on the whole favourable and the outturn of rice was little below the normal figure. The season in Upper Burma, on the other hand, especially in the dry zone, was one of the worst experienced in recent years and crop outturns were very poor. A moderate extension of the cropped area was chiefly due to natural expansion of paddy cultivation. The remarkable spread of ground-nut cultivation continued and there was a considerable expansion under the head of jowar. On the other hand the cultivation of wheat showed signs of contraction.

Experi-
mental culti-
vation.

23. The Mandalay Agricultural station was fully worked and something was done at Hmawbi; but the operations of the new Agricultural Department were curtailed owing to lack of funds. Several very interesting experiments were carried out. The most important related to the possibility of growing crops other than paddy on ordinary soils in Lower Burma and to the introduction of "moisture-resisting" paddy seed into the Akyab District. The latter experiment promises well.

Horticul-
ture.

24. The management of the Government experimental gardens has been taken over by the Agricultural Department and steps were taken during the year to place them on a sound footing. The Rangoon Horticultural Society had a prosperous year but the Moulmein Society is said to be in a moribund condition.

Forests.

25. Satisfactory progress was made in the reservation of forests and in the examination of areas suitable for reservation. The question of preserving forests and re-forestation of arid areas for climatic reasons has occupied the attention of Government for some years past. Effective steps have been taken to limit the destructive effects of *taungya* cultivation without inflicting undue hardship on people practising this method. The policy of restricting the direct extraction of timber by the Forest Department was adhered to during the year. It is believed that the more systematic working of the forests by large contractors and the relief afforded to forest officers will in the end yield satisfactory results, financially and otherwise. Relations between District and Forest Officers have, on the whole, been cordial. There is reason to believe that the Forest law is administered leniently, and it is desirable that this should continue to be the rule. It is essential that the people should be made to understand, if possible, that forest administration is undertaken for their ultimate advantage and not as a method of harassing them in small ways. The improvement in the status and qualifications of the subordinate staff, which has now been carried out, will, it may be hoped, effect a material improvement in the relations between the Forest Department and the people.

Mines and
Quarries.

26. The returns relating to Mines and Quarries present no very striking features, but they indicate steady development of the mineral resources of the country. The Mount Pima Mining Company, which proposes to work galena and copper in the Yamèthin District, attracted some attention. Gold dredging operations were continued in the upper reaches of the Irrawaddy with fairly satisfactory results. The outturn of rubies improved, but depression in the gem market greatly reduced the profits of the Ruby Mines Company. The yield of petroleum increased again after the set-back of the previous year. Some of the wells are said to show signs of exhaustion; but new wells are continually being opened out. Tin mining was less successful owing to insufficient rainfall. Coal is to be found in many places and prospecting still goes on, but paying

works are still to seek. The opening out of extensive stone quarries near Kyaikto and on Kalagauk Island is worth mention.

27. The staple industries of the country remain as in previous years. The ^{Manufac-} factory returns showed fair progress in the establishment of large industries, the ^{tural} growth in the number of rice mills being specially noticeable.

28. The extraordinary expansion of the maritime trade of the Province which ^{Seaborne} was a feature of the previous year was more than maintained during 1907-08. ^{Trade.} The total value of the trade rose by 16 per cent. The improvement was shared nearly equally between the foreign and the coasting trade, and both imports and exports contributed to the result. The expansion of exports was due mainly to larger shipments of rice to foreign countries and to India. The growth of the import trade may be attributed to the increasing prosperity of the country.

29. The inland trade of the Province with foreign countries and with the ^{Trade} tributary States and tribes on the external frontier was also in a healthy state and ^{in Trade} showed satisfactory signs of development. The total value of the trade, which is small compared with the maritime trade, increased by 9 per cent.

30. A change in the classification of buildings of some importance was carried ^{Public} out with effect from the 1st April 1907, buildings belonging to certain Imperial ^{Works—} Departments being transferred from the Provincial to the Imperial list. ^{(i) Roads and Build-} The total outlay on Public Works from all sources was slightly in excess of the ^{ings.} figure of 1906-07. Practically, the same sum was spent on Provincial Civil Works as in the previous year, but it must be borne in mind that the change of classification referred to causes an apparent reduction of expenditure under the head of Provincial Buildings. Expenditure on Communications again declined owing to less being spent on new metalled roads. The bridge over the Sittang River at Toungoo was opened during the year. Progress was made with various important building operations in Rangoon. Work on the new Chief Court and the General Hospital advanced a stage, extensive additions were made to the Currency Buildings, and the foundations of the Press Building were completed. In the mofussil the new Jail at Moulmein was finished and progress was made with the Police Training School at Mandalay.

31. The Pegu-Martaban extension of the Burma Railways, 121·27 miles, was ^{Public} opened during the year, as well as 13½ miles of the Henzada-Kyargin branch line. ^{Works—} Progress was made in doubling the track on the main lines where traffic is congested. ^{(ii) Railways and Tram-} Important surveys of projected lines were also carried out. The only serious ^{ways} interruption of traffic was due to the dismantling of two miles of the Tharawaw Branch in anticipation of exceptional floods which, however, came to nothing. The capital expenditure on the railway system amounted to nearly 100 lakhs, more than double the figure of 1906-07. The net earnings exceeded 70 lakhs, an improvement of nearly 11 lakhs on the previous year. The Thatôn-Duyinzeik Tramway was closed in consequence of the opening of the Pegu-Martaban Railway. The Rangoon Electric Tramways had a prosperous year, while the affairs of the Mandalay concern were less satisfactory. Progress was made with the construction of the Madaya light railway in the Mandalay District.

Public
Works—
(iii) Canals.

32. The Pegu-Sittang and the Sittang-Kyaikto Canals remained open for navigation. Traffic improved on the former and declined on the latter. Leaving out of account the original cost of the canals a small profit was earned on their working.

Irrigation.

33. A large expansion of the irrigated area in Upper Burma was due to the development of the Mandalay and Shwebo Canal systems, and a corresponding increase of revenue was derived from these works. Moderate progress was made on the construction of the Mōn Canals, but very little work was done during the year on the Ye-u Canal.

Provincial
Settlement.

34. A new Provincial Settlement on a *quasi*-permanent basis was introduced with effect from the 1st April 1907. Some important changes were made in the distribution of Revenue and Expenditure between Imperial and Provincial Funds. An initial grant of 50 lakhs was made to Provincial Revenues and a standard figure of 439½ lakhs was adopted for the revenue and expenditure of the Province as compared with 331½ lakhs, the standard figure of the previous settlement.

Gross
Revenue.

35. The gross receipts of the Province, including Imperial, Provincial and Local Funds exceeded the revenue of the previous year by only a lakh of rupees. The Imperial share increased by 47 lakhs mainly due to the revised terms of the new Provincial Settlement, while the Provincial share underwent a corresponding decline of nearly 32 lakhs. A deficiency of 14 lakhs is shown in the receipts of Local Funds. The gross expenditure of the Province was two lakhs below the figure of 1906-07.

Imperial
Revenue and
Finance—
Land
Revenue.

36. The gross land revenue of the Province exceeded that of the previous year by only one lakh. The ordinary land revenue demand exceeded that of 1905-07 by nearly 5½ lakhs. On the other hand remissions and outstandings showed further improvement and in consequence collections increased by over eight lakhs. Receipts from capitation tax improved by nearly a lakh owing chiefly as in the previous year to stricter assessment of Chittagonian coolies in the Akyab District. The number of households assessed to *thathameda* showed some expansion, but reduced rates and remissions resulted in a decline of 8½ lakhs in the amount collected. Fishery revenue fell off by half a lakh owing to the unfavourable season in Upper Burma and to the effect of previous bad years in Lower Burma.

Customs.

37. Customs receipts showed an improvement of 11 lakhs on the figure of 1906-07 owing to the expansion of trade and larger shipments of rice to Europe.

Salt.

38. A special enquiry into the local conditions of the Salt industry was in progress during the year. Pending its completion, the Local Government has abstained from taking any action which might prejudice a decision on any of the points under investigation, and there was therefore no change of policy in any direction during the year. The figures show a considerable increase in the estimated consumption of salt in the Province and a corresponding expansion of revenue derived from this source. There was some extension of local production, but the larger demand was chiefly met by increased imports from foreign countries. Consignments of salt were received for the first time from Egypt and from Asiatic Turkey.

39. Important questions of Excise policy and administration have occupied the continuous attention both of the Excise authorities and of the Local Government, but final orders had not been passed in many cases by the close of the year. Perhaps the most satisfactory feature in the year's work has been the continued decrease in the consumption of Government opium. Although this decrease may be accompanied by an increase in the amount of smuggled opium consumed, there is no good reason to think that this is the case. It may be regarded as certain that the practice of hawking shop opium, which used to be one of the chief defects in the existing system, has received an effectual check. This result is no doubt largely attributable to the restriction of issues in accordance with the probable requirements of consumers and their estimated means. Measures for the prevention of opium smuggling continued to receive special attention. The Contract Distillery system was extended, and further extension is in contemplation. But it is reported that illicit distillation is still prevalent. With the increase in the Excise establishment which, it is hoped, will be sanctioned, active measures for the suppression of illicit distillation will be possible. Imports of foreign liquors continued to increase. The number of prosecutions under the Excise Act was practically stationary, and there was a slight decrease in the percentage of convictions. The financial results of the year were satisfactory, the revenue having increased and the expenditure decreased.

Opium and
Excise

40. The revenue from Stamps continued to increase, but the rate of expansion was less rapid than in previous years. The proportion of the total receipts derived from the sale of Court-fee Stamps in Rangoon rises steadily indicating the importance of Rangoon as a centre. (The general impression created by the stamp statistics is that of a check in development. Land speculation in Rangoon Town and in the Amherst and Thaton Districts is on the decline. Throughout the Province money-lenders in general, and Chetties in particular, are calling in their advances. The general attitude is one of caution. Nor is the resumption of the previous rate of increase to be expected.) A more sober and steady progress is to be anticipated when the land policy of Government is better understood and when the losses of unsuccessful speculators are liquidated. The gains of the Delta cultivator are likely to swell the revenue in one form or another.

Stamps

41. The normal growth of receipts under the Income-tax Act was maintained. The increase in the collections does not indicate more than a moderate rate of increase in the wealth of the Province, and a comparison of the figures relating to the tax assessed on the profits of companies leads to a similar conclusion. In some districts there was a falling off owing to the prevalence of plague and other temporary causes.

Annual
Tax

42. The revenue returns of the Forest Department show some recovery after the serious decline of the previous year. Receipts, 88.33 lakhs, were nearly two lakhs better than those of 1906-07; expenditure was somewhat less and the surplus rose from 50 to 52½ lakhs.

Forests

43. Imperial expenditure in the Province increased by a lakh and a half. Apart from variations due to changes of classification less was spent on Military Works while more expenditure was incurred on Customs and Irrigation.

Imperial
Expenditure.

**Provincial
Revenues**

44. Provincial revenues diminished to the extent of $31\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. The bulk of these receipts are derived from heads which are shared with Imperial Funds and variations are chiefly due as already explained to changes of classification consequent on the introduction of the new Provincial Settlement. Expenditure from Provincial Funds exceeded the income of the year by over 30 lakhs and the expenditure of the previous year by 18 lakhs. Owing to the growing needs of the administration enhanced outlay was incurred in nearly all the principal departments, especially under Police and Courts of Law; but expenditure on Public Works and Forests was practically the same as in the previous year.

Local Funds

45. The principal Incorporated Local Funds are the District Cess Funds in Lower Burma and the District Funds in Upper Burma. A moderate increase of revenue is reported while expenditure declined. Of Excluded Local Funds the principal is the Rangoon Port Trust which is dealt with elsewhere. Of the remaining Excluded Funds the most important are the Cantonment, Town and Minor Port Funds. On the whole these funds had a prosperous year with increased income and smaller expenditure.

**Municipal
Revenues**

46. The financial position of the Rangoon Municipality still points to the need of fostering the revenues and exercising rigid economy in expenditure. Although there was a substantial increase in revenue, there was an almost equivalent increase in expenditure; and it is likely that charges will tend to expand more rapidly than receipts. Both the income and expenditure of minor Municipalities increased over the figures of 1906-07; but the expansion of charges was less than that of receipts. The Municipal Funds are solvent, but more money is required to enable them to carry out necessary schemes of improvement.

**Births and
Deaths**

47. The registration of births in non-municipal towns and rural areas in Upper Burma was undertaken in eleven districts from the 1st January 1907. The additional population dealt with was over $2\frac{1}{2}$ millions, or nearly 50 per cent. of the population for which statistics had been recorded in previous years. There are however still considerable areas both in Lower and Upper Burma in which the registration of vital statistics is incomplete. The chief features of the death statistics regarded as a whole are the high rates of infantile mortality especially in towns and of the mortality in towns as compared with the rural areas. It is probable that the difference between the death rates in towns and rural areas is in part due to the more accurate registration in towns. The total number of deaths from cholera in the Province during 1907 was 8,378 as compared with 7,872 in the previous year. The returns show a large reduction in mortality from small-pox. The deaths in 1907 numbered 2,882 as compared with 8,540 in the previous year and 6,161 in 1905. The total number of deaths from plague in 1907 was 9,249 as compared with 8,637 in the previous year. The increase was therefore only 7 per cent., whereas the increase in 1906 was over 100 per cent. as compared with 1905. The epidemic is still confined for the most part to the larger towns and there were 8,454 deaths in towns as compared with 795 in rural areas. Over half the total number of deaths occurred in Rangoon and Mandalay. Of the 40 towns in Lower Burma 21 were affected in 1906 and 27 in 1907. It is reasonable, however, to suppose that the information of the deaths from plague grows more accurate each year, and therefore, that the epidemic of

1907 was in reality little, if at all, in excess of that of the previous year as regards either intensity or extent. Nearly half the total number of deaths recorded in the Province are entered under the head of fevers. This figure no doubt includes a large number of deaths due to causes other than malarial fever, but it is certain that this cause is responsible for a heavy mortality. A very large increase in the sales of quinine in the Province is a satisfactory feature of the year's record.

48. The returns of the year show a smaller movement of population into and ~~out of~~ ^{Emigration and Immigration} the Province than in the previous year. The addition to the population ~~due to these causes combined~~ ^{was below the normal figure.}

49. During the year under review 14 new hospitals and dispensaries were ^{Medical Relief.} opened in the Province. The total number at the end of 1907 stood at 227. The increase has been steady, but there are still many places where a hospital is required and many of the existing buildings do not satisfy modern medical requirements. In many cases the Municipal and Town Committees in Lower Burma are unable, even with the help of substantial contributions from Provincial Funds, to find the money for an ideal hospital. The total number of patients continues to increase, but Hindus and Mahomedans have supplied the greater number of additional patients and the number of Burmese patients was lower in 1907 than in any of the previous four years. The ratio of attendances for Burmese males and females, 75 and 40 per mille respectively, is very small especially when compared with the ratios of attendance in the case of other races both in Burma and in India. Proposals for the establishment of a Pasteur Institute in Burma were received with much enthusiasm at a public meeting held in Rangoon in September 1907 and over a lakh of rupees has now been subscribed for this purpose. Plans for the building have been prepared, and it is hoped that in the near future the establishment of an institute in Burma will be an accomplished fact. The difficulty experienced in obtaining Hospital Assistants is the most serious of all questions connected with the medical requirements of the Province. Attempts have been made to meet the difficulty by the offer of bonuses and scholarships to students of Medical Schools in India. But the establishment of Hospital Assistants is still 43 below strength, and is composed for the most part of natives of the Punjab and Madras. The establishment of a Subordinate Medical Service in which the majority of members shall be natives of the Province is a pressing need. At present Burmese patients provide only about half the total number of patients in the hospitals although 88 per cent. of the total population are Burmese, and there seems to be no doubt that this result must be attributed largely to the fact that so large a proportion of the subordinate medical staff are not natives of the Province. A Government Medical School was opened in Rangoon in February 1907 for the purpose of training Burmans and Karens as Hospital Assistants and it is hoped that the school will be a success.

50. During the year of report some 25 Municipal Committees adopted ^{Sanitation} bye-laws for the improvement of sanitary conditions by the regulation of the sale of articles of food and drink, the prevention of overcrowding, or the prohibition of buildings of an insanitary type. In the larger towns the need for sanitary improvement is recognized by Municipal Committees, but they are hampered

partly by want of funds and partly by the passive opposition of the people who do not yet appreciate the ideals of sanitary service. The need of assistance from Provincial Funds has been freely recognized, but financial exigencies have prevented the grant of aid to the extent which could be desired. The annual grant from Imperial Funds of three lakhs of rupees, which has been placed at the disposal of the Local Government for sanitary improvement in towns, will therefore be of great service in enabling schemes to be carried out which without such assistance would probably be delayed for many years. The water-works at Akyab are approaching completion and there is a prospect that a scheme for providing a good water-supply at Mandalay, which has been under discussion for many years, will at last be approved and undertaken. One of the most urgent needs of the Province is the provision of a subordinate sanitary service consisting of men who have received an adequate technical training. The question of organizing such a service has been under discussion with the Sanitary Commissioner for some time, and proposals have now been submitted to the Government of India for its institution. The separation of the office of the Sanitary Commissioner from that of the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals has been rendered necessary by the great increase in the sanitary work of the Province and by the need of provision for its further extension. A separate Sanitary Commissionership was sanctioned by the Secretary of State at the end of 1907 and Major C. E. Williams, I.M.S., was appointed to the new post in January 1908.

Vaccination.

51. Both the total number of vaccinations performed and the average number of operations per vaccinator show some reduction in the year of report. This result may be attributed, in part at any rate, to improved supervision of the returns. The appointment of additional Native Superintendents continues steadily and the number of inspections done by them represents a very large advance on the figures of previous years. In some towns and villages it is said that the people are hostile to vaccination, and the Sanitary Commissioner is inclined to attribute this attitude to inefficiency and want of tact on the part of the vaccination staff. Inoculation is still practised freely in rural areas and is reported to have caused outbreaks of small-pox in several districts. Nevertheless there is good reason to believe that the people of this Province as a whole have no strong objection to vaccination in itself. When they prefer inoculation it is partly because inoculation is an established practice and vaccinators are not always available, partly because vaccination has not always given good results. A Bill has recently been passed for the purpose of empowering the Local Government to prohibit inoculation in any rural area. It is not intended to introduce this enactment into all parts of the Province at once, for until the Vaccination Department is rendered thoroughly efficient it is not reasonable to make inoculation a penal offence. At first therefore its operation will be confined to the districts of Pegu and Hanthawaddy, where the vaccination staff is being reorganized. By degrees, as full facilities for vaccination are provided and as the confidence of the people is gained, the measure will be applied to other districts and in time there is no reason to doubt that the practice of inoculation will be as dead in Burma as it is in Europe. It is not intended to make vaccination compulsory in rural areas. In Rangoon the serious outbreak of small-pox which occurred in the year 1905-06 resulted in a

great increase of activity as regards vaccination. Since this epidemic the Municipal Committee have given their attention to the improvement of the arrangements in connection with vaccination, the staff has been reorganized, new vaccination stations have been built at convenient places in the town, and the supply of lymph has been much improved. A Bill will shortly be introduced into the Legislative Council to afford additional facilities for the vaccination of immigrant coolies.

52. The year under review was one of activity in the Education Department and Education. progress was made in carrying out various improvements and reforms. Effect is being given to the change of policy in accordance with which a more direct part is taken by Government in the management of Colleges and Schools. Arrangements for taking over several Municipal Schools were nearly completed. Want of funds interfered with projects for building Government Schools. An interesting experiment has lately been projected for the Arakan Division where in some respects education is in a backward state. It is proposed to establish Vernacular Schools in the first instance at Township Headquarters, to be built and supported at the cost of the District Cess Fund. The report indicates no actual advance in Secondary Education. The number of students in Colleges and High Schools has not increased. It cannot be denied that the special need of this Province is the local extension of Secondary Education on sound principles, and the slowness of progress is disappointing. The two Colleges are being placed on a better footing and the establishment of Government High Schools, Anglo-Vernacular and Vernacular, as Model Schools under highly-qualified masters, in the larger districts, will afford additional facilities for, and encouragement to, higher education. With a view to the direct encouragement of University Education it was decided, as an experimental measure, to appoint to the Subordinate Civil Service, on application, any Burman student who takes the degree of B.A. and is reported in other respects to be qualified for appointment. An important step was taken during the past year in the establishment of an Anglo-Vernacular High School Final Examination. It has been decided that this examination shall take the place of the Matriculation or Entrance Examination in cases where the passing of that examination is at present a qualification for Government Service. Primary Education made some progress as regards the number of institutions and pupils during the past year. As is well known elementary instruction is widely diffused and the majority of Burman boys learn at least to read and write. Of late years, special attention has been paid to Vernacular Education. An important reform was effected during the year in the improvement of the position of officers of the Indian Educational Service in Burma. These officers have now been placed on the same footing as officers of the same service in other Provinces. This measure can hardly fail to stimulate the efficiency of the Educational Department. The number of Inspectors has been increased and instead of being centred for the most part in Rangoon Inspectors have been distributed throughout the Province at divisional headquarters, and made more fully responsible for the direction of Education in their circles. The strengthening of the subordinate Inspecting Staff is also a matter which is receiving attention. The education of girls and young women is still in a comparatively backward state and the number of Government Schools in which girls are more numerous than boys is very

small. Proposals have been made for the appointment of an *Inspectress* and *Assistant Inspectress* of Schools. Among other matters which have attracted special notice during the past year is the question of introducing the study of hygiene or elementary science into all schools. The importance of this question is fully realized and it has been commended to the attention of the *Director* whose final report is awaited. The subject of moral training is one of even greater difficulty. That the formation of character is one of the main objects of education is a truism. But it is open to question whether the actual teaching of morals in schools is best adapted to attain the desired end. It is doubtful whether text books and categorical moral lessons are of much value. Rather is it likely that this branch of education depends almost entirely on the personality of the teacher and on home influences.

Archæology.

53. Action was taken during the year under the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act with a view to the protection of monuments of historic and architectural interest. Archæological operations were curtailed owing to lack of funds ; but current repairs were carried out and the conservation of eleven additional buildings was taken over by Government. The examination of the *Seinnyet Pagoda* in the Pagan Township and the survey of the site of ancient *Prome* yielded interesting results.

BURMA SECRETARIAT, *the 9th December 1908.*

PART II.

Note.—The departmental reports and other references on which this Report on the Administration of Burma is based are noted at the beginning of each Chapter. The departmental reports do not all cover the same period. The reports on the Administration of Civil and Criminal Justice, the Police, Prisons, the Registration Department, the Salt Revenue, the Reports on the Insein Reformatory School, Measures adopted for the extermination of Wild Animals and Poisonous Snakes, Lunatic Asylums, the Report of the Chemical Examiner and Bacteriologist, the Report on the working of the Government Medical School, Rangoon, the Resolution on the Reports on Village Administration in Burma, and the Resolution on the Reports on the working of the Indian Factories Act in Lower Burma, deal with events which took place within the calendar year 1907; the Shan States, Chin Hills and the North-Eastern Frontier Reports, the Land Revenue, Land Records, and Forest Administration Reports, the Season and Crop Report, the Report on Co-operative Credit Societies, and the Report of the Department of Agriculture are concerned with the agricultural year from the 1st July 1907 to the close of June 1908. All other reports cover the twelve months of the official or financial year that ended on the 31st March 1908.

CHAPTER I.

PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

REFERENCES—

- Report on the Administration of the Shan States for the year ended the 30th June 1908.
- Report on the Administration of the Chin Hills for the year ended the 30th June 1908.
- Report on the Administration of the North-Eastern Frontier of Burma for the year ended the 30th June 1908.
- Season and Crop Report of Burma for the year ending the 30th June 1908.

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

POLITICAL.

Historical Summary.

Character of Land Tenures; System of Survey and Settlements.

Civil Divisions of British Territory.

Details of the last Census; Tribes and Languages.

For information on the foregoing subjects, reference should be made to paragraphs 1 to 19 and 39 to 75 of the Report on the Administration of Burma for the year 1901-02.

The information under the red-letter heading "Form of Administration" in the Report for 1901-02 is to some extent out-of-date. The section has therefore been revised and is repeated with necessary modifications in the following 20 paragraphs.

Form of Administration.

1. In 1897 the Province, which had formerly been administered by a Chief Commissioner, was raised to a Lieutenant-Governorship. By section 3 of the Burma Laws Act, 1898, Burma was defined as the territories for the time being

Lieutenant-Governor and Council.

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

administered by the Lieutenant-Governor of Burma. The Lieutenant-Governor also exercises political control over Karenni, a tract of country consisting of several petty States situated between Burma and Siam and lying outside of British India, which are in subordinate alliance with the British Government. A Legislative Council, for the purpose of making laws and regulations, was constituted in 1897. The number of members is nine, with the Lieutenant-Governor as President. The members are nominated by the Lieutenant-Governor and appointed by the Government. Five are ordinarily Government servants and four are selected from the non-official community.

Adminis-
trative Divi-
sions—
Shan
States.

2. The primary administrative division of Burma is into Upper Burma, including the Shan States and the Chin Hills, and Lower Burma. The Shan States are administered by the Chiefs of the States subject to the supervision of the Superintendents in the case of the Northern and Southern Shan States, and to the supervision of the Commissioners of the adjoining divisions in the case of the other States. By section 11 of the Burma Laws Act, 1898, the civil, criminal and revenue administration of every Shan State is vested in the Chief of the State subject to the restrictions specified in the *sanad* or order of appointment granted to him. Under the same section the law to be administered in each State is the customary law of the State so far as it is in accordance with justice, equity and good conscience and not opposed to the spirit of the law in force in the rest of British India. Power to appoint officers to take part in the administration of any State and to regulate their powers and proceedings is vested in the Government.

Chin Hills.

3. In Burmese times the Chin Hills of Upper Burma were independent of external control. After the annexation they were gradually brought under administration, and, in September 1895, were formally declared to be part of the Province of Burma. They are administered by a Superintendent, and the law in force in them is declared by the Chin Hills Regulation, 1896. So far as persons other than Chins are concerned, the law is the same as the law in force in Upper Burma. So far as Chins are concerned, the criminal law is the same, with a few modifications, as the law of Upper Burma. The Chin Hills form a Sessions division and a district, and the Superintendent is appointed Sessions Judge. The revenue and general law of Burma does not apply to Chins, who are at a low stage of civilization. These matters are regulated for them by a few simple provisions in the Chin Hills Regulation, 1896, and the rules thereunder. A small portion of the Chin Hills called the Pakokku Hill Tracts is outside the jurisdiction of the Superintendent and is controlled by the Commissioner of the Magwe Division.

Upper
Burma.

4. Upper Burma, exclusive of the Shan States, is a scheduled district. The law in force there is closely assimilated to that in force in Lower Burma, the Acts which are in force in Upper Burma being specified in the first schedule to the Burma Laws Act. The rest of this section applies, except where the contrary is stated, to Upper Burma exclusive of the Shan States and the Chin Hills, and to Lower Burma.

Commis-
sioners.

5. The chief executive officers under the Lieutenant-Governor are eight Commissioners of Divisions, four in Lower Burma and four in Upper Burma. Commissioners in Upper Burma and the Commissioner, Arakan Division, are *ex-officio* Sessions Judges in their several divisions and have civil powers under the Upper Burma Civil Courts Regulation, 1896, and the Lower Burma Courts Act, 1900, respectively. The other three Commissioners in Lower Burma have been relieved since 1905 of all Judicial work, Civil and Criminal. All Commissioners have powers as Revenue Officers under the Burma Land and Revenue Act, 1876, and the Upper Burma Land and Revenue Regulation, 1889. They are also responsible to the Lieutenant-Governor, each in his own division, for the working of every department of the public service except the Military Department and the branches of the Administration directly under the control of the Supreme Government. Certain of them also supervise certain Shan States adjoining their divisions,

and the Commissioner of the Magwe Division supervises the Pakoke Hills. Art. 1—
Physical
and Political Geo-
graphy
Other
Gen. Admin.

6. Under the Commissioners are 39 Deputy Commissioners including the Police Officers in charge of the Northern Arakan and Salween Districts who exercise the powers of a Deputy Commissioner. Deputy Commissioners perform the functions of District Magistrates, Collectors and Registrars except in Rangoon where there is both a District Magistrate and a Collector. In Upper Burma districts except Mandalay and in the less important districts of Lower Burma the Deputy Commissioner is also District Judge. Deputy Commissioners are responsible for many miscellaneous duties which fall to the principal District Officer as the representative of Government. Subordinate to the Deputy Commissioners are Assistant Commissioners, Extra Assistant Commissioners and Myobks, who are invested with various magisterial, civil and revenue powers and hold charge of the townships, as the units of regular civil and revenue jurisdiction are called, and the subdivision of districts into which most of these townships are grouped. Among the salaried staff of officials the Township Officers are the ultimate representatives of Government who come into most direct contact with the people. Two appointments of Deputy Commissioner are opened to the Provincial Service.

7. Finally, there are the headmen of village-tracts, assisted in Lower Burma by *se-ingawngs* (rural policemen in charge of 10 houses), and in Upper Burma by elders variously designated. Similarly, in the towns there are headmen of wards and elders of blocks. The system of revenue collection through the agency of headmen is being steadily developed. In Lower Burma the land revenue and other district taxes were at one time collected by circle *thugyis* in charge of large groups of villages, but these circle appointments are now, with rare exceptions, being abolished as they fall vacant from death, retirement or other cause. The *myabgyis* in Upper Burma, who had in some instances been entrusted with this work, will similarly disappear in the course of a few years. The headmen are remunerated by commission on the amount of revenue which they collect. V. 2—
Gen. Admin.

8. The revenue administration of the Province is controlled by a Financial Commissioner assisted by two Secretaries. Subordinate Departments are in charge of a Commissioner of Settlements and Land Records, a Director of Agriculture and a Superintendent of the Civil Veterinary Department. In each of these departments there is a subordinate departmental staff. Revenue
Administration.

9. The administration of Civil and Criminal Justice is under the control of the Chief Court, Lower Burma, with four Judges, and of the Judicial Commissioner, Upper Burma. Purely Judicial Officers include six Divisional and eight District Judges, and there are also separate Provincial and Subordinate Judicial Services. Divisional Judges are also Sessions Judges, while District Judges confine themselves mainly to the exercise of civil jurisdiction. As regards the appointment of District Judges, the scheme for the separation of executive and judicial functions extends to the more important districts of Lower Burma and to the Mandalay District. It does not extend to Kyaukpyu, Sandoway, Salween, Tavoy, Mergui or Thayetmyo, where the Deputy Commissioner continues to perform *ex-officio* the duties of District Judge, to Rangoon, where the Chief Court takes the place of the District Court, or to the Arakan Hill Tracts, which are under a special law. In the remaining 13 districts of Lower Burma the Deputy Commissioner has no concern with civil justice. In four cases two, and in one case three, districts are grouped under one District Judge, who spends part of his time in each. Besides their civil jurisdiction, District Judges are invested with powers under sections 30 and 34 of the Criminal Procedure Code, 1898, in order that they may partially relieve Deputy Commissioners of the burden of criminal work, and they are also empowered to hear criminal appeals from 2nd and 3rd class Magistrates. Two of the appointments of District Judge are open to members of the Provincial Service. Similarly, by the appointment of Divisional Judges the Commissioners of the Pegu, Judicial Ad-
ministration.

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

Tenasserim and Irrawaddy Divisions are relieved of all judicial work, criminal and civil, and the Commissioner of the Magwe Division receives relief in respect of the Thayetmyo District; but in the Arakan Division the Commissioner continues to be Divisional and Sessions Judge for his division. Though the Rangoon Town District is in the Hanthawaddy Sessions Division, the sessions cases and criminal regular appeals belonging to it are tried by the Chief Court, and it is not in the Hanthawaddy civil division. The constitution of the Provincial and Subordinate Judicial services operates in the same way to relieve Subdivisional Officers and Township Officers in the more important charges in Lower Burma and to a less extent in Upper Burma of Civil Judicial work and in some cases also of criminal work. The Chief Court is the highest Civil Court of appeal and the highest Court of Criminal appeal and revision for Lower Burma. It is also the High Court for the whole of Burma (including the Shan States) in reference to proceedings against European British subjects. It is the principal Civil and Criminal Court of original jurisdiction for Rangoon Town, and hears appeals from all sentences of Courts or Magistrates exercising jurisdiction in Rangoon Town. It has within Rangoon Town the powers of a Court for the relief of insolvent debtors under the Indian Insolvency Act, 1848. In criminal and civil matters the Judicial Commissioner, Upper Burma, exercises, in Upper Burma, the powers of a High Court for appeal, reference and revision, except in respect of criminal cases in which European British subjects are accused. All village headmen have limited magisterial powers and a considerable number exercise the powers of Civil Courts.

Public
Works.

10. Besides the General, Revenue and Judicial Services mentioned in the preceding paragraphs, the several auxiliary branches of the Administration may be briefly noticed. The Public Works Department is under the joint control of two Chief Engineers who are also Secretaries to Government in the Public Works Department for their respective branches of work. There are eight Superintending Engineers (including one for Irrigation, a Superintending Engineer Architect and a Sanitary Engineer), 76 Executive and Assistant Engineers, 25 Temporary Engineers and five Honorary Assistant Engineers.

Police.

11. The superior staff of the Police Department consists of an Inspector-General of Police, four Deputy Inspectors-General, one of whom holds the appointment of Commissioner of Police, Rangoon, a Superintendent of Police Supplies, 43 District Superintendents and 42 Assistant Superintendents. The Military Police are officered by two Adjutants, 12 Commandants, four Assistant Adjutants and 37 Assistant Commandants.

Medical.

12. The control of the Medical Department is vested in a Colonel of the Indian Medical Service who is Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals. There are 41 Civil Surgeoncies, of which 19 are reserved for Commissioned Officers of the Indian Medical Service. There are also a Sanitary Commissioner and a Deputy Sanitary Commissioner whose duties include the superintendence of vaccination and an Inspector-General of Prisons and three whole-time Jail Superintendents, all of whom belong to the Indian Medical Service. The supervision of sanitation and the charge of prisons other than the three whole-time jails is undertaken by Civil Surgeons and other Medical Officers in addition to their medical duties.

Forests.

13. The Forest Department is administered by a Chief Conservator, four Conservators and 56 Deputy Conservators and Assistant Conservators who are remunerated on a time scale. Besides these officers who belong to the Imperial Service, there is a Provincial Forest Service and a Subordinate Forest Service.

Excise.

14. The Excise Department is under the control of the Financial Commissioner as Chief Revenue Authority. There is an Excise Commissioner drawn from the ranks of Deputy Commissioners, a Chief Superintendent, 29 Superintendents and a Departmental staff.

15. The Port Officer, Rangoon, is styled Principal Port Officer, Burma, and is the Head of the Marine Department. The Principal Port Officer, the Port Officers of Moulmein, Akyab and Bassein, and the Marine Transport Officer, Mandalay, are recruited from the Royal Indian Marine. There are two Assistant Port Officers at Rangoon, one of whom belongs to the Royal Indian Marine and there is a staff of Engineers at Rangoon and Mandalay. River Conservancy is in charge of an Assistant Conservator. At minor ports the Deputy Commissioner is Port Officer.

CHIEF OF
PHYSICAL
AND POLI-
TICAL GEO-
GRAPHY.
Ports.

16. The Financial Commissioner is *ex-officio* the Chief Customs authority. There is a Chief Collector of Customs at Rangoon. At other ports the Port Officer or the Deputy Commissioner, and at Victoria Point the Subdivisional Officer, is *ex-officio* Collector. There is an Assistant Collector of the Imperial Service at Rangoon and one each at Rangoon, Moulmein and Akyab belonging to the Provincial Service.

Customs.

17. At the head of the Education Department is the Director of Public Instruction with an Assistant Director. There are also six Inspectors of Schools, ordinarily recruited from the Imperial Service, and six Assistant Inspectors belonging to the Provincial Service. The staff of the Rangoon College includes a Principal and three Professors drawn from the Imperial Service to which the Principals of the Government Schools at Rangoon and Moulmein also belong. The Educational Syndicate is a body outside of the Education Department, which has for its object the promotion of education throughout the Province. It receives a grant from Government.

Education.

18. There is a Bishop of Rangoon, five Senior Chaplains, five Junior Chaplains and one Probationary Chaplain. One of the Chaplains acts as Archdeacon and Bishop's Commissary. Eight Clergymen not on the Ecclesiastical Establishment receive allowances from Government.

Ecclesiastical.

19. There are 29 Municipal towns in Lower Burma and 15 in Upper Burma. Fifteen smaller towns, seven in Lower Burma, five in Upper Burma and three in the Shan States, have been constituted Notified Areas or Minor Municipalities under the Burma Municipal Act, 1898. The town of Shwedaung has a Town Committee but has not been notified under the Act. In nine of the Lower Burma Municipalities and in Mandalay some of the members of the Committee are elected. In the remainder all the members are appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor or the Commissioner of the division.

Local Self-Government.

20. The Accounts Department is controlled by an Accountant-General, assisted by a Deputy Accountant-General and three Assistant Accountants-General. The Telegraph Department is administered by three Superintendents, assisted by six Assistant Superintendents. The Post Office of India is under the management of a Postmaster-General with thirteen Superintendents. Burma Surveys are supervised by a Superintendent-in-charge and four Assistant Superintendents.

Miscellaneous.

Changes in the Administration.

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

The Lieutenant-Governor.

22. With effect from the 16th September 1907, the headquarters of the Minbu Division were removed from Minbu to Magwe and the division was renamed the Magwe Division. The Milaunggôn Island, area 778 acres, was transferred from the Shwegyin Township, Toungoo District, to the Nyaunglebin Township, Pegu District, as owing to a change of course in the Sittang river the island now belongs geographically to the latter district. No new district, sub-division or township was created and no administrative area was abolished.

Administrative territorial units.

CHAP. I.—
PHYSICAL
AND POLI-
TICAL GEO-
GRAPHY.
Additions to
and changes
in the Admin-
istrative
Staff.

23. During the year of report various reforms of administration were carried into effect involving the creation of new posts and revision of the terms of existing appointments. With unimportant exceptions the re-organization of all grades of the Police Force was completed. The most important changes introduced during the year were (a) the constitution of the new rank of Deputy Superintendent; (b) the introduction of the final grading of Inspectors; and (c) the creation of separate clerical establishments in Police Offices. The net result of the re-organization was the addition to the force of 119 Sub-Inspectors, 1,035 Head Constables and 202 Constables. Separate Provincial and Subordinate Judicial Services were created in place of the Township Judicial Service sanctioned in 1905. Civil Divisions in Lower Burma were re-arranged. A new division was constituted involving the appointment of an Additional Divisional Judge of the first grade and the pay of that grade was raised from Rs. 2,500 to Rs. 2,750. The appointments of Superintendents of Commissioners' Offices were included in the cadre of the Provincial Civil Service. In the Forest Department the clerical establishment was re-organized, but owing to want of funds the orders were not carried into effect during the year.

Relations with Tributary States and Frontier Affairs.

(i) Shan and Karenni States.

General.

24. No change was made in the system of administration in the Shan States during the year under review. This large area, though forming an integral part of Burma and of India, is administered by Native Chiefs subject to the guidance of the Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents who interfere as little as possible with the internal economy of the several States. When the large extent of these States is taken into consideration, the number of British Officers and the force found necessary for the preservation of order must be regarded as extremely small. Two Battalions of Military Police, with headquarters at Taunggyi and Lashio respectively, and a very small establishment of Civil Police are sufficient to maintain order. So far, this interesting experiment in administration, which has been on trial for twenty years, has given good results. The record of the past year, embodied in the Superintendents' Reports, shows that progress continues to be made in the improvement of the administration of several States, and that the condition of the people is satisfactory. Much depends on the personal influence of the Superintendents and their Assistants with the Chiefs.

Events of
the year.

25. The principal event of the year was the visit of His Excellency the Viceroy to Lashio where the Chiefs of the Northern States were received in Durbar, and had also the honour of separate interviews with His Excellency. The principal Chiefs of the other Shan and Karenni States were present at His Excellency's Durbar in Mandalay. The most important incidents of the year in Karenni were the death of Sawlawi, the loyal and capable Chief of Kantarawadi, and of Hkun U, the Myosa of Kyèbogyi. The succession was arranged without difficulty in each case and the new Chiefs were duly installed.

Internal
affairs.

26. The peace of the States was undisturbed throughout the year, and the relations between the several Chiefs were satisfactory and on the whole cordial. Disastrous fires occurred at Yawnghwe and Mawkmai, that at the former place being particularly destructive. The statistics given in the Reports, though probably they are incomplete, may be presumed to include crimes of a serious character. They indicate that serious crime does not tend to increase and they may be regarded as satisfactory. In several States regular police are employed by the Chiefs and are said to be useful. There has no doubt been much improvement in the administration of the more important States, as the Chiefs become more enlightened and more accustomed to regular methods of Government.

The conspicuous success of the Chief of Yawnghwe in the zealous management of his State was recognised by his appointment to the Order of the Indian Empire. In Kengtung, also, improvement was effected and the Chief's efforts received a mark of the appreciation of the Supreme Government. The enlightened administration of the Chief of Laihka deserves special mention. The most gratifying success has attended the efforts made to place the finances and administration of the State of Tawngpeng on a sound footing. The Chief has accepted advice and guidance and has taken an interest in the reforms which have been effected. It is satisfactory also to record that the Chief of South Hsenwi has shewn zeal and discretion in improving his administration. The affairs of the State of Mōng Mit were satisfactorily managed by the young *Sawba* under the sympathetic guidance of the Deputy Commissioner of the Ruby Miner District.

CHART I -
PHYSICAL
AND POLI-
TICAL GEO-
GRAPHY.

27. Much activity was displayed in the prosecution of public works. In some of the wealthier Northern States the funds allotted were more than could usefully be expended with the establishment available, and considerable accumulations have been placed in reserve. Endeavour is being made to provide further professional assistance to enable these funds to be spent on public works to the best advantage. In Yawnghwe, Kengtung, Kenghkam, Mōngpan, Laihka and other States works of utility were carried out. In the improvement and maintenance of communications special activity was shewn, and even the smaller States with scanty resources did their best in this respect. The Public Works Department expended a substantial sum on the maintenance of roads and on the construction of buildings at various posts. As far as possible, the main road from Meiktila to Taunggyi will be put in order, but whether funds can be provided for making it suitable for motor cars is doubtful.

Public
Works

28. The general condition of the people appears to be satisfactory, and every effort is made by the Superintendents and their Assistants to prevent petty exactions and annoyance on the part of subordinate State officials. Trade in both the Northern and Southern States shewed a steady and satisfactory increase. The great and urgent need of the Southern States is railway connection with the plains of Burma. Final proposals for the construction of a Railway from Thazi to the neighbourhood of Taunggyi have at last been formulated and submitted, and it is hoped that the inception of this important project is now within reach. In the Northern States, the Burma Mines Company continued their railway towards the Bawdwin Mines, and active work at the mines will, it is expected, soon be undertaken. In the Southern States and in Karenni extensive prospecting operations are in contemplation. The development of the mining industry in the Shan States and the consequent influx of large numbers of foreign labourers and others will introduce a new element into the States and will render the administration more complex and difficult. Already it has been found necessary to make special arrangements for policing the mining and railway camps in the Northern States.

New
Projects

29. Another matter which engages the attention of Government and is one of much difficulty is the question of Forest Administration. Both for climatic and for sylvicultural reasons, in both of which the interests of the people are closely concerned, it is necessary to prevent the denudation of the country of forest growth and to protect the valuable timber-producing areas. At the same time, before extensive reserves can be formed, the establishment of the Forest Department must be strengthened, and the immediate convenience of Chiefs and people must be considered. In the settlement of areas proposed for reservation, care has been taken to employ as Forest Settlement Officers officers of experience, fully in touch with the people. The total area at present declared to be reserved forests in the whole of the Shan States, including the State of Mōng Mit, aggregates 1,264 square miles, of which 270 square miles are in the Southern Shan States.

Forest Ad-
ministration.

CHAP. I.—
PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY, Education.

30. The indications of increasing interest in education in many of the States are specially satisfactory. The Superintendents have been requested to consider whether Chiefs of the more important States might not be induced to do more to encourage the establishment of vernacular schools. The school for the sons of Chiefs at Taunggyi continued to be admirably administered and made extremely good progress. The advance made by the school for the sons of local officials at Lashio is also noted with satisfaction.

Medical and
Veterinary
Depart-
ment.

31. The provision of medical aid and veterinary assistance does not call for special comment. Vaccination received due attention. Although the number of vaccinations registered was less than in the previous year, this is in part at least attributable to improved registration. On the whole, the success which has attended the efforts to extend vaccination and the readiness with which it has been accepted by the people are gratifying. Eight Veterinary Assistants are employed and the training of Shans to be Veterinary Assistants has been undertaken. In view of the great mortality from cattle disease which occurs with consistent regularity in the Shan States, an increase in the number of Veterinary Assistants is most desirable.

(ii) *The Chin Hills.*

Frontier
Tribes.

32. The feud between the Shandus and Kons in the unadministered territory between the Chin Hills and Northern Arakan was satisfactorily settled during the year. The quarrel had its origin in the massacre, in December 1906, of the Sabong Chief and 26 of his followers at the Kon village of Bahè. A joint enquiry was held by the Deputy Commissioner of Northern Arakan and the Superintendent of the Chin Hills, who met for this purpose at the village of Laki in unadministered territory, and final orders in the matter were then passed by the Lieutenant-Governor and have been accepted by both parties. Bahè, the Kon Chief, was deported to Akyab, where he is being kept in confinement, compensation, amounting to Rs. 3,000 and payable by the Kons, being at the same time granted to the Shandus. With the permission of Government, advantage was taken by the officers holding the enquiry to examine on the spot, in consultation with the Superintendent of the Lushai Hills, a proposal to bring under regular control the unadministered tract adjoining the Hill Tracts of Arakan on the north, and to define the southern boundary of the Lushai Hills. A joint report was submitted by the three officers. A minor raid was committed by certain persons from Tingshi in unadministered territory on the village of Lunka in the Chin Hills, and the members of a family were carried off from the latter village. The release of these persons was effected without difficulty, and a small fine will be recovered from the village of Tingshi as a punishment for the raid. With this one exception, the relations between the administered and unadministered tribes were everywhere satisfactory. The Chiefs of the tribes inhabiting the territory which borders on the Pakökku Hill Tracts maintained cordial relations with the Superintendent, and are said to be desirous of being brought under regular administration. In the tract situated on the west of the Upper Chindwin District the tribes remain in the quiescent attitude which they have observed for a number of years.

Chin Hills
proper.

33. The conduct of the tribes in the Chin Hills was good, and their relations with the Burmans of the plains and the tribes of the Lushai Hills and Manipur continued to be satisfactory. Crime in the Chin Hills is light and decreasing, and the success which has attended the efforts to withdraw unlicensed guns from the northern tribes is a guarantee of continued peace. It is satisfactory to note that the prosperity of the hills is advancing. Wheat, barley, maize and irrigated rice are now successfully cultivated, while the trade with the plains shows a steady improvement. Increased recourse was had to medical aid, and the hospitals and dispensaries provided by Government and by Missionary enterprise seem to be much appreciated. An important administrative measure, which is now being undertaken, is the reservation of large tracts of forests on the main ranges of hills.

34. The year was not marked by any events of political importance in the Pakokku Hill Tracts. The condition of the people is prosperous, and an enhanced rate of tribute has been imposed on certain villages situated in the valley of the Mòu. The absence of serious crime and the continued efficiency and good conduct of the Chin police force are satisfactory features of the year's administration.

CHAP. I.—
PHYSICAL
AND POLITICAL
OUT-GEOPHONY.
Pakokku
Hill Tracts.

35. The peace of the Arakan Hill Tracts was not disturbed throughout the year. The settlement of the Kon-Shandu dispute has led to a recovery of trade. Education has progressed, and there is little or no crime in the district. The annual Durbar in the Chin tract which lies to the north-east of the Minbya Sub-division was held as usual by the Deputy Commissioner of the Akyab District. The state of the tract was found to be satisfactory. The Chin Hills in the Kyaukpyu District were not visited during the year.

Arakan Hill
Tracts.

(iii) *The Kachin Hills.*

36. The year under review was one of comparative quiet on the north-eastern frontier of the Province. On the Chinese portion of the frontier there was very little disturbance. The disputes in the States of Santa and Mengwan had subsided before the commencement of the open season, and relations with the Chinese States were satisfactory. The only irruption of any importance from beyond this part of the frontier was a raid committed on the village of Wajao in March by an armed gang from Santa, who carried off four buffaloes as compensation for a seizure of opium alleged to have been made from them five years ago. Negotiations with the Chinese authorities for the return of the stolen property and the punishment of the gang are still pending. The customary frontier meeting with Chinese officials was held in January, and a settlement was arrived at in a considerable number of outstanding cases.

Chinese
Frontier.

37. On the northern portion of the Myitkyina District which borders on unadministered territory, the Sana Kachins, who attacked the Military Police outpost at Auchè in March 1907, in revenge for the death of Shingrai La at the hands of a police officer in the course of an opium-smuggling raid, at one time showed signs of desiring to make their peace, but a brutal outrage committed by certain members of this tribe in May 1908 showed that they had decided to resume their hostile attitude. A Gurkha and his wife, child, and servant were murdered in cold blood, not because they had themselves given any offence to the Kachins, but because being British subjects their deaths were regarded as part-payment of the debt due for the death of Shingrai La. The headman of the village of Atankawng, also in unadministered territory, who was concerned in the Tingaw raid of 1898 and who has since remained hostile, instigated the kidnapping of the persons from the administered village of Graugra, who were engaged in cultivation on the right bank of the 'Nmaikha. In this case the headman at first adopted a defiant attitude, but it was afterwards found possible to arrest his brother while making an incautious visit to the Jade Mines, and the headman then agreed to the release of all the captives as a condition of his brother being set at liberty. Two other infractions of the administrative border occurred, not on account of feuds, but arising out of the practice of slavery which exists in the unadministered tracts. A slight alteration was made during the year in the position of the administrative boundary on the north of the Myitkyina District. The boundary was advanced so as to include a small area to the north and west of the confluence of the 'Nmaikha and Malikha rivers. A Military Police post has been established at Weshi in this newly included area.

Unadminis-
tered
Territory.

38. The conduct of the internal administration of the Kachin Hills during the year was satisfactory. The tribute was collected without difficulty and ordinary crime was very light. There was also but little civil litigation. The officers engaged in the administration of the hills made extensive tours in the interior, and much useful work of a routine nature was accomplished. The season

Internal
Administra-
tion.

at the Jade Mines was not entirely successful owing to the loss of the pumping apparatus by an accident. The administration of the Jade Mines tract also came under consideration during the year. It was found that the headman, La Saing, owing to his dissipated habits, was incapable, and a relation named Ningja La was accordingly appointed to carry on the administration until La Saing should die or his son Sinwa Nawng grow up. La Saing has since died and arrangements for the education of the minor headman are being made. Attention has been given to the question of the reservation of forests in the Kachin Hills, which are in danger of complete destruction owing to the increase of the Kachin population and their wasteful system of *taungya* cultivation. A representation has been submitted by the Commissioner on the subject of the supply of liquor by Kachins to Gurkha sepoy of the Military Police and is being considered.

Condition of the People.

39. The rainfall in Lower Burma was generally sufficient and timely and agricultural conditions were on the whole favourable. In the dry zone of Upper Burma, on the other hand, except in Magwe, the season was an exceptionally poor one and there was scarcity throughout the Meiktila District and in parts of Lower Chindwin, Pakokku, Myingyan and Yamethin. The rice crop in Lower Burma was above the normal, while short crops prevailed in Upper Burma. Very high prices ruled both in the case of paddy and of other crops. Cattle disease was less prevalent than in the previous year. The remarkable expansion of trade continued and some activity was shown in connection with the development of the mineral resources of the country. Plague showed no signs of abatement, but outbreaks of small-pox were less frequent and less severe and the general health as judged by the number of deaths recorded showed some improvement.

CHAPTER II. ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

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Volume I, Tables V, V-A and B and VI, VI-A and B.

Realization of the Revenue.

40. The demand of Ordinary Land Revenue assessed during the year rose by 5·40 lakhs. In 1903-04 the demand was 218 lakhs: it now stands at 250. The increase now reported is therefore only a little below the average increase for the quinquennium. In the last ten years the increase has been 125 lakhs or an average increase of 12·5 lakhs per annum. It is not to be expected that the rate of increase prevailing in the years up to 1905-06 could be maintained permanently: but it is equally erroneous to suppose that the limit of expansion for Burma has been reached or is even within sight. Land revenue was partially substituted for *thathameda* in the Shwebo District, but while the consequent decrease of *thathameda* was certain, the enhancement of land revenue was not proportionate owing to the unfavourable season which was also responsible for large non-assessments of ordinary land revenue and *thathameda* and large remissions of *thathameda* in other districts of the dry zone. Remissions of revenue assessed in the year amounted to less than half those of the previous year and remissions of revenue assessed in earlier years were Rs. 23,442 less. The drop is more than accounted for by Hanthawaddy District alone, where remissions in 1906-07 were exceptional. Altogether throughout Lower Burma out of a total of Rs. 1,24,431 of current demand remitted, Rs. 51,537 were remitted as irrecoverable, and Rs. 25,433 as erroneously assessed, while the remainder, Rs. 47,461, was due to other causes of which floods were the most important. Figures for Upper Burma are not instructive since exemption of unproductive fields is the more important form of relief to the cultivator, but drought took the place of floods as the chief cause for remission. The total remissions for the Province amounted to Rs. 1,88,904, which is a nearer approach to the normal figure than has been recorded since 1903-04. The adoption of non-assessment on block areas where failure has been general has reduced the figures in comparison with years prior to 1905-06. Out of Rs. 1,52,954 of the previous year's assessments remaining for collection at the beginning of July 1907, Rs. 1,05,117 were collected and Rs. 45,759 were remitted. Rupees 2,47,11,127 out of the demand of Rs. 2,49,82,671 were collected in the year and Rs. 96,899 remained outstanding at the close of the year. The corresponding figures for collection against current demand in 1906-07 were Rs. 2,39,06,953 out of Rs. 2,44,42,036 with an outstanding of Rs. 1,99,589. While the demand was Rs. 5,40,575 better than in the previous year, collections were Rs. 8,04,174 better. This latter improvement is due to decrease of remissions rather than to earlier collection. Collections reached 99 per cent. of the current demand, a better result than has been obtained for many years.

41. Notices of demand again decreased by nearly 6,000; warrants of arrest by over 2,500; warrants of attachment of property by 3,200. The number of persons arrested decreased by 800 and persons committed to jail numbered only 23 in the whole Province against 65 in the previous year. Sales of moveable property took place in 15 more cases and of immoveable property in over 600 fewer cases. Out of 8½ lakhs for recovery of which process issued, over 6½ lakhs were recovered. The amount not so recovered was about the same as in the previous year. The reports show that capitation-tax and *thathameda* are harder

CHAP. II.—
ADMINISTRATION OF
THE LAND.

to collect without process than land revenue and that land revenue is harder to collect where cultivation is new or intermittent. Revenue is generally paid without coercion where the population is stable. Most of the processes are issued, not on account of contumacy, but because the assesses are not readily found. Contumacy is, however, widely attributed to Indian and other immigrants, as well in Upper Burma and the remoter districts as in Lower Burma and the thickly populated tracts.

Surveys.

Demarcation
preliminary
to Survey.

42. In advance of cadastral survey by No. 7 Party of the Survey of India Department, demarcation was undertaken in the Pegu and Yamèthin Districts. In the Pegu District two Demarcation officers were employed for three months in demarcating the tract known as the Sittang accretions. In the Yamèthin District an area of 116 square miles, chiefly in the Taungnyo valley of the Pyinmana Township, and partly on the west of Tatkôn Railway Station, was demarcated. The preliminary demarcation for the year's survey by special agency in the Akyab District comprised an area of 51 square miles in the Kyauktaw and Myohaung Townships. An area of 5 square miles in the An and the Myebôn Townships of the Kyaukpyu District was demarcated in December. Demarcation in advance of survey by a special party was continued in Amherst, and an area of 240 square miles, chiefly in the Kyaikmaraw and Kawkareik Townships was demarcated. An area of 112 square miles was demarcated in advance of survey by a special party in the Pa-an Subdivision of the Thatôn District. The Inspector of the Special Survey, with the aid of the local *thugyi's* and cultivators, demarcated in advance of the survey by local agency, without additional cost, an area of 17 square miles situated in the Sagu, Legaing and Salin Townships of the Minbu District. In the unsurveyed tract of the Nyanglebin Township of the Pegu District some 5 square miles were demarcated by the local Inspectors and Surveyors.

Surveys by
Imperial
Agency.

43. Number 7 Party of the Survey of India completed the cadastral survey of 637 square miles, traversed in the previous year, in the Allarmyo and Minhla Townships of the Thayemyo District. The party also finished, exclusive of 22 square miles of river blocks, the traverse and detail survey of 207 square miles, consisting of the accretions of the Sittang river, in the Thanatpin Township of the Pegu District; the traverse and detail survey of 116 square miles, chiefly in the Taungnyo valley of the Pyinmana Township of the Yamèthin District, and the cadastral survey of 12 square miles in the Kalateik-Thakan tract of the Bogale Township of the Pyapôn District. The year's programme completes the work in Burma of No. 7 Survey Party, which is now to be disbanded, and all original cadastral surveys will be conducted by local agency in future.

Surveys by
Provincial
Agency:—
(1) Revision
Surveys.

44. The mapping and area work of the re-surveys done by special staffs during the year 1906-07 in the Pegu, Pyapôn, Amherst, Thatôn and Hanthawaddy Districts were completed in the recess season. Revision surveys by special agency were executed during the year of report in the districts of Amherst, Thatôn, Hanthawaddy, Meiktila, Mandalay, Myingyan, Minbu and Shwebo. The operations in the first two districts were conducted by a special party in charge of a Special Superintendent, Maung Pe Maung, and in the others by the local Superintendents of Land Records. Surveys by a special staff under Maung Pe Maung were started in the Thatôn and Paung Townships of the Thatôn District, in the west of the Kyaikmaraw Township of the Amherst District, and in the Pa-an Township. Only portions of the surveys in the Hlaingbwè Township of the Thatôn District and in the Kawkareik Township of the Amherst District could be completed by the end of the field season, while the survey in the Amherst and Ye Townships had to be left over. The re-surveys by special agency in Hanthawaddy were confined to the Kungyangôn Subdivision, and the Insein Township of the Insein Subdivision. The reasons for the revision of the survey are the enormous expansion of cultivation since settlement, and the

numerous changes in the field boundaries from the time of the original survey when much of the cultivation was still new. On the arrival of a revision settlement party in the Meiktila District, extensions of cultivation necessitated the re-survey by a special staff of large areas. A revision of survey in the Mandalay Canal Tract of the Mandalay District was sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 22,000. Revisions were found to be necessary owing to the expansion of cultivation and the great topographical changes brought about by the opening of the canal. Revision surveys in the Myingyan District were undertaken chiefly in the neighbourhood of the Kama tank. No traversing was done as most of the theodolite stations were found well preserved. In the Minbu District a small staff revised the survey of 7,222 acres of cultivation with which the local surveyors were unable to deal. Revision surveys were carried on in the Shwebo District by a temporary staff employed for two months in the survey of areas brought under cultivation by extensions of the Shwebo Canal Irrigation system. A portion of the survey was also done by the regular staff, but the bulk of the work was done by the special staff. The annual re-survey of impermanent island cultivation, for assessment purposes, was, as usual, done by special surveyors in the districts of Mandalay, Sagaing, Lower Chindwin and Myingyan.

45. The recess work of the field surveys executed in 1906-07 by local agency in the districts of Akyab, Kyaukpyu and Tharrawaddy was completed and the maps were printed. In the year of report extension surveys by special parties under the supervision of the local Superintendents of Land Records were continued in the three districts abovenamed. Similar surveys were also conducted in Minbu and in parts of Amherst and Thaton. The surveys were confined as much as possible to cultivation, hills were excluded, and as little jungle and included waste taken in as was consistent with absolute requirements. The proportion of cultivation to waste for the whole surveyed area of all six districts is as 1 : 1.36; but in Amherst the area of waste is about double and in Kyaukpyu just over one-half of the cultivation. The year of report was the third year of the four-year programme for the survey of cultivated blocks in the unsettled tracts of the Akyab District. The operations were confined to the north-west of the district in the Kyauktaw and Myohaung Townships, though a small portion of the Minbya Township was also taken up in the year. For a second season the cadastral survey of cultivated blocks bordering on the older surveyed tracts in the Kyaukpyu District was carried out in the An and Myebon Townships. The two-years' programme of original cadastral survey in the Tharrawaddy District which was begun in the previous year was brought to a close. The tracts for survey were situated at the foot of the hills along the left bank of the Myitnaka river, bordering in both cases on old surveys. In the Minbu District some surveys of cultivation, outside the settled tract, were undertaken in the year. The demarcation and survey of important railway and other towns were again continued during the year. The work was executed by special staffs under the control of the local Superintendents of Land Records. The surveys, all on the scale of 64 inches to the mile, have generally been of a professional standard, and are for the most part geographically fixed. Some progress was made with the preparation of town lands rolls, but at several centres it was slow. Delays occurred, chiefly because the Tenure or Revenue officers had also to attend to their ordinary duties. There were altogether 13 Demarcation officers at work in 31 towns. Surveys were conducted in 32 towns altogether, belonging to eleven districts. The demarcation and survey of fisheries in the Pyapon District remaining over from the programme of the previous year was all but completed in the year. A Demarcation officer was employed to demarcate 46 fisheries situated in the Pyapon and Bogale Townships of the Pyapon District, and also one fishery in the Ma-ubin Township of the Ma-ubin District. In Katha four of the local surveyors were taken off their regular work for the space of a month to survey fisheries. They surveyed six fisheries having an area of 4,402 acres. There are said to be altogether 185 fisheries in the district for demarcation and survey. For this work a special staff is needed. The survey

Cost of pottas is confined to Lower Burma, and during the year operations by special agency were conducted in 12 districts. The total number of cases dealt with was 5,162, the area surveyed comprised 49,720 acres, and the cost of the operations amounted to Rs. 25,369.

Settlements.

Changes of procedure.

46. In Lower Burma the practice has hitherto been to take up and complete the settlement of a district in one-year blocks. Under this system the settlement operations in each block are limited to one field season. The results of the field work are dealt with in the ensuing recess, and the report is then submitted at once. The practice in Upper Burma has been different. There, a district has not been divided into one-year blocks, but is ordinarily taken up as a whole. Crop measurements are repeated year after year, and the report is not drawn up till statistics are available for two or more years. The latter system, under which a series of crop measurements extending over several years is obtained, was necessitated by the precarious nature of the crops in the drier districts of Upper Burma. Although the ample and ordinarily well-distributed rainfall of Lower Burma practically ensures a fair crop to the cultivator, there is room for considerable fluctuation of outturn from year to year, and it is thus not always easy to deduce normal outturns from the results of one year's crop cuttings. Again, with only one season to work in, the collection of other statistics has to be hurried. The Settlement Officer does not get the opportunity of comparing the statistics over wide areas before he has to prepare his report. The district block system is of course more expensive than the method of working in one-year blocks. The same ground has to be gone over two or three times and, the area being larger, more supervision is required. A programme for applying the Upper Burma system to Lower Burma has been prepared subject to the modification that some districts will be divided into two blocks each occupying two or more years. The recognized term of settlements in Lower Burma has hitherto been fifteen years and in Upper Burma ten years. It is proposed to lengthen these terms in certain cases. Besides giving more time for the actual operations of settlement, it has also been decided to allow more time for the consideration of the Settlement Report and for the notification of sanctioned rates.

Operations of the year.

47. During the year five settlement parties were at work. Settlement operations were in progress in four Lower Burma and in four Upper Burma districts. The average cost of settlement operations in these eight districts works out to 6 annas per cultivated acre. New rates were notified in six districts during 1907-08. The new settlements enhanced the expiring demand of Rs. 26,15,161 by Rs. 3,51,685, an increase of 13.45 per cent.

Settlements in progress.

48. Settlement Party No. 1 was occupied during the recess on the block of Amherst District taken up in the preceding field season. The Conference was held in January 1908, and the rates fixed by the Lieutenant-Governor were notified in the following June, resulting in an enhancement of 21 per cent. on the current demand. In November 1907 the Party commenced field work in the Tharada District. No. 2 Settlement Party was engaged during the recess on a block of the Pyapōn District. The usual Conference was held in December 1907, and the new rates fixed by the Lieutenant-Governor were notified in April 1908. Under the new settlement there is an increased demand of nearly 34 per cent., a moderate enhancement in view of the lowness of the expiring assessment, and the prosperous condition of the persons interested in the land. After completing Pyapōn, No. 2 Party moved to Rangon and commenced the settlement of Hanthawaldy. No. 3 Party continued the settlement of the Pakōkku District commenced in October 1905. Owing to drought, the crops of 1907-08 were a failure, and crop measurements were not so numerous as usual. Holding marking and soil classification made good progress. The settlement of the Lower Chindwin District by No. 4 Party commenced in November 1905 and was continued

during the year of report. Soil classification was practically completed and a fair number of crop measurements were obtained. Number 5 Party completed the settlement of the Minbu District. The report was reviewed by the Conference officers just at the close of the year. The rates recommended by the Conference officers increase the current demand by 27 per cent. Most of this large enhancement comes from areas commanded by Government works in which there have been great improvements since the original settlement. In November 1907 the party moved to Meiktila to take up revision settlement in that district.

Case II -
Assessment
of
the Land.

49. Orders were passed on the Sandoway Summary Settlement Report in July 1907. The new rates were notified in August 1907 and take effect from July 1908. The settlement produces an increase over the current demand of nearly 19 per cent. The new settlement of the Shwebo District (excluding the area commanded by the Shwebo Canal) came into force on the 1st August 1907. The settlement gives an increase of nearly 21 per cent. over the expiring demand. The new rates for the Katha District, notified in October 1907, take effect from the 1st April 1908. The demand under the new settlement is about 23 per cent. less than the expiring demand, a result due to a reduction of one and a half lakhs in *thakmeda*. Orders were passed during the year on the settlement of the Mandalay Canal tract where the new rates take effect from the 1st April 1908. In this area the new settlement produces an increase of 530 per cent. over the expiring demand.

Orders on
completed
Settlements.

Land Records.

50. The total area under supplementary survey during the year was 47,541 square miles, showing an increase over 1906-07 of 71 square miles. Extension surveys accounted for increases in the following districts:—Akyab, 20 square miles, Kyaukpyu 20 square miles, Tharrawaddy 44 square miles, and Pegu 18 square miles, of which, however, one square mile is due to the transfer of one *town* from Toungoo. The transfer of an island from Pakokku which is not yet under supplementary survey accounts for an increase of one square mile in Myingyan. In the Lower Chindwin there was a decrease of 23 square miles, due to revised figures only, and not to any change in the area under supplementary survey, and in Thaton of eight square miles due to erosion. The total assessment for the year amounted to Rs. 2,62,20,575 compared with Rs. 2,54,81,253 in the previous year, an increase of Rs. 7,39,322 despite decreases of Rs. 1,81,824 in Sagaing, Rs. 1,48,631 in Meiktila, Rs. 1,23,684 in Myingyan, and smaller reductions aggregating Rs. 2,26,013 in other Upper Burma districts owing chiefly to the unfavourable character of the season. In the following districts there were increases of revenue due to additional areas being brought under supplementary survey as well as to the ordinary expansion of cultivation:—Akyab Rs. 45,326, Kyaukpyu Rs. 10,927, Pegu Rs. 73,409, and Tharrawaddy Rs. 54,973. The following districts yielded additional revenue owing to enhancement of rates as well as to the natural extension of cultivation:—Promo Rs. 29,841, where intermediate rates have given way to full rates in 100 *towns*; Ma-ubin Rs. 1,26,020; Pyapön Rs. 1,94,894; Myaungmya Rs. 71,752, where Revision Settlement rates have come into force in Ma-ubin Township, Kyaiklat Township and Kyaikpi Township respectively. Henzada shows an increase of Rs. 33,065 where full rates have displaced intermediate rates in Okpo and Kyangin Townships; Mergui also shows an increase of Rs. 94,268 owing to the introduction of Revision Settlement rates throughout the whole of the settled area of the district. In Shwebo an increase of Rs. 3,58,702 was due to the introduction of settlement rates throughout the district with the exception of the Shwebo Canal area.

Area under
Supplementary
Survey.

51. The cost of superintendence and inspection increased from Rs. 4,44,146 to Rs. 4,56,806, i.e., from Rs. 9.36 to Rs. 9.61 per square mile, and of the survey staff from Rs. 7,28,506 to Rs. 7,71,414, i.e., from Rs. 15.35 to Rs. 16.23 per square mile. Apart from special causes affecting individual districts there was a

Cost of Sup-
plementary
Survey.

Case II— general increase owing to the revision of the Travelling Allowance rates granted to Superintendents and Probationers of Land Records, and to the grant of privilege leave to the subordinate staff. Increased establishments were sanctioned in several districts. The cost per acre of occupied land has risen from annas 1'247 to annas 1'280, and the percentage of the assessment has increased from 4'60 to 4'68.

Survey
Schools.

52. The number of Government Survey Schools was nineteen or one more than in 1906-07. The new school was opened at Mergui on the 15th June 1908. It is required, because local surveyors are no longer readily procurable, candidates from the place not being inclined to go to the school at Moulmein. The total number of pupils on the rolls on the 31st March was 374; of these 33 per cent. chiefly in Upper Burma, paid no fees. The average number of students was 368, and the average number of days the schools were in session 267. Attendance decreased in Ma-ubin, Bassein, Sagaing, Insein, Yamèthin and Meiktila, while there were satisfactory increases in Henzada, Mandalay, Moulmein and Prome. In some of the schools of the dry zone the decrease is to some extent attributable to the agricultural depression of the year. Two hundred and twelve scholarships, 68 of Rs. 10 and 144 of Rs. 5 a month, were allotted to deserving scholars. The cost of these scholarships came to Rs. 14,907. There is a permanent demand for qualified surveyors and generally speaking suitable employment is readily obtainable in the Land Records and Settlement Departments and elsewhere if candidates are willing to work outside their own districts. In some centres, e.g., Katha and Mergui, surveyors are often not procurable. In all, 124 passed pupils are reported to have obtained permanent or temporary appointments in the year. The total expenditure on the schools amounted to Rs. 39,446 against an income of Rs. 5,231; this gives the net cost at Rs. 34,215. The cost of educating each pupil thus works out to Rs. 91, which is about the same as the figure of the previous year. Technical education is always comparatively expensive. The number of candidates from Government Survey Schools who qualified at the Syndicate examination of April 1908 was 209 in Surveying, 92 in Arithmetic and 229 in Revenue Law; giving a percentage of passes on the number of pupils for examination in each of the subjects of 64, 30 and 76 respectively. The results are highly satisfactory as regards Revenue, in which successes were extremely limited heretofore; they are fairly satisfactory for Surveying and decidedly poor for Arithmetic.

Transfers
of land.

53. The area of land sold during the year shows an increase of 2'93 per cent. over the figure of the previous year. The increase was not general however. Excluding the two districts of Hanthawaddy and Pegu, there was a very slight decrease in the area sold, despite an increase of 22'14 per cent. in Upper Burma where the harvest was bad. Throughout the remainder of Lower Burma good harvests and high prices are held to account for a decrease of 1'59 per cent. in the area sold. The price per acre of the land sold shows an increase of 9'36 per cent., but this again is due largely to the increased area sold at high prices in Hanthawaddy and Pegu. Excluding these two districts the increase of price is 4'66 per cent. The increased selling price of land is ascribed to the natural contraction of the area of culturable waste and to the prevailing high price of paddy. The area mortgaged during the year was 11'52 per cent. less than in the previous year despite the large increase of 29'62 per cent. in Hanthawaddy. This decrease is explained by the good harvest in Lower Burma, but in various districts there are said to have been other contributory causes. The bad harvest in Upper Burma accounts for an increase in the area mortgaged in several districts. The price per acre of land mortgaged during the year rose by 2'69 per cent., but excluding Hanthawaddy and Pegu, it has fallen by 6'31 per cent. This falling off is ascribed to the unwillingness of money-lenders to advance money on land to the same extent as before, and to the good season in Lower Burma which rendered it unnecessary for borrowers to mortgage their land to its full value. The area redeemed was 4'14 per cent. more than in the previous year and is equivalent to 93'25 per cent. of the area

mortgaged during the year. In most Lower Burma districts, however, the area redeemed exceeds the area newly mortgaged as indeed might be expected in a year of good harvest.

CHAP. II—
ADMINISTRATION OF
THE LAND.

Waste Lands.

54. The area granted or leased for cultivation during the year fell again from 41,542 to 31,934 acres. *Thugyis* usurped powers to dispose of State land in Minbu and Shwebo, and in the latter district much land had to be resumed and redistributed owing to its allotment by headmen to unsuitable persons. Waste lands claimed formerly as non-State, but declared State, are now in Shwebo popularly called "bobabaing State lands" and it is said that the original claimants seek, by payment of revenue, to sit as State tenants. About 637 acres were leased as *thugyisa* in Lower Burma in six districts and 259 acres were allotted in Upper Burma in six districts also. No great activity was displayed except in Pyapon and Katha.

Grants and
leases for
cultivation.

55. The area granted revenue-free for religious purposes was practically the same as in the previous year, but the area granted for public purposes fell from 79 to 21 acres. A bad season left little surplus for works of public spirit.

Revenue-free
grants.

Government Estates and Wards' Estates.

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

Revenue and Rent-paying Classes.

57. The total area occupied by agriculturists and non-agriculturists combined increased by 1.56 per cent. during the year, but the figures for certain districts are obviously incorrect. The area in the hands of agriculturists increased by only .69 per cent., whilst the areas in the hands of resident and non-resident non-agriculturists increased by 3.74 and 8.05 per cent. respectively. Agriculturists now occupy 84.23 per cent. of the occupied area, a decrease of .72 per cent. during the year. Out of 17 Lower Burma districts, however, nine show an increased area in the hands of agriculturists. The percentage of area occupied by resident to non-resident non-agriculturists has again fallen by 2 per cent. and now stands at 56.

Land revenue
paying
classes.

58. The area let at full rents to tenants rose by nearly two hundred thousand acres to a total of 2,657,000 acres. The number of tenants which had decreased in the previous year rose again by over six thousand. The proportion of tenants who have rented their land continuously for five years increased slightly. In the Pegu and Irrawaddy Divisions it is said that the increase in the number of continuous tenants indicates the growth of an Indian tenant class content to remain on the land as long-term tenants, whereas the Burman prefers to take up new land if possible. The aggregate rent paid for land in the Province rose from 291 to 349 lakhs. The increase is attributed chiefly to high prices of paddy, rent being paid as a rule in kind rather than in cash.

Tenants.

CHAPTER III.

PROTECTION.

REFERENCES—

- Report on the Police Administration of Burma for the year 1907.
Resolution on the Reports on Village Administration in Burma for the year 1907.
Report on the measures adopted for the extermination of Wild Animals and Poisonous Snakes in Burma during the year 1907.
Report on the Police Administration of Rangoon Town for the year 1907.
Report on the Administration of Criminal Justice in Burma for the year 1907.
Report on the Prison Administration of Burma for the year 1907.
Report on the Administration of Civil Justice in Burma for the year 1907.
Report on the working of the Registration Department in Burma during the three years ending the 31st December 1907.
Report on the working of the Indian Companies Act (VI of 1882), in Burma for the year 1907-08.
Report on the working of the Rangoon Municipality for the year ending the 31st March 1908.
Resolution on the working of Municipalities in Burma for the year ending the 31st March 1908.
Report of the Public Works Department, Burma (Buildings and Roads Branch), for the year 1907-08.
Report of the Commissioners for the Port of Rangoon for the year ending the 31st March 1908.
Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of Burma and Foreign Colonies and Indian Ports for the year 1907-08, Part III Shipping.
Report on the Maritime Trade and Customs Administration of Burma for the year ending the 31st March 1908.
Report on Government Steamers, Vessels and Launches in Burma for the year 1907-08.
Forty-second issue of the Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India with the British Empire and Foreign Countries in the year ending the 31st March 1908, and the four preceding years, Volume II, Shipping, Tables 1, 6 and 7.
Forty-second issue of the Annual Statement of the Coastal Trade and Navigation of British India for the year ending the 31st March 1908, Tables 2 to 7.
Second issue of the Statistics of British India for 1907-08 and preceding years.

Legislating Authority

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

Course of Legislation.

Work of
Legislative
Council.

60. The five Bills described in paragraph 37 of the Report for 1906-07 became law during the year as Burma Acts, I, II, III, IV and V of 1907. The Burma Village Bill, the Lower Burma Courts Act Amendment Bill and the Burma Defile Traffic Bill, referred to in the same paragraph, became law during the year as Burma Acts, VI, VII and VIII of 1907. By the first the law relating to village administration was consolidated throughout the Province, and the Lower Burma Village Act, 1889, and the Upper Burma Village Regulation, 1887, together with their several amending Acts were repealed. While certain minor changes have been made the principles of village administration have not been altered. The main object of amending the Lower Burma Courts Act, 1900, was to give the right of appeal to the Chief Court from decisions of the Court of Small Causes, Rangoon, where the value of suits exceeded Rs. 1,000. By a Local Government notification under section 83 of the Lower Burma Courts Act, 1889, the jurisdiction of the Rangoon Small Cause Court was extended to cases not exceeding Rs. 2,000 in value. In consequence of these orders the trial in such cases was summary and the decision final, subject only to revision. As a suit of greater value than Rs. 1,000 is not strictly speaking a small cause, the right of appeal has now been given in all such cases, evidence is taken in the ordinary way and notice of appeal must be given within a month of the decision of the cause.

By the Burma Defile Traffic Act legal authority is obtained for regulating the traffic of rafts, steam-launches and other vessels between Sinbo in the Myitkyina District and Bhamo. The executive orders previously in force were found inadequate, as a breach of them did not amount to an offence, since they were not based on any enactment.

CHAP. III.—
PART III.—
STATES.

During the legislative year, *vis.*, from 1st April 1907 till 31st March 1908, three other Bills, *vis.*, the Rangoon Victoria Memorial Bill, the Burma Municipal Act Amendment Bill and the Burma Towns Act Amendment Bill were passed by the Local Legislature, though the dates of their publication as Burma Acts, I, II and III of 1908 were subsequent to the 31st March 1908. By the first of these Acts the Victoria Memorial Park and Zoological Gardens are vested in Trustees and provision is made for their management and maintenance as a memorial to the late Queen-Empress. The object of the amendment of the Municipal Act is to carry out a number of alterations and additions in practice found to be necessary. By the amendment of the Burma Towns Act, billiard saloons and similar places of public resort are required to be licensed and to be subject to certain regulations whereby the abuses previously associated with these places may be abated.

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

General
Acts affect-
ing Burma.

[General Acts of 1907.]

III.—The Provincial Insolvency Act, 1907.

V.—An Act further to amend the Local Authorities Loan Act, 1879.
[The Local Authorities Loan (Amendment) Act, 1907.]

[General Acts of 1908.]

I.—An Act further to amend the Legal Practitioners Act, 1879. [The Legal Practitioners (Amendment) Act, 1908.]

II.—An Act further to amend the Indian Tariff Act, 1894. [The Indian Tariff (Amendment) Act, 1908.]

III.—An Act further to amend the law relating to Private Trusts and Trustees. [The Indian Trusts (Amendment) Act, 1908.]

IV.—An Act further to amend the Coroners Act, 1871, and the Prisoners Act, 1900. [The Coroners (Amendment) Act, 1908.]

Two Regulations affecting Burma were enacted during the year, namely, Regulation I of 1907 (The Upper Burma and Arakan Hills Frontier Crossing and Disturbed Districts Regulation, 1907), and Regulation VI of 1907 [The Upper Burma Land and Revenue (Amendment) Regulation, 1907].

62. Certain provisions of the Upper Burma Land and Revenue Regulation, 1889 (III of 1889), were extended to the notified areas of Taunggyi and Lashio and to the State of Mōng Mit and its dependency Mōng Lāng; and the undermentioned enactments were extended to all the Shan States:—

Extension
of Enact-
ments to the
Shan States.

- (1) Indian Electricity Act, 1903 (III of 1903);
- (2) Indian Extradition Act, 1903 (XV of 1903);
- (3) Upper Burma and Arakan Hills Frontier Crossing and Disturbed Districts Regulation, 1907 (I of 1907);
- (4) Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897 (III of 1897);
- (5) Burma Motor-vehicle Act, 1906 (Burma Act II of 1906).

Police.

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

63. In respect of the Police Administration of the Province, the past year was one of transition. The re-organization of the force in accordance with the recommendations of the Police Commission was carried into effect. The force, as thus re-organized includes, besides Gazetted Officers, Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors, Sergeants, Head Constables and Constables. The pay of all ranks was increased, and the new rank of Deputy Superintendent was created. The rates of pay of Inspectors now range from Rs. 150 to Rs. 250 a month, instead of Rs. 140 to Rs. 175 as before. The prospects of Deputy Superintendents have been further improved since the close of the year by the appointment of two officers of that rank to officiate as District Superintendents. The strength of the several ranks and grades having been fixed in accordance with the recommendations of the Police Commission, the distribution of the force was revised, the circumstances of each district being carefully examined. Substantial additions were made to the Police force of districts, mainly in Lower Burma, where crime is prevalent, while in other districts the force was reduced. The strength of the force in Lower Burma could not be brought up to the full sanctioned strength during the year under review and the increase cannot have affected to any appreciable extent the statistics of crime and detection in that year. The result of the re-organization on the strength of the force was a substantial increase in the sanctioned number of Sub-Inspectors (equivalent to Head Constables and Sergeants under the old nomenclature), Head Constables (who have taken the place of the lowest grade of Sergeants), and Constables. The effect on recruitment and on the personnel of the lower ranks of the introduction of the incremental system of pay of Constables, combined with other new conditions of service, is yet to be seen. The scheme for the reconstruction of the cadre of Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents was in operation throughout the year. Eight officers retired on special pensions. Five officers recruited in England were added to the strength and two were appointed in India. As officers recruited in England have to be under training at the Police Training School for eighteen months after their arrival, the immediate result of these measures is a serious lack of superior officers. This is being supplied by the appointment of Military officers to the Civil Police, the first appointments of this kind under the new scheme having been made soon after the close of the year of report. The paucity of senior officers rendered it difficult adequately to provide for the administration of the police of all districts. Progress was made in carrying out the extensive reforms of procedure ordered in consequence of the Report of the Police Commission. The work is laborious and has been protracted.

Important
incidents.

64. Three incidents occurred during the year which demand notice. These were an abortive attempt at rebellion by an *ex*-monk at Sèdaw in the Shwebo District, the escape of a prisoner from the Police Station at Yinmabin in the Lower Chindwin District, and the escape of ten prisoners from the Police Station at Kungyangôn in the Hanthawaddy District. The abortive rising at Sèdaw was of no political significance; but it indicated the need of constant vigilance on the part of Police and District Officers. Incidentally, the circumstances of the case gave proof also of the satisfactory completeness with which disarmament has been effected. The escapes at Yinmabin and Kungyangôn were far more serious. They afforded evidence in varying degrees of extreme laxity of discipline and want of proper supervision. The need of constant care and attention to the maintenance of discipline has been impressed on officers of all ranks. The success of the Hanthawaddy Police in securing the early re-arrest of all the escaped prisoners from Kungyangôn, except those who were killed in contests with their pursuers, and the recovery of all the arms taken away, to some extent atoned for the *laches* which rendered the escape possible.

65. The sanctioned strength of the Civil Police force, excluding the Rangoon Police, at the end of 1907 was 1,139 officers and 13,553 men as compared with 1,695 officers and 11,892 men at the end of the previous year. The increase in numbers is due to the re-organization, the reduction in the staff of officers being apparent only, as 609 Head Constables who were shown as "officers" in 1906 are now shown as "men." The force was much short of strength, but this state of things was mainly due to the fact that in districts where increases have been sanctioned under the re-organization, there had not been time to find suitable recruits to fill up the complement. The re-organization has involved numerous changes of distribution the net result being a decrease of 23 Police-stations and an increase of 12 outposts. The cost of the force rose by nearly two and a half lakhs to Rs. 47,44,295, the increase being due to the re-organization.

Case III -
Factor
non
Strength,
distribution
and cost.

66. Difficulty in recruiting is still reported from the Thaton, Myitkyina, Katha and Hanthawaddy Districts. The total number of dismissals for all causes during 1907 was thirteen officers and 417 men, a decrease of eighteen officers and 69 men on the figures of 1906. Other departmental punishments and magisterial convictions do not show any great variation in numbers, but under all heads the improvement as regards the number of officers punished is noteworthy. This change for the better may, however, be due in part to the removal of the lowest grades of Sergeants, under the designation of Head Constables, from the category of officers. Resignations were not so numerous as in the previous year. On the other hand there was a considerable falling off in the number of rewards granted.

Recruitment
and conduct.

67. Nearly three and a half lakhs were allotted in the Budget of 1907-08 for Civil Police buildings, of which the most important is the Training School at Mandalay estimated ultimately to cost five lakhs. The allotment for Petty Construction and Repairs exceeded two lakhs. More than one thousand police cottages were reconstructed or improved and steady progress is being made in providing suitable quarters for the whole force. The importance of the housing problem is recognised by Government, but it is not possible to build houses or barracks at once for all the increased establishments in Lower Burma.

Buildings.

68. The annual returns show a substantial diminution in the volume of crime dealt with by the Police. The total decrease under true cognizable cases amounted to 2,507 cases. The diminished figure, just under 40,000 cases, differs little from the average total of the past few years. Excluding cases under Class VI, which deals only with "Offences against religion," "Public Nuisances" and "Offences under special and local laws," none of which can be characterised as true crime, the improvement is reduced to the still satisfactory total of 1,464 cases. This result is mainly accounted for by a decrease of 1,186 cases under Class V, Minor offences against Property. There was also an appreciable decrease of 162 cases under the main heads of Class II, Serious offences against the Person, a smaller decline under Class III, Serious offences against Property, and a comparatively large reduction in the unimportant Class IV, Minor offences against the Person. The number of cases shown in Class II and in Class IV is below the average of recent years, while the total of Class III is still well above the normal figure. The reduction in the volume of crime is gratifying, but the continued increases of violent crime and to a less extent of cattle-theft are unsatisfactory features of the year's work. Violent crimes numbered 931 against 920 in 1906. The number of dacoities rose from 100 to 108, while robbery and house-breaking exhibit an unwelcome though comparatively slight expansion. Cases in which fire-arms were carried also increased from 62 to 69. Both the number of violent crimes and the number of cases in which fire-arms were carried

Crime and
the working
of the Police.

**CHAP. III.—
PROTEC-
TION.**

are in excess of the figures of recent years. The question of the further measures to be taken to regulate the possession of fire-arms is being carefully considered in consultation with the officers concerned. In respect of dacoities great improvement is recorded in the Arakan and Pegu Divisions and a noticeable retrogression in Upper Burma common to all divisions and to nearly all districts. In the dry zone the increase of dacoities is attributed to scarcity. Nine organized gangs of dacoits and robbers were in existence at one time or another during the year. This class of crime was, however, very successfully dealt with. Six gangs were completely accounted for and out of the three remaining gangs, consisting of 12, 13 and 4 men respectively, only three men belonging to the first and two belonging to each of the other gangs remained at large at the end of the year. A comparatively small, but not the less disappointing, increase of 50 cases of cattle theft is reported. Gradual expansion in this class of crime has taken place in the last four or five years and the present figure is considerably above the average of recent years. The largest increases were in Tharrawaddy and Thaton and the most important reductions in Hanthawaddy and Pegu. In the two first-named districts and elsewhere increases are attributed in part to better reporting. Improvement in the Hanthawaddy and Pegu Districts is ascribed to the deportation of Aung Min, a notorious organiser and receiver, and to the death and conviction respectively of two other men of the same class.

Detection.

69. Exclusive of cases under special laws which may be left out of account in considering the results of police work, a total of 25,964 true cases as compared with 27,428 cases in 1906 were dealt with by the Courts and Police. Of this number the police held investigation into 22,849 and refused investigation into 1,810 reports, and 11,747 cases out of the 22,849 investigated ended in conviction. The measure of success obtained was 51 per cent. as against 50 per cent. in 1906. The proportion of cases convicted to cases tried remained the same as in 1906, namely, 85 per cent. Detection in murders and in cases of nuisance and ordinary theft showed improvement. The total value of property stolen in cognizable cases amounted to Rs. 15,35,184 as compared with Rs. 20,65,084 in the previous year. Recoveries totalled Rs. 4,90,067 against Rs. 4,36,705. The percentage of recovery works out at 32, an improvement of 11 per cent.

**Preventive
law.**

70. The principles to be followed in working the provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, relating to the prevention of offences were discussed in the Government Resolution on the Police Report for the year 1905. While emphasizing the importance of these provisions of the law, the Lieutenant-Governor pointed out that they should not be directed against petty offenders, but against those who are likely to commit serious crimes and particularly the organisers of crimes such as cattle theft. The effect of these observations is visible in a large decline in the number of prosecutions during the year of report, as 2,145 persons only were prosecuted in 1907, as compared with 3,218 prosecutions in the previous year. One thousand six hundred and seventy-two convictions were obtained the proportion of conviction being 78, or 1 per cent. better than in 1906.

**Surveillance
and identifi-
cation.**

71. The large number of untraceable Police Registered criminals was further reduced during the year. A satisfactory expansion is reported in the number of cases in which the Courts have availed themselves of the provisions of Section 565 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, relating to the notification of residence of released convicts. The work of the Criminal Investigation Department continued to expand and good results are reported. Further progress was made in the work of checking the slips of convicts in jail and of search finger prints with the indexes of the Crime Gazette, and as a result a considerable number of absconders were traced and arrested. Revised and more elastic rules relating to beat patrols were issued and changes in the arrangement of beats were necessitated everywhere owing to the re-organization of the force. As usual beat constables are said to have done good work and the system is well reported on.

72. Owing to the extension of the Pegu-Moulmein and Henzada-Kyangin lines of railway, the Railway Police force was increased by one Inspector, three Sub-Inspectors, seven Head Constables and 22 Constables. The sanctioned strength at the end of the year was 63 officers and 345 men. The cost of the force rose from Rs. 1,25,022 to Rs. 1,33,650. The length of the Railway line reached 1,527½ miles. Two new stations and an outpost were opened during the year. The number of true cases dealt with rose from 968 to 1,163. Cases of theft from waggons and trains were much more numerous than in 1906, and detection showed a noticeable falling off compared with the results of the previous year.

CHAP. III.—
PROSECUTION.
Railway
Police.

73. Towards the end of the year of report, a scheme involving a net addition of 351 men to the strength of the Lower Burma Military Police force was sanctioned by His Majesty's Secretary of State. The Henzada and Toungoo Districts have been transferred from the Rangoon to the Toungoo Battalion, the strength of the former Battalion being reduced by 220 and that of the latter increased by 440 men, while the Military Police of the Salween District, numbering 131 men, have been constituted into a separate local force on the same lines as the Military Police in the Hill Tracts of Northern Arakan. Two appointments were also added to the cadre of Assistant Commandants in order to provide a leave reserve. The increase in Lower Burma was sanctioned too late in the year to allow of recruitment up to the revised sanctioned strength, but even with the omission of the additions newly sanctioned, the force was 344 men below strength as compared with a deficiency of 325 men in the previous year. Plague and famine in India are said to have affected recruiting. The cost of the Military Police, just over 54 lakhs, was some Rs. 40,000 less than in 1906. The only notable incident of the year was the attack on the Auchè Military Police Post in the Myitkyina District by Sana Kachins which was repulsed without casualty on the defenders' side. The general health of the force was much the same as in previous years. No active operations were undertaken. The manner of the employment of Military Police patrols during the open season was considered during the year. It was decided that such patrols should be employed to supplement the Civil Police and not to relieve them of legitimate responsibility. Orders to ensure their more efficient working were issued.

Military
Police.

74. The imposition of punitive police on certain villages in the Hanthawaddy, Prome and Yamèthin Districts during the year 1906 is reported to have had good results. In the year of report four further detachments of punitive police were quartered in the Uktwin and Yedashe Townships, Toungoo District, in Chaungdwin Village, Pyapôn District, and in villages of Kani Township, Lower Chindwin District. In the first three cases action was taken owing to the prevalence of violent crime and to the failure of the inhabitants to assist in detecting and suppressing it, and in the case of Kani Township the villages were punished for withholding information regarding Nga Myin, leader of the abortive rising at Sèdaw.

Punitive
Police.

75. The total number of headmen in the Province shows a decrease of 115 since 1906 (17,913 as compared with 18,028). The greater part of this diminution was due to the revision of a number of charges held by headmen subordinate to circle headmen made with a view to obviating a re-arrangement when the time came for the circles to be broken up. The application of this policy in the Lower Chindwin District resulted in the withdrawal of the appointment orders of 79 subordinate headmen drawing no commission. Apart from the Lower Chindwin the decrease was fairly evenly distributed and was due to various causes, the chief being the combination of independent charges which had become too small to be placed under separate headmen. The disintegration of circles continued to progress as casualties among the circle headmen occurred, the process being most rapid in the Akyab, Henzada and Lower Chindwin Districts. The definition of headmen's jurisdictions is proceeding, but much still remains to be done in this regard in parts of the Province, notably in the Mandalay Division. The number of headmen exercising special criminal powers increased by 64 from

Village Ad-
ministration.

CHAP. III.—
PROTEC-
TION.

637 to 701 and the number of those exercising special civil powers by 59 from 874 to 933. On the whole village officials disposed satisfactorily of a large number of petty civil and criminal cases which would otherwise have had to be tried by Township Magistrates and Judges. The aggregate amount of fines inflicted by headmen was Rs. 1,28,201, a figure Rs. 1,905 below the total of 1906. There were 1,817 more revisions of headmen's orders than in 1906. The work done by village headmen in the assessment and collection of revenue was again reported to be generally satisfactory, and the number of headmen dismissed or removed for fraud or embezzlement is relatively small. The question of making the inhabitants of a village tract collectively responsible for the honesty of their headmen with regard to Government money was under consideration. In the detection of excise cases there is still much lack of initiative on the part of headmen. It is probable that the fear of unpopularity is the principal reason for the supineness complained of. The efforts which have been made to combat plague have induced some improvement in village sanitation, but apart from the special effort on this account, there is little progress to record under this head. The work done by headmen in the collection of vital statistics and with regard to agriculture and scarcity was on the whole good, though in Myaungmya the Deputy Commissioner had to report that the birth and death registration work was at one time so lax as to be almost useless. Cordial relations between the headmen and police are reported to exist in all districts. There is also a general consensus of testimony that much good work has been done by headmen in the detection of crime. Three hundred and thirty-six headmen were removed or dismissed, 55 suspended and 749 fined, as against 332, 74 and 945 respectively in 1906. In addition to the decrease in fines an indication of improved work and conduct is afforded by the total of rewards, which rose from 800 to 925. The number of villagers fined otherwise than under the track law fell from 229 to 213, and there was a corresponding decrease in the amount of fines imposed. There were several instances of successful resistance by villagers to dacoits and robbers. But in general it cannot be said that villagers have yet learned to defend themselves against attack. The track law was enforced in one case less than in 1906. It is reported that there is a tendency for the law to fall into desuetude in the Pegu Division, where the owners are said to prefer ransoming their stolen cattle to following their tracks and recovering them, and the figures showing the fines under the law for the last few years certainly support this view. Better fencing resulted in a diminution in the number of cattle thefts and a consequent decrease in the application of the track law in the Sagaing and Meiktila Districts. Large numbers of persons were ordered to remove under the Village Regulation in the Shwebo and Pakokku Districts in connection with the abortive rising at Sedaw, and in the Tenasserim Division resort was had to this measure to procure the breaking up of gangs of dacoits. In this division also progress was made in the removal of isolated huts to recognised village areas. The punishment of villages by withholding permission for *pwes* for a specified period has been found effective in the Irrawaddy Division as a means of preventing affrays and inducing the arrest of absconding offenders. The Village Law for Upper and Lower Burma has been embodied in a single Act for the whole Province, and the republication of the various orders and circulars under the old Act and Regulation is now being carried out. The effect of the consolidation will be further to emphasize the corporate responsibility of the village tract and to confirm and strengthen the authority of headmen. The opportunity has been taken to introduce some useful delegations of authority.

Wild Ani-
mals and
Snakes.

76. The total mortality caused by wild animals and snakes amongst human beings during 1907 was 1,424 as compared with 1,237 in 1906. The number of persons killed by wild animals has fallen from 88 to 76. The total mortality amongst human beings from snake-bite during the year under report was 1,348 as compared with 1,149 in 1906. The deaths nearly all occurred in paddy tracts where the Russel's viper is particularly prevalent. Steps have been taken during the year to ensure a wide distribution of Sir Lauder Brunton's lancets. It is too early yet to pronounce

with any certainty as to the success of the experiment. But reports have been received from a large number of districts to the effect that the lancet has been used by village headmen with favourable results. The mortality amongst cattle during the year was 11,697 as compared with 11,624 in 1906. In the number of deaths caused by wild animals there was a considerable decrease, the figures for the year shewing 6,236 as compared with 7,125 in 1906. There were 3,461 cattled killed by snake-bite during the year as compared with 4,499 in 1906. The most noticeable increases are reported from districts in Lower Burma where the rainfall was abnormally heavy, and the floods in low-lying tracts unusually high. The number of wild animals killed during the year was 2,391 as compared with 2,269 in 1906, and the amount paid in rewards rose from Rs. 34,164 to Rs. 39,284. Wild elephants were responsible for the destruction of crops in some districts, and 13 were killed during the year. Four hundred and sixty-three new licenses under the Arms Act were issued in 1907, and the total in force during the year was 1,034 as compared with 952 in 1906.

CHAP. III—
PROSECUTION.

77. The Police Force in Rangoon Town continued to be administered separately from the Provincial Police employed elsewhere. The re-organization carried out in accordance with the orders of Government on the Report of the Police Commission was completed during the year and the present force and its methods of work are largely the outcome of the Commission's deliberations. On the 1st January 1908 the sanctioned strength of the Town Police was 1,034 officers and men, 89 more than in the previous year, and the actual strength on the same date was 1,023. The total cost amounted to Rs. 4,49,126, an increase of Rs. 41,235. The good conduct of the police as a body was fully maintained. Departmental punishments increased from 320 to 329; dismissals and removals fell from 26 to 21, and as in the previous year only two members of the force were convicted by Magistrates. There was also an increase in the number of rewards for good conduct. Six officers and 74 men resigned as compared with one officer and 62 men in 1906. The increase is attributed to the prevalence of famine and plague in the Indian districts from which the force is mainly recruited. By an amendment of the Rangoon Police Act made early in the year, the police in Rangoon were invested with the power of arresting without a warrant any person who, in their view, commits an offence under the Act and whose name and address are unknown and cannot be ascertained then and there. The result of this amendment was immediately visible in an increase from 9,776 to 12,840 in the number of cognizable cases under special and local laws and a corresponding diminution in the number of non-cognizable offences. The number of offences under the Indian Penal Code, the true criterion of the prevalence of crime, showed only a nominal increase. Cases of murder, attempts to murder, and culpable homicide were only half as many as in the previous year. On the other hand, hurt by dangerous weapon has been steadily increasing during the past three years and there was no decrease in the number of offences against property. The number of robberies, already high in 1906, showed no diminution during 1907, and the figures for house-breaking and house-trespass were substantially higher than in 1906. It is believed that a large number of the house-breaking cases were the work of a single gang of expert house-breakers, two members of which were arrested and convicted during the course of the year. Exclusive of cases in which investigation was refused, there was a very slight decrease in the number of cases of theft. The improvement in the lighting of the town which has recently been effected will, it is hoped, be of assistance to the police in the prevention and detection of cases of hurt, thefts and house-breaking. Although the percentage of cases convicted to true cases investigated was, on the whole, slightly less than in 1906, there was a distinct improvement in the detection and pursuit to conviction of crimes of the graver kinds. The conviction of the offenders in 11 out of 15 cases of robbery is noticeable. The actual percentage of convictions for thefts was lower than that of the previous year and the ratio of property recovered to that stolen has also decreased very considerably. Several reasons have been adduced in explanation of these facts, among them being the

Rangoon
Town Police.

Case III.—
Punishment
788.

insufficiency of the investigating staff, the difficulty of detecting petty house-thefts in Cantonments, and tracing receivers of stolen property, and the hindrance to effective patrolling caused by the bad lighting of the Cantonment roads. The investigating staff has recently been reorganised and improved, and might have been expected to show better results than in previous years. Additions were made to the force early in the year in order to supervise pawn-shops and discover receivers, and orders have been passed for increasing the responsibilities of pawn-brokers in regard to stolen property.

Criminal Justice.

Courts.

78. The Administration of Criminal Justice in the Province was in the hands of the Chief Court, Lower Burma, assisted by 266 Judges and Magistrates, and 25 Benches of Honorary Magistrates, and of the Judicial Commissioner, Upper Burma, who had under his control 202 Judges and Magistrates, and 6 Benches. If Benches are kept out of account, 145 Europeans and 329 Natives of India acted as Judges and Magistrates as compared with 131 Europeans and 316 Natives in 1906. The transfer of the Thayetmyo District from the Bassein to the Prome Session Division took effect from the 1st January 1907. In Upper Burma the Administration of Criminal Justice in the Chin Hills and the Pakokku Hill Tracts, in the case of accused persons other than Chins, was brought under the control of the Judicial Commissioner. The change involved an increase of one Sessions Judge and two District Magistrates in the number of Judicial officers. The number of offences reported during the year 1907 (94,909) was considerably above the figure of the previous year (90,804). The increase was confined entirely to Lower Burma as the number of offences reported in Upper Burma showed a slight improvement. As in the case of the large decline in 1906 the variation in the number of prosecutions under special and local laws in Rangoon, especially under the Police, Cantonment and Vaccination Acts, was sufficient to explain the whole of the difference in Lower Burma, variations in other districts and in respect of more serious offences merely serving to counterbalance one another. Fluctuations under the head of cognizable crime have already been commented on in paragraph 68. Out of the total number of offences reported, 93,043 were brought to trial and 82,442 were returned as true. The percentage of cases brought to trial was somewhat higher, while the proportion of cases returned as true was the same as in 1906. Ninety-five thousand and en persons were convicted out of 165,155 under trial during the year. In 1906 the corresponding figures were 89,337 and 154,318, the rates being practically the same in both years. The number of complaints summarily dismissed under sections 203 and 204 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, fell off in Lower Burma, while there was some improvement in Upper Burma. Fewer cases were dealt with under section 562 relating to the release of first offenders in both sections of the Province. Six thousand two hundred and forty-six persons were under trial at the end of the year. The reduction under this head, 261 persons, was common to Upper and Lower Burma.

Disposal of
cases.

79. The number of original criminal cases disposed of during the year rose from 86,858 to 91,799. Cases disposed of by Benches of Honorary Magistrates numbered 25,924 against 21,336, the increase being mainly due to the larger number of prosecutions under special and local laws in Rangoon. The average duration of each case declined from twelve to eleven days in Lower Burma and rose from nine to ten days in Upper Burma. The proportion of cases tried summarily was 41 per cent. in Lower Burma and 25 per cent. in Upper Burma. Six hundred and fourteen cases were disposed of by Courts of Session as compared with 631 in 1906. Seven hundred and twenty-three persons were tried with assessors in Lower Burma and 14 in Upper Burma, and 137 persons were tried by jury in Lower Burma. The proportion of convictions in Sessions cases declined in Lower Burma, and showed no variation in Upper Burma. The number of cases committed to the Chief Court fell from 85 to 69. References

to the Chief Court and to the Judicial Commissioner for confirmation of sentences of death numbered 107. In 68 cases the sentence was confirmed.

CHAP. III.—
PUNISHMENT.

80. Fines were inflicted on 74,260 persons, an increase of 6,370 persons over the figure of the previous year, due to the larger number of prosecutions under local and special laws. On the other hand, the total amount of fines imposed fell from 8.16 to 7.77 lakhs. Sentences of whipping decreased from 3,185 to 3,068, and there was a satisfactory diminution in the number of sentences of ten stripes and under. The percentage of whippings to the total number of cases in which whipping might legally have been inflicted declined considerably in Upper Burma, and the Judicial Commissioner invites attention to the reluctance of subordinate Magistrates to award this form of punishment. Sentences of whipping in addition to other punishments, which are chiefly imposed for theft after previous conviction, were less numerous. Imprisonment for a few days only was less frequently resorted to in Lower Burma, but in Upper Burma there was an unsatisfactory increase in such sentences. Twenty-one boys, three more than in 1906, were sent to a Reformatory School. The amount of fines paid by way of compensation to complainants, Rs. 40,000, was the same as in the previous year.

81. The number of regular appeals disposed of during the year rose from 7,333 to 7,875, the increase being common to Upper and Lower Burma. The proportion of sentences confirmed was 65 per cent. in Upper Burma and 70 per cent. in Lower Burma. Appeals to the Chief Court and to the Judicial Commissioner were more numerous, especially the latter, owing to the larger number of persons sentenced by Sessions Courts in Upper Burma. The sentences of 54 persons were enhanced on appeal—all in Upper Burma. The appeals of 367 persons were pending at the end of the year, the Upper Burma figure showing a small increase. The average duration of appeals rose from 17 to 18 days in Lower Burma and fell from 13 to 12 in Upper Burma.

82. Due attention was given to inspection and supervision during the year, and instructions were issued by the Chief Court reminding Sessions Judges and District Magistrates of their responsibility for the correction of illegalities and irregularities appearing on the face of the periodical criminal statements. The total number of persons whose cases were dealt with in revision fell from 30,889 to 28,693. Upper Burma was mainly responsible for the falling off. The original sentence was enhanced in 100 cases, confirmed in 24,280, reduced or altered in 279, and reversed in 1,295 cases. Interference was slightly more frequent than in the previous year.

Prisons.

83. The closing on the 15th November 1906 of the District Jail at Taung-dwinyi which had accommodation for 80 prisoners left the Province with six Central and 24 District Jails providing accommodation for 15,010 prisoners as compared with 15,322 during the year 1906, the further difference of 232 being mainly accounted for by a reduction in the number of prisoners assigned to the Maubin Jail. The daily average population was 13,721, and the number remaining at the end of the year 14,304, as compared with 13,370 and 14,129 respectively in 1906. The Meiktila Jail which it has been decided to set apart for the confinement of juvenile prisoners, will, after certain structural alterations are carried out, provide accommodation for 100 juvenile first offenders and 50 juvenile habituals. It is believed that, when these arrangements are complete, it will be possible to add very largely to the reformatory and educational character of sentences of imprisonment passed on juvenile offenders. Some progress was made during the year in formulating proposals for the separation of habitual from casual prisoners and the structural alterations required for effective separation are being carried out in jails where

~~Case III~~ — it is possible to secure the end in view without undue expenditure. The supervision of habitual prisoners by convicts of their own class has been recognized as inconsistent with the orders prohibiting the employment of habituais as prison officers and the experiment was definitely abandoned in the course of the year. It was decided to introduce instead a system under which habitual convicts will be supervised exclusively by paid warders. This change involves considerable expense and it cannot be introduced immediately in all the Jails of the Province. The employment of an increased number of paid warders for the supervision of habituais in the Mandalay, Insein and Myingyan Jails has been sanctioned, but for the present casual convict officers will be employed for the purpose in other jails.

Prisoners.

84. The number of prisoners received into jails during the year showed a decrease over the total of the previous year under all classes. The year opened with a total population of 14,129 and closed with a population of 14,304. The number of prisoners received by direct committal and by transfer was 34,473 as compared with 35,674, and the number discharged from all causes totalled 34,298 against 34,773 in 1906. The daily average rose to 13,721 surpassing the high figure of the previous year. Releases under the ordinary remission rules rose from 4,765 in 1906 to 4,774 in 1907. The number of reconvicted prisoners was 4,090 against 4,420 in 1906, and the ratio per cent. to the total number of convicts admitted was 22.09 against 22.94 in the previous year. The Bassein Jail again had the highest ratio, *vis.*, 33.58. The number of youthful offenders, under 15 years of age, committed to jail was 39 (all males) of whom 13 had been previously convicted against a similar number in 1906 with 11 who had been previously convicted.

Discipline.

85. Though the daily average number of convicts increased from 12,606 to 13,008, the number of prison offences declined from 42,109 to 38,484. Twenty-one out of the total number were dealt with by criminal courts and the rest by Jail Superintendents. In the previous year 17 offences came before Magistrates. The general decrease of 54 in the number of offences relating to assaults, mutiny, and escapes, though not so marked as in the previous year, is still satisfactory. Four assaults of a serious nature, two at Rangoon, one at Henzada, and one at Thayetmyo occurred during the year. The most serious was at Rangoon where a leper prisoner destroyed the sight of the left eye of another prisoner, also a leper, by stabbing him with his neck-ticket while he was asleep. For this he was sentenced to seven years' transportation. A reduction in the number of offences occurred under all heads except "offences relating to prohibited articles." The punishments of penal diet, with and without solitary confinement, fell from 2,547 to 1,079. The ratio of all punishments to average population fell from 334.04 to 295.85. Of the total number (38,484) of offences committed by all classes during the year, 21,186 were committed by habituais, showing that though the habitual class in the jails during the year represented only 39.2 per cent. of the average population, about 55.05 per cent. of the punishments were inflicted on them. The number of floggings fell from 129 in 1906 to 121 in 1907. The number of punishments inflicted on convict offenders, who averaged 2,336 during the year, was 9,378 or 4.01 punishments for each convict officer as compared with 11,226 or 4.7 in 1906. The extra privileges allowed to convict warders as an experimental measure were made permanent in September 1907 and the following additional privileges granted:—

- (a) The payment of a gratuity not exceeding eight annas a month, and
- (b) the substitution of a small mat or *duri* for the piece of gunny previously allowed.

There were six escapes during the year as compared with 12 in 1906.

Financial.

86. The gross cost of up-keep of the jails increased from Rs. 8,06,500 to Rs. 8,09,401, but the average cost per prisoner fell from Rs. 60-5-2 to Rs. 58-15-10 owing to the average population being higher than in 1906.

Deducting the cash earnings of prisoners from the gross cost of maintenance, the net cost of the Prison Administration was Rs. 6,22,217 against Rs. 6,00,732, or Rs. 45-6-0 against Rs. 44-15-0 in the previous year. The manufacture profits fell from Rs. 2,05,768 to Rs. 1,87,183. By the employment of jail labour in the execution of "jail works and repairs" a saving of Rs. 18,864 accrued to Government during 1907. The profits of the Jail Branch Press, which increased from Rs. 1,61,050 to Rs. 1,67,224 are not included in the total earnings. The total estimated value of vegetables produced from jail gardens was Rs. 81,925 as compared with Rs. 78,647 in the previous year. The value of paddy, *dhal*, *peya*, condiments and tamarind obtained from jail farms was Rs. 23,758 as compared with Rs. 25,355 in 1906.

CHAR. III.—
PROMOTION.

87. The health of the prison population surpassed the remarkably good ^{Vital} results obtained in 1906. Though the daily average number in confinement rose from 13,370 to 13,721, the number admitted into hospital decreased from 3,736 to 3,506, the daily average sick from 211 to 190, and the deaths from 198 to 163. Indeed, the ratios of admissions, daily sick, and deaths are the lowest recorded since 1892, *vis.*, 255.52, 13.85 and 21.88 respectively. The ratio per cent. of opium consumers admitted into jail increased from 14.17 to 15.44. Bhamo and Henzada show the highest percentages, *vis.*, 44.39 and 44.03 respectively. Fifteen per cent. of the total mortality was amongst opium consumers.

Civil Justice.

88. The administration of Civil Justice during the year 1907 continued to be under the control of the Chief Court, Lower Burma, with four Judges and of the Judicial Commissioner, Upper Burma. In Lower Burma there were 6 Divisional and 21 District Courts and in Upper Burma 4 of the former and 18 of the latter. Each district is divided into Civil subdivisions and Civil townships. During the year the administration of Civil Justice in the Chin Hills and the Pakokku Hill Tracts was brought under the control of the Judicial Commissioner, Upper Burma, involving the addition of two to the number of District Courts. One hundred and four Europeans and 248 Natives were employed as Civil Judges at the close of the year. The number of Europeans was the same as in the previous year, while 14 new appointments of Native Judges were created. The re-organization of the subordinate judiciary was sanctioned during the year and came into effect from the 5th May 1907. The re-organization consisted in the substitution for the former Township Judicial Service of separate Provincial and Subordinate Services corresponding to the Provincial and Subordinate Civil Services. In the case of Sessions and Divisional Courts the most important change effected in the year was the transfer of the Thayetmyo District from the Bassein to the Prome Division. While the total receipts of the Courts remained at nearly the same figure as in 1906 (Rs. 28,96,979 as against Rs. 28,60,436), the charges increased from Rs. 45,12,073 to Rs. 50,21,945. The increase in expenditure is almost wholly accounted for by increases of Rs. 3,05,863 in the salaries of officers, cost of establishments, and contingent expenditure, and of Rs. 2,00,275 in charges connected with buildings. The balance of the increase was shared by all the smaller heads except that of stationery supplied from Calcutta.

COURTS.

89. The total number of suits filed in Lower Burma was 58,502 as against 63,622 in 1906 and 61,483 in 1905. Although the number thus showed a decided decrease as compared with the two previous years, it was still far higher than the numbers in 1904 and the preceding years, the highest figure reached before 1905 being 51,594 in 1904. The decrease was common to every important district of Lower Burma except Myaungmya and Ma-ubin. It is curious that at the same time the number of cases in every one of the six less important districts in the Arakan and Tenasserim Divisions increased. In Upper Burma the total number of institutions fell below that of the previous year by 1,406 suits (23,374

VOLUME AND
CLASSIFICATION
OF LITIGATION.

CHAP. III.—
PROTEC-
TION.

against 24,780). Claims for money or moveables formed the bulk of the decrease. While suits of nearly all other kinds declined in number there was an increase under mortgage suits in both sections of the Province. The decrease of work was most noticeable in the case of Township Courts. The aggregate value of suits showed a small increase from 225 to 228 lakhs. The rise is, however, more than accounted for by an expansion of over ten lakhs in the business of the Chief Court.

Disposal of
cases.

90. The number of regular civil suits decided during 1907 was 82,814 as compared with 88,344 in 1906. Of these 21,373 against 22,006 were contested. At the close of the year 8,939 cases were pending, 21 less than at the end of 1906. The average duration of cases increased considerably. The result is attributed in Lower Burma to the issue of orders requiring mortgage suits to be kept pending until the final decree is passed, and in Upper Burma to the prevalence of plague and scarcity. There was some congestion of business in the Chief Court and in the Court of the Judicial Commissioner, Upper Burma. An additional Judge of the Chief Court was sanctioned for part of the year and an additional Judicial Commissioner has been appointed since the close of the year. Proposals for the constitution of a City Court in Rangoon are still under consideration. Miscellaneous cases, which in the subordinate Courts consist chiefly of applications for removal of attachment, and in District Courts of applications for probate and for succession certificates, rose in number from 11,582 to 11,722.

Execution of
cases.

91. The total number of applications for execution of decrees rose from 53,535 to 56,465; but the amount realised, nearly 27 lakhs, was only slightly in excess of the figure of 1906. The number of applications increased in both sections of the Province, but realizations declined somewhat in Lower Burma. Twenty-three thousand one hundred and thirty applications or 49 per cent. of the number disposed of were wholly infructuous as compared with 48 per cent. in 1906. Imprisonment of judgment-debtors was rather more frequent especially in Lower Burma and the property of the debtor was sold in practically the same number of cases as in the previous year.

Insolvency
proceedings.

92. Six hundred and ninety applications were made to the Courts under the provisions of the Code of Civil Procedure relating to Insolvency as compared with 565 in 1906 and 409 in 1905. One hundred and thirty applications were pending at the end of the year. The amount of creditors' claims dealt with rose from 1.35 to 2.69 lakhs, but only Rs. 2,321 were realized from the assets of insolvents. The number of insolvents discharged increased by 16 to 80.

Appeals.

93. The number of regular appeals decided during the year was 4,813 or 586 more than in 1906. As in the case of original suits, the average duration of appeals was noticeably longer. In 3,047 cases the decree of the lower Court was confirmed, the percentage of confirmation being 63.31 as compared with a proportion of 62.55 per cent. in the year 1906.

Registration.

General.

94. The registration of deeds continued to be governed during the year 1907 by the provisions of the Indian Registration Act, 1877, in Lower Burma, and in Upper Burma by the Upper Burma Registration Regulation, 1897. Revised rules under section 8 of the Regulation were considered during the year and have been brought into force since its close. The number of Registration offices was increased from 146 to 148. The system of appointing pensioners or non-officials to be Joint Sub-Registrars was extended to ten offices. These Joint Sub-Registrars are remunerated by a fixed proportion of the monthly fees, the emoluments being usually limited to Rs. 720 per annum.

Deeds
registered.

95. The total number of documents compulsorily registered in Lower Burma fell by 4,811 and the aggregate value by Rs. 91,94,847. The number of sales

affecting immovable property of the value of Rs. 100 or upward rose by 708, but the value of the property involved declined. Under mortgages there was a sudden drop from 22,889 instruments valued at 365 lakhs to 16,730 instruments valued at 260 lakhs. The falling off is very generally attributed to the effect of the Financial Commissioner's Circular No. 4 of 1906, which prescribes measures for enforcing the prohibition of transfer of land in contravention of the conditions of the lease or grant under which it is held, and for resuming land occupied on a squatter's tenure when it has been transferred to a non-agriculturist. In Rangoon, the decrease is ascribed partly to the increasing resort to the practice of the acceptance as security of title deeds without a registered instrument, partly to the failure of some Chetty firms and partly to the greater frequency of transfers of mortgages. There was an increase from 7,830 to 8,718 in the number of compulsory registrations in Upper Burma, but the rise in value from 49 to 164 lakhs was out of all proportion. This abnormal expansion is accounted for by an increase in the value of sales exceeding Rs. 100 due to the transfer of the properties of the Burma Oil Company to the new Company of the same name, and to the large number of transfers of oil wells in the Yenangyaung oil field at the enhanced prices which have lately prevailed in consequence of the competition between rival Companies in that field. Mortgages registered in Upper Burma also showed a substantial increase in number and value. The number of entries in Book IV (Registrations affecting moveable property) fell off in Lower Burma and increased in Upper Burma; but the aggregate value of transactions was greater in Lower Burma and much less in Upper Burma than in the previous year.

CHAP. III.—
PROSECUTION.

96. The total income of the Registration Department for the year 1907 amounted to Rs. 1,96,119 or Rs. 16,968 less than in 1906, while expenditure rose from Rs. 74,161 to Rs. 80,157. Diminished fees on instruments of mortgage in Lower Burma mainly account for the decrease. The steady increase of expenditure from year to year is attributable to several causes of which the following may be enumerated:—increased payments to clerks remunerated by fees on documents, revision of establishments and salaries, the employment of extra temporary clerks for the purpose of working off arrears, the recurring entertainment on a fixed scale in several districts of temporary clerks during the busy season in order to keep registration up to date, and the appointment of whole-time Sub-Registrars remunerated by a fixed proportion of the fees subject to certain maxima.

Income and
expenditure.

Joint Stock Companies.

97. The number of Joint Stock Companies limited by capital divided into shares rose from 55 to 68. Eighteen new Companies were formed while five ceased to work. No new Company limited by guarantee was registered, the number of such Companies remaining at five.

Number of
Companies.

98. The aggregate nominal capital of all Companies rose from 246 to 337 lakhs, and the paid-up capital from 132 to 138 lakhs. Seventeen Companies increased their nominal and paid-up capital and one Company reduced its paid-up capital.

Capital.

99. The fees realised during the year amounted to Rs. 5,383-8-0 as compared with Rs. 4,548 in the previous year. One prosecution was instituted in the Court of the District Magistrate, Mandalay, for non-compliance with the provisions of section 74 of the Indian Companies Act, 1882.

General.

Local Boards Administration.

100. There are no Local Boards in Burma. The District Funds in Upper Burma and the District Cess Funds in Lower Burma are administered by the

Class III - Deputy Commissioners of the districts to which they belong. Some account of their receipts and expenditure is given in paragraph 190.

Class III -
District
Commissioners.

Municipal Administration.

Rangoon
Municipality.

101. If account is taken of the fact that the receipts of the Rangoon Municipality for the year were swollen by the recovery of arrears of taxes on Government buildings for 1906-07, the margin of ordinary income over ordinary expenditure was small. Sanction was given during the year to an increase of the tax on bullock carts, and to the imposition of a tax on dogs. The former may be expected to bring in a slight addition to Municipal Funds; the latter is intended less as a source of income than as a measure by which the number of ownerless pariah dogs, which infest the streets may be kept down. The proposal to impose a lodger's tax was not accepted by Government in view of the difficulty of collecting such a tax. The problem how to tax the large floating coolie population, whose presence in Rangoon is a constant source of difficulty and expense to the Municipality, and who could easily bear a light measure of taxation, still awaits solution. A serious effort was made by the Committee to deal with the question of improving the milk-supply. Bye-laws to regulate the sale of milk were framed during the year under review, and have since been sanctioned, and the Committee are about to establish an experimental model cow-keepers' village. Measures were also undertaken for the improvement of the condition of markets and bazaars. An equally important problem which has been before the Committee for many years, and of which it is desirable that a solution should be found at an early date is the housing question.

Minor Municipalities
and their
Committees.

102. The number of minor Municipalities in the year was 42, the same as in 1906-07. No change of importance was made during the year in the constitution of Municipal Committees. Of a total of 540 members, 63 were elected, 309 nominated, and 168 appointed *ex-officio*. The decrease of 8 in the number of elected members is due to the fact that at the general election at Henzada candidates came forward for only 4 out of 12 seats. The average attendance at meetings during the year was about the same as in 1906-07. Elected members sat on 8 Municipal Committees during the year. General elections were held at Prome, Yandon and Henzada. There was no contest at Prome. At Henzada, as already stated, there were only four candidates for 12 seats.

Minor Municipalities;
Taxation.

103. The average incidence of taxation rose from Rs. 1-11-2 to Rs. 1-15-7, and of income from Rs. 4-6-8 to Rs. 4-13-5. General taxation was lightest at Taung-dwingyi, where the incidence was eight annas. The special assessor who was appointed at Moulmein in 1906-07 completed the general revision of assessment in the year under review with satisfactory results. Revisions were undertaken in some other towns, but they call for no special remarks. The number of new taxes imposed during the year was small. A scavenging tax was imposed in Pinyinana and Pakökku. A similar tax in Toungoo was levied generally for the first time during the year. In Henzada the scavenging and latrine taxes were revised, and a new tax on day conservancy was imposed in Mergui. The land tax in Thaton was extended to lands not covered by buildings.

Minor Municipalities:
Public Health and
Convenience.

104. The water-works at Akyab are not yet completed, but fair progress has been made, and Rs. 2,03,873 were spent during the year. It has been found impossible to complete the work from the loan of 3 lakhs, and since the close of the year a grant of Rs. 25,000 has been made to the Municipality out of the Imperial grant of three lakhs, and a further loan of Rs. 30,000 has been applied for. No final proposals have yet been submitted for a satisfactory water-supply in Mandalay, and it has not been decided which of the alternative schemes is the most feasible and the most likely to succeed. The Municipality is still heavily handicapped by expenditure on measures for the prevention and suppression

of plague, and financial considerations must of necessity be taken into account in the working out of any scheme. The proposals made in the previous year for a water-supply at Mōnywa were not approved by the Sanitary Engineer, and fresh proposals are under consideration. A further attempt to sink a tube-well at Gyobingauk has proved unsuccessful, and it is now proposed to expend Rs. 10,000 on the construction of a tank. Similar failures have been experienced at Letpadan and Kyaiklat. A beginning has been made in the construction of tanks and pumps for the supply of drinking water in Pyinmana, but no progress has yet been made at Minbu. The Pyapōn Municipality are considering the question of constructing a large tank at an estimated cost of Rs. 70,000. In Bassein a comprehensive scheme of water-supply is under consideration. In Pakōkku, part of a loan of Rs. 25,000 from Government was spent in the construction of three new wells. No large sanitary works were undertaken during the year, and it is in connection with plague that most of the improvements of a sanitary nature have been effected. In Moulmein a large plague staff was entertained and much was done in the way of cleaning and disinfecting the most insanitary quarters. But it has been found impossible as yet for financial reasons to commence any general scheme for the removal of insanitary houses. Little progress was made with the Kyaiklat conservancy scheme, which was not approved by the Sanitary Board. In Pyapōn a start has been made in the construction of sluices and in the reclamation of parts of the town. The balance of the grant of Rs. 30,000 which was made to Akyab in the previous year for the improvement of the civil station has now been spent, and the sanitary condition of the station is reported to be much improved. Regular systems of night conservancy were introduced during the year in Pyinmana, Yamēthin and Pakōkku. The loan of Rs. 80,000 applied for by the Henzada Municipal Committee was sanctioned during the year, and a start made in the equipment of a conservancy scheme on the tram-line system.

CHAP. III—
PLAGUE
1908.

Military.

105. The total strength of the troops forming the Burma garrison at the end of March 1908 was 10,354 officers and men, of whom 4,190 were Europeans.

Strength of
the garrison.

106. The expenditure on military works during the year fell from 14.05 to 12.15 lakhs, but the latter figure still exceeded the average outlay of recent years. A number of military works of some importance were completed or in progress at Maymyo. The primary and subsidiary buildings included in the scheme for accommodating a full Battalion of British Infantry commenced in 1905-06, were brought to completion and progress was made with the auxiliary buildings. Rupees 2,80,352 were spent during the year, bringing the total expenditure up to Rs. 7,41,795 against the sanctioned estimate of Rs. 9,06,604. The project for providing quarters with out-houses for the Regimental and Medical Officers of a Battalion of British Infantry was completed at a total cost of Rs. 1,75,135, of which Rs. 22,795 were expended during the year. The construction of lines for a Battery of Native Mountain Artillery was completed, except for hospital accommodation, at a cost of Rs. 1,92,122, of which expenditure amounting to Rs. 31,214 was incurred. The project for constructing lines for the native personnel (143 single and 22 married men) of the 25th Mule Corps was completed for Rs. 38,929 of which Rs. 19,278 were spent during the year. The work of providing a piped water-supply for the British Infantry Cantonment at a total cost of Rs. 88,035 was completed during the year. The provision of a permanent piped water-supply from a tube well for the Mandalay Garrison was in progress, a reservoir on Mandalay Hill was constructed and pipes were laid. A piped water-supply was also provided for the North Transport Lines, Mandalay. Besides the projects mentioned, minor works were taken in hand at the various stations where troops are quartered.

Military
works.

Military (Volunteering).

CHAP. III.—
PROTEC-
TION.

107. There were six Volunteer Corps in Burma during the year of report: three of these, the Port Defence, the Rangoon Volunteer Rifles and the Burma Railways Corps, have their headquarters in Rangoon; the Moulmein Volunteer Rifles and Artillery have their headquarters at Moulmein, and the Upper Burma Volunteer Rifles at Mandalay. The total strength of the six corps as shown by the rolls at the close of March 1908 was 2,644 adults, 390 cadets and 127 reservists, exceeding the figures of the previous year by 277 men. With 2,902 efficient exclusive of the reservists against 2,629 in 1906-07, the Corps taken together earned in capitation and other grants Rs. 1,15,677 or Rs. 10,405 more than in 1906-07. These figures do not include the 42 members of the South Arakan Rifle Corps, which for administrative purposes is attached to the Rangoon Volunteer Rifle Corps and earned in grants Rs. 1,508.

Marine.

Light-houses
and Light-
ships.

108. The cost of maintenance of the nine light-houses, the new light at Zallataung Island, the light-house tender *Victoria* which took the place of the *Ruby*, and the four light-ships stationed off the Coast of Burma during the year ending the 31st March 1908, rose by Rs. 20,144 to Rs. 1,75,439, the increase being due principally to larger expenditure on establishment, provisions, blue-light composition and repairs. Receipts from light-dues fell again by Rs. 32,024 to roughly 4½ lakhs. There were fewer cases of beri-beri amongst the light-house staff and none of them proved fatal. Monthly visits to the light-houses and light-ships were carried out by the Royal Indian Marine Steamers *Dalhousie* and *Minto*. Detailed projects for effecting improvements to all the light-houses, excepting those at China Bakir and Reef Island, were disposed of during the year. The material and plant required for Eastern Grove Light-house were received and work put in hand before the close of the year, while that for Oyster Island Light-house was also received, but too late for work to be put in hand. A 93-day unattended Wigham light has been erected on a steel lattice beacon, built locally, to the west end of Zallataung Island as an anchorage light for vessels calling off the mouth of the Sandoway River: the light is a fixed red one with a range of about six miles, and was first exhibited on the 20th October 1907. The new cast-iron light-house for Beacon Island was ordered and is under construction in England; certain preliminary works have been taken in hand. Besides the works mentioned numerous petty improvements were carried out at the various light-stations.

Port Admi-
nistration,
Rangoon.

109. The income of the Rangoon Port Trust, including debt accounts, was Rs. 32,05,176 against Rs. 26,03,314 in the previous year, there being an increase in ordinary revenue under most heads. The Botataung estate, acquired in February 1907, brought an increase to the revenues of over Rs. 70,000, and the proceeds of the river due amounted to Rs. 1,96,138. The expenditure including debt accounts and works financed out of surplus revenue, rose from Rs. 26,03,476 to Rs. 38,76,266. The revenue expenditure exhibited an increase of Rs. 2,86,481 as compared with 1906-07 which was mainly due to increase of establishments, opening of the Latter street wharf, extension, increase of pay granted to the Assistant Harbour Masters from the 1st April 1907, and an increase in interest and sinking fund charges owing to the raising of further loans. The estimated capital expenditure during the year was Rs. 32,35,499 and the actual expenditure Rs. 22,57,205, the saving being due to the postponement of the fixed mooring scheme and of the construction of the tug and fire-float. The year closed with a balance of Rs. 3,66,069. During the year the Port Commissioners raised two loans, one of Rs. 16,31,000 and another of Rs. 7,51,000. For the former loan the average price was Rs. 93-14-7 and Rs. 93-9-2 for the latter loan. The total debt at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 1,32,12,000. The Port Commissioners finding that the prospects of raising a large loan in India during

1908 at a better rate than that obtained in 1907 were unfavourable, opened negotiations in February 1908 with their London Agents with a view to placing a loan of £500,000 on the London market early in the year. The price of the loan was to be 95 per cent., but it has been floated since the close of the year at a lower rate. Perhaps the most important feature of the year's administration was the imposition with effect from the 1st September 1907, of a river due of 1½ annas a ton on the import and export trade. This measure which has been the subject of anxious consideration for some years was introduced without serious opposition. Receipts from this source during the year amounted to nearly two lakhs. From the 1st August 1907 a share of the cost of the Port Police was debited to Government resulting in a saving of Rs. 23,000 by the Port Trust. Steps were taken to regularize the position with respect to private wharves and jettie and to safeguard the legitimate revenues of the Port in respect of the inland trade. It was estimated that a sum of Rs. 17,51,083 would be spent upon the wharf extension works during the year. The actual expenditure was Rs. 16,49,484 bringing up the total expenditure since the commencement of the works to Rs. 82,54,519. The estimates originally sanctioned for the works amounted to 89 lakhs, but during the progress of the works it has been found necessary to deviate considerably from the sanctioned plans. Revised estimates amounting to Rs. 1,04,35,866 have been sanctioned since the close of the year. The scheme for laying down fixed moorings which is estimated to cost Rs. 9,05,695 was sanctioned after the close of the year under review. The scheme for training the Rangoon River was still under discussion during the year, but no final conclusion as to the manner in which the training wall connected with the scheme was to be constructed had been arrived at. The Port Commissioners have approved of a project for improving the channel across the Hattings Shoal. During the year the piece of land known as Mower's Point which is required in connection with the training scheme was bought by the Commissioners for something under seven lakhs.

CHAP. III.—
FINANCE
1908.

110. The 21 pilots of the Port of Rangoon earned for the Pilot Fund Rs. 2,85,735 an increase of Rs. 3,312 over the receipts of the previous year. The amount disbursed to the pilots was Rs. 1,89,222 or Rs. 1,238 more. An addition of Rs. 5,000 brought the Depreciation Fund up to Rs. 26,500, while the closing balance of the Pilot Fund on the 31st March 1908 was Rs. 64,401. Four of the 21 pilots were special pilots, not available for general duty. They were the Commanders of the British Indian Steam Navigation Company's steamers plying between Rangoon, Moulmein and Mergui, and of the Port Trust tug *Hlaing*. Proposals were put forward during the year for giving the Port Commissioners greater control over Pilots and for introducing a scale of fixed pay. The management of the Harbour Masters' Department was also overhauled and the pay of Assistant Harbour Masters was raised.

Pilot Service
Rangoon

111. Receipts during the year 1907-08 of the six minor ports for which separate Port Funds are maintained rose from Rs. 3,31,449 to Rs. 3,77,378, while the expenditure declined by Rs. 40,651 to Rs. 3,28,294. Port Officers appointed by Government continued to manage the ports of Moulmein, Akyab and Bassein where there are special pilot services consisting of eight, one and four pilots respectively, two of the eight at Moulmein being the commanders of the British Indian Steam Navigation Company's steamers which ply thrice a week between that port and Rangoon. The receipts of the Pilot Funds at the three ports, Rs. 98,180, exceeded the expenditure by Rs. 7,133, and the closing balance rose from Rs. 19,944 to Rs. 27,077. The administration of the three remaining ports of Mergui, Tavoy and Kyaukpyu, none of which has a Pilot Fund, is in the hands of the Deputy Commissioners of the districts bearing these names.

Minor Ports

112. Four hundred and thirty-eight steamers and 86 sailing vessels arrived in Burma from foreign countries during the year 1907-08. Both the number of arrivals and the total tonnage, 983,588 tons, declined as compared with the figures

Commercial
Marine

CHAP. III.—
Ports
and
Navigation.

of the previous year. Of these vessels, 320 steamers and 5 sailing ships, with a tonnage of 770,905 tons arrived at Rangoon, the same comment being applicable to the figures. There was again a substantial advance in the coasting trade of the Province. The number of arrivals of steamers and sailing vessels rose from 3,382 to 3,646, and the tonnage also increased from 2,529,170 to 2,722,781 tons. One thousand and eighty-four or slightly more than half the steamers were bound for Rangoon, while only 154 sailing ships as against 187 in 1906-07 had a like destination. Of the tonnage, Rangoon accounted for 1·81 million tons, practically the same figure as in the previous year. The number of steamers of above 4,000 tons which entered the Port of Rangoon fell from 416 to 391, and the figures of the various classes of steamers when compared with those for previous years indicate that a certain amount of trade depression existed during the year. Two hundred and thirty vessels sailed under a foreign flag as against 273 in the previous year, the colours of Norway, Germany, Japan, Austria-Hungary and Holland being most prominent. There was a general falling off of vessels belonging to each foreign nation except that vessels hailing from Japan increased from 31 to 45.

Commercial
Marine:—
Wrecks and
Casualties.

113. On the afternoon of the 23rd February 1908, the S. S. *Ivydene* of Newcastle, register tonnage 2,277, stranded on Oyster Reef in the vicinity of Akyab. Altogether during the year, in the Rangoon harbour, there were 23 accidents to vessels in charge of Assistant Harbour Masters or Pilots. In connection with these accidents 4 Courts of Enquiry were held; one Pilot and 2 Assistant Harbour Masters were acquitted of blame, and one Assistant Harbour Master was warned to be more careful in future.

Government
Steamers
and
Launches.

114. The three Royal Indian Marine vessels *Irrawady*, *Madan* and *Bhamo* carried by river over sixteen thousand troops and followers, with ammunition, horses and cattle, besides 8,735 tons of stores and 95½ lakhs of specie. Their earnings rose by Rs. 52,355 to Rs. 3,35,830 owing to the vessels being more fully employed than in the previous year. Six new vessels were added to the Government flotilla, four were sold, while the Schooner *Victoria* has now become the light-house tender, leaving at the end of the year 98 vessels of all descriptions, including 9 house-boats, 9 flats, 3 cutters and 1 barge. The stern-wheel steamer *Mogaung* which struck a snag and sank above Thaungdut on the 5th March 1908 was successfully raised. All the vessels were fully employed throughout the year. The total expenditure on the up-keep of these vessels, including 4 per cent. interest on the balance of their cost, was Rs. 6,84,189, while they earned Rs. 4,75,908. Nineteen launches earned more than the cost of their up-keep, the profit on the working of four paddlers in Upper Burma amounting to Rs. 68,480. Four launches are under construction.

Marine
Works and
Surveys.

115. A screw pile wharf for the Civil Station of Pyawon was completed, also one for landing prisoners at Wakema. Further improvements to facilitate navigation along the Southern Tenasserim Coast were undertaken during the year: a mast-head light at Victoria Point, leading marks at Bökpyin, and beacons on dangerous rocks in the Mergui Archipelago were completed, and work commenced on a Port Light at Sinbyubin. Surveys were made and levels taken of all the dangerous landings at the light-houses at Alguada Reef, Green Island, Double Island and Table Island with a view to improvements being carried out. Extensive repairs to the Oyster Island jetty were undertaken. The construction of a boat grid and a screw pile jetty 180 feet long at the Public Works Department Light-house Yard, Rangoon, were commenced. The survey of the Bassein Creek was completed during the year and the survey sheets have been printed. The harbour and the Rangoon River from Elephant Point to the Fairway buoy were re-surveyed and fresh charts printed. The various important channels in the river were periodically examined and charts showing the changes were regularly supplied to the Pilot service. Slight changes are reported in the

Western Channel, the Middle Bank Channel, and on the D'Silva Shoal and Choki Lumps. The channels across the Hastings and the Monkey Point Channel still give cause for anxiety, as the changes in those localities are frequent and rapid. A special Survey staff is now permanently employed in observing and noting the changes. The channels are reported to show no deterioration when compared with the previous year's observations. The new Royal Indian Marine steamer *Investigator* was engaged during the year in continuing the survey of the Arakan Coast from Baronges to Ramree and from the Nerbudda Shoal to Gwa. The season's programme will complete the survey of the Arakan Coast from Cox Bazaar to Gwa leaving only another 90 miles north of Cape Negrais.

CHAPTER IV.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

References:—

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Forty-second issue of the Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India with the British Empire and Foreign Countries in the year ending the 31st March 1908, and the four preceding years, Volume I, Tables 9 to 11, and Volume II, Tables 3 and 6 and 18 to 21.
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Agriculture.

Agricultural
stock and
cattle
breeding.

116. The annual returns of agricultural stock show improvement under all heads of importance except that the number of buffalo calves has declined. There were altogether in the Province on the 30th June 1908 nearly $1\frac{1}{2}$ million bulls and bullocks, over $1\frac{1}{2}$ million cows, $\frac{1}{2}$ million buffaloes with 330,000 calves, 29,500 sheep, 151,000 goats, 60,000 horses and ponies and 1,800 mules. It is reported that buffaloes are being steadily replaced by bullocks in most districts. In the dry zone of Upper Burma buffaloes are little used. In certain Upper Burma districts diminution of stock is attributed to the bad season. The reduction is mainly due to the export of cattle for sale in Lower Burma, but is also partly accounted for by the loss of weakly animals through scarcity of fodder and water. The year was a healthy one for cattle and there were few serious epidemics. The number of deaths from contagious disease fell from 40,715 to 24,316. The improvement was mainly due to a reduction of the mortality from rinderpest from 33,106 to 16,390 deaths. Foot-and-mouth disease was somewhat more prevalent and anthrax less prevalent than in the previous year. The worst outbreak of rinderpest took place in the Amherst District. Anthrax was prevalent in Akyab and foot-and-mouth disease in Sagaing.

Fony and
cattle
breeding.

117. The Government stallion at Lashio in the Northern Shan States had to be destroyed as he had become old and useless. The stallion standing at Thamakan in the Southern Shan States seems to be scarcely a success, but better accounts are given of the two Deli ponies stationed at Tharrawaddy. Altogether 93 mares were covered by Government stallions as compared with 115 in the year 1906-07.

There are no Government bulls at stud in Burma and the only direct encouragement given by Government to cattle-breeders is by the holding of agricultural shows at which prizes and medals are given for the best cattle in each class. The combined fair and cattle show at Bhamo on the 28th and 29th March 1908 was the only one held during the year. Buffaloes were a good class, but oxen were only moderate and the ponies were a poor lot. Arrangements are being made for the conduct on systematic lines of Agricultural and Live Stock shows by the new Department of Agriculture.

CHAP. IV.—
PRODUCTION AND
DISTRIBUTION.

118. The price of paddy was everywhere much above normal except in the Prome, Salween, Bhamo, Myitkyina and Ruby Mines Districts. In Lower Burma exceptionally high prices were paid for the paddy required for the export market. In Upper Burma high prices ruled, partly in sympathy with the export market, but more especially because of the extensive failures of crops in unirrigated areas. The recorded prices of all other crops are also greatly above normal. The only exceptions to this are the prices for maize and gram in Ma-ubin, sessamum in Ma-ubin, Myaungmya, Myitkyina and the Ruby Mines, *pègyi* (white beans) in Ma-ubin and Pakòkku, *pègya* (red beans) in Pakòkku and Mandalay, *pèyin* in Pakòkku, groundnuts in Sandoway, Lower Chindwin and Ma-ubin, tobacco in Ma-ubin, Amherst and Pakòkku, and uncleaned cotton in Salin, where the prices were normal or below normal. In Akyab the amount of paddy available for export was estimated at 287 lakhs of baskets or 35 lakhs more than in the previous year. In Sandoway, Pyapòn, Bassein, Henzada, Thatòn and the Upper Chindwin, the cultivators oversold owing to the high prices obtainable. In Amherst the total amount of paddy brought to Moulmein by the close of the first week of April 1908 was 184,400 tons approximately, or 10,000 tons more than in 1906-07. The average price of paddy in Lower Burma was about Rs. 2-4-0 per maund, and in Upper Burma varied at the more important centres from Re. 1-11-0 to Rs. 2-11-0. The price of wheat varied from Rs. 2-8-3 in Mònywa to Rs. 4-8-0 in Shwebo. *Pyauug* (millet, *jowar*) varied from Re. 1-8-0 in the Yamèthin District to Rs. 3-12-0 in Shwebo. Maize in Lower Burma varied from Rs. 2-9-0 in Shwedaung (Prome) to Rs. 4-15-8 in Yandoon and Ma-ubin, and in Upper Burma from annas 8 in Pakòkku to Rs. 2-8-0 in Shwebo. The price of gram in Lower Burma varied from Rs. 3-2-0 in Zalun (Henzada) to Rs. 4-8-0 in Shwedaung (Prome), and in Upper Burma from Rs. 2-3-0 in Pyawbwe (Yamèthin) to Rs. 4-10-9 in Sagu (Minbu). Sessamum in Lower Burma cost Rs. 4 per maund in Sandoway and Rs. 9-5-0 in Moulmein. In Upper Burma the price varied from Rs. 3-14-0 in Mogòk (Ruby Mines) and Rs. 4-8-0 in Shwebo to Rs. 9-2-3 in Bhamo. The price of *pègyi* (white beans) varied from Rs. 3-13-7 in Danubyu (Ma-ubin) and Rs. 2-4-0 in Pakòkku to Rs. 7-8-0 in Paungdè (Prome) and Rs. 5-2-3 in Sagu (Minbu). The price of *pègya* (red beans) averaged about Rs. 2 and *pèyin* (variety of beans) a little less. Groundnut varied from Re. 1-9-3 in Mònywa (Lower Chindwin) to Rs. 2-14-0 in Pakòkku, but no prices are quoted for Magwe. Tobacco varied from Rs. 4-8-0 in Zalun (Henzada) to Rs. 28 in Sandoway, and in Upper Burma from Rs. 4-8-0 in Salin (Minbu) to Rs. 15 in Myitkyina. The price of uncleaned cotton varied from Rs. 4 to Rs. 5-10-2, with the exception of Sandoway where it rose to Rs. 11-4-0; cleaned cotton ruled from Rs. 7-3-5 to Rs. 18-5-0. In Sandoway cotton is an unimportant crop.

119. At the commencement of the year there were outstandings of agricultural advances amounting to Rs. 7,45,595, an increase of nearly 47 per cent. on the figure at the commencement of the previous year, which was itself an advance of 30 per cent. on the figure for 1905-06. During the year advances were made to the extent of Rs. 9,73,968, an increase of 14 per cent. on the figures for 1906-07, which were an increase of 27 per cent. on those of 1905-06. Remissions amounted to Rs. 2,638 principal and Rs. 171 interest; in the previous year there were none. Collections during the year showed an increase of 15.61 per cent. over those of the previous year and with remissions amounted to 96.47 per cent. of the outstandings at the end of the previous year. The amount suspended

Agricultural
loans.

CHAP. IV.— during the year was Rs. 2,38,203 or about four times the amount suspended during the previous year. The amount overdue at the end of the year was Rs. 1,35,974, a decrease of 18.76 per cent. on the previous year. This result has, however, been obtained only by suspending two-thirds of the amount overdue in Hanthawaddy, where in the previous year no suspensions were made. The amount of interest collected during the year was Rs. 68,572, an increase of 42.64 per cent. on the previous year. Remissions and suspensions amounted to Rs. 171 and Rs. 2,023, respectively, as compared with Rs. nil and Rs. 451 in the previous year. The balance overdue at the end of the year was Rs. 7,161, a decrease of 25.03 per cent. Loans under the Land Improvement Loans Act were made to the extent of Rs. 27,300 during the year compared with Rs. 3,250 in the previous year.

**Co-operative
Credit
Societies.**

120. The number of Co-operative Credit Societies increased from 40 to 81 during the year of report, and there has been a further increase since the close of the year. There was also a satisfactory increase in the number of members and in the transactions of the Societies. The majority of the Societies are rural Societies of the Raiffeisen type. A new form of Society on the model of the Punjab adaptation of the Luzatti class of Societies was constituted. The idea of this Society, it is understood, was worked out by a Burman Honorary Organizer, Maung Bya, who has since been appointed to the paid staff of the Registrar. Although it is desirable that the energies of the Registrar and his assistants should be devoted more particularly to the formation of Rural Societies and the spread and development of the Co-operative idea among the rural population, the appearance of Urban Societies is also welcome. A substantial increase to the strength of the supervising staff is contemplated by the Registrar. Some increase of staff is probably justifiable, but it is doubtful whether it will be possible for Government to provide a staff of Registrars, with the necessary qualifications and of sufficient strength to maintain for an indefinite time the close supervision which is recognized as essential in the infancy and childhood of the movement. By degrees the Societies must learn to manage their own affairs and be responsible for their own stability. No doubt this result will not be attained for some years to come. In the meantime, the Financial Commissioner and Registrar have been asked to consider whether the close control of Societies and the audit of their accounts could not be entrusted to some extent in Upper Burma at any rate to Subdivisional Officers.

**Protection
from Floods.**

121. The construction and maintenance of artificial bunds along the banks of the Irrawaddy River in Lower Burma form an important part of the irrigation work of the Public Works Department in this Province. Embankments maintained by the department exist also in the Pegu and Ma-ubin Districts. The capital outlay on the Irrawaddy and Thongwa Island embankments for which alone capital accounts are maintained amounted at the end of the year to 35.14 lakhs. In the whole Province no less an area than 619,760 acres of cultivation, 5,000 acres more than in 1906-07, were protected by embankments. The receipts representing the total amount of land revenue assessed on the area protected rose from 17.22 to 18.64 lakhs. Working expenses came to 4.82 lakhs, the increase roughly of half a lakh being due to larger expenditure incurred in bringing up to safety level the Henzada and Ngawun section of the Irrawaddy embankments. The net revenue from all embankments aggregated 13.82 lakhs, nearly a lakh in excess of the figure of the previous year.

**Area
Irrigated.**

122. The area irrigated by Government canals rose from 290,576 to 348,239 acres, but the area watered by private canals shows a reduction from 189,658 acres to 177,004 acres. The area irrigated from wells fell from 11,424 to 9,320 acres. The area irrigated from tanks increased from 99,660 to 105,683 acres and from "other sources" from 142,444 to 208,374 acres. The result is that the total area irrigated from all sources has increased from 733,762 to 848,620 acres. The principal Government canals are in the Minbu, Mandalay, Shwebo and Kyaukse Districts. The slight increases under this head in Minbu and

Kyaukse call for no comment. In Mandalay there were increases of 7,330 and 1,877 acres in the area irrigated by the Mandalay and Shwetachaung canals respectively. The area watered by the minor systems increased by 91 acres. The Shwebo Government canals watered an area of 43,416 acres in excess of the figure of the previous year owing to the further development of the Shwebo canal. The districts in which private canals show the largest areas are Magwe, Katha, Pakòkku and Minbu. In Yamèthin the irrigated area decreased from 55,257 acres to 9,299 acres only (but as the area irrigated from "other sources" rose from 8,566 acres to 51,684 acres, the difference is obviously due to reclassification). In Magwe and Katha also there were increases under this head. The area irrigated from tanks decreased in Meiktila and increased in Yamèthin. Irrigation from wells is almost entirely confined to betel-vine cultivation and the average area irrigated per well is less than one acre.

Chart IV.—
PRODUCTION AND
DISTRIBUTION.

Weather and Crops.

123. The rainfall in Lower Burma was on the whole sufficient and timely, and the rice crop, owing to extended area, was above normal. The early rains were very favourable and a bumper crop was expected; but there were breaks in the latter rains, and these breaks, coupled with untimely falls at the time of harvest, caused the crop to give a somewhat poorer yield than was anticipated. The final estimate of the Lower Burma winter rice crop was 96 per cent. of the normal. In Upper Burma the rains were poor and untimely; the rise of the Irrawaddy and Chindwin rivers was abnormally small, and irrigation works gave short supplies of water in many cases. The agricultural season throughout the dry zone, except in Magwe, was a wretched one; probably the worst since 1896, and in some districts worse even than in that year. The area on which crops failed to mature was nearly double that of 1906-07; and where unirrigated crops did mature, the outturns were generally poor. In irrigated areas the deficient rainfall and hot sun somewhat shortened outturns; but the new irrigation systems of Mandalay and Shwebo proved immensely valuable. All the dry districts surrounding the irrigated areas drew on them to a much greater extent than usual for their food supplies. Conditions would have been serious in some of these districts had the areas protected by the irrigation works under Government control not been able to meet their demands for food supplies.

Character
of the
Seasons.

124. The occupied area stood at 16,405,284 acres, practically the same as in the previous year. Minor decreases in occupied area are reported in Hanthawaddy, Ma-ubin, Thayetmyo and Pakòkku. In Shwebo the large reduction of 183,196 acres is not real. It is mostly due to the fact that the previous figures were partly estimates which have proved excessive, now that correct returns for the whole district are available for the first time. The occupied area is divided nearly equally between Lower and Upper Burma, but while there are only some 600,000 acres of fallow in Lower Burma, the fallow area of Upper Burma amounts to over three million acres. The fallow area decreased from 3,842,904 acres in 1906-07 to 3,663,390 acres in the year of report. The decrease is mostly due to the correction of the Shwebo figures already mentioned. The area on which crops failed to mature was 1,631,067 acres, an increase of 659,450 acres over last year's non-matured area of 971,617 acres. The increase in crop failures was entirely in Upper Burma and marks the wretched agricultural season of the dry zone.

Area under
cultivation.

125. The total area cropped was 12,741,894 acres against 12,566,444 acres in 1906-07. In Lower Burma there was an increase in the cropped area of every district except Northern Arakan, Rangoon Town, Hanthawaddy, Ma-ubin and Pyapôn. The increase was due to the natural expansion of the area under rice cultivation. In Upper Burma the most notable variations were an increase of 83,000 acres in Magwe, an increase of 25,000 acres in Myingyan, a decrease of

Cropped
area.

Case IV.—
Production
and
Distribution.

95,000 acres in Minbu, and a decrease of 38,000 acres in Sagaing. The area under wheat decreased from 32,331 acres to 21,088 acres; every wheat growing district except Pakokku contributing to the decrease. Jowar, bajra and maize show increases of 47,991, 16,364 and 7,151 acres, respectively, owing partly to these crops having been sown on rice and wheat lands, and partly to the area last year having been less than normal. The area under gram decreased by 20,032 acres. Sessamum shows an increase of 28,369 acres, due to an increase of 27,263 acres in the Lower Chindwin District where the area is 38 per cent. above normal. The area under groundnuts increased from 78,743 to 142,051 acres.

Area under
various
crops.

126. In Lower Burma the all important crop is winter rice to which the greater portion of the cultivated area is devoted. In Upper Burma rice takes a secondary place in most districts. Speaking generally, the winter rice crop of Lower Burma gave in 1907-08 an acre outturn only slightly below normal, and a to a! outturn considerably above normal. A rice forecast was as usual prepared for the fifteen principal rice producing districts of Lower Burma. This forecast estimated the acre outturn at 96 per cent. of the normal, and placed the surplus available for export at 2,486,000 tons of cargo rice against 2,345,500 tons in the previous year. The total exports to the end of June were 1,935,926 tons as compared with 1,804,290 tons to the end of June 1907. In Upper Burma the short and expensive rainfall produced poor crops with acre outturns much below normal, while the reduced areas bearing matured crops helped to reduce the district outturns. In Minbu alone the reports show estimated outturns generally above the normal, and the explanation given is that this is "due to the good luck of the selected fields in getting rain." It is therefore obvious that these outturns are not typical, and there is no doubt that Minbu, like other dry zone districts, had poor crops. Wheat and gram are said to have given better acre outturns than usual in Shwebo. The total area under cotton cultivation in the Province was 204,103 acres, a figure 14 per cent. in excess of the acreage of 1906-07. Cotton gave better outturns than usual in Minbu and Magwe, but in the other cotton producing districts the acre outturns were considerably below normal. The outturn of cleaned cotton for the year, according to the final forecast of the cotton crop for the principal cotton producing districts, amounted to 28,016 bales of 400 pounds each, against 35,636 bales in 1906-07. Proposals for the preparation of forecasts of the groundnut crop are under consideration.

Experi-
mental
cultivation.

127. The College Agricultural Station at Mandalay was fully worked during the year under report under the management of the Principal. At Hmawbi a few experiments in cold-weather cultivation were undertaken by the Deputy Director. Both stations were visited during the year by the Financial Commissioner. In August the site for the dry zone farm at Meiktila was selected by the Director in consultation with the Executive Engineer (Irrigation), but it is not proposed to start operations there till 1910. A site for *taungya* experiments near Maymyo has not yet been selected nor is there as yet any assistant sufficiently trained to supervise such experiments. The Hmawbi farm, with the exception of a small area, was leased out to cultivators. On the area reserved a series of tentative experiments were conducted to ascertain whether the paddy soils of Lower Burma can be made to produce, economically, a crop during the winter season. In this first attempt it cannot be said that any measure of success was attained. Wheat failed totally, and it seems improbable that any attempts to grow it on ordinary Lower Burma lands will be successful. The various peas and beans, with gram, gave the most promise of success, but the question of cost of cultivation, on a commercial scale, will have to be worked out before their cultivation can be recommended to the ordinary cultivator. Jute and sunn hemp were not successful, and their cultivation in the cold weather without irrigation seems hopeless. Jowar and maize also failed. The results with Egyptian cotton—Abassi and Afifi—were remarkable. The growth was quite good though the plants were rather small, but the crop was ruined by the early rains in 1908. The results obtained have served to indicate

fresh lines of experiment, and certain conclusions have been more or less firmly established. These are:—

CHAP. IV.—
PRODUCTION AND
DISTRIBUTION.

- (1) that wheat will not grow on paddy land ;
- (2) that, for the other crops, monthly sowings of small plots should be made throughout the year to ascertain the correct time for sowing each crop. Cotton, jute and sunn hemp and the various peas and beans may succeed, if sown at the right time ;
- (3) that the effect of green manuring on the stiff texture of the soil is a most important line of experiment.

In addition to these experiments the laying out of the experimental part of the farm was commenced. On a representation by the Burma Chamber of Commerce that the quality of Arakan rice was becoming more and more unsuited to the demands of the European market on account of its exceptional susceptibility to the absorption of moisture, the Director of Agriculture was requested by the Local Government to take steps to procure seed of suitable "moisture resisting" varieties, and to distribute it to cultivators in the Akyab District who were willing to grow it. After enquiries, selected seed was brought over from Moulmein and distributed. Both cultivators and millers are satisfied with the result, and, so far as can be judged, the experiment promises to be a success. An attempt was made to grow wheat and gram on flooded land in the Ma-ubin District, but no success was achieved. In order to induce the Chins to adopt a less wasteful system of cultivation, arrangements were made for the entertainment of two Angame Nagas to demonstrate the growing of rice on terraced land irrigated from the hill streams. So far progress, though slow, has been encouraging ; but it is considered that this experiment should be secondary to the development of wheat cultivation in the Hills. Efforts to develop the cultivation of groundnuts in the dry zone of Upper Burma were continued and the outturn of this crop was nearly double that of the previous year. The presence of *tikka* disease has been discovered and experiments were undertaken with a view to counteracting its effects. The shortage of the Burma wheat crop and the failure of experiments in wheat cultivation in the Shan State of Kéngtūng attracted the attention of the Department, but no great extension of the area under wheat is reported except in the Chin Hills, where the requirements of the Military Police ensure a permanent local demand. Barley promises well in the Chin Hills ; tea and coffee have been fairly successful, especially in districts in the northern wet zone. As usual a large number of small distributions of particular seeds was made to various districts, but none of the results are of sufficient general interest or on such a scale as to require detailed comment. A number of Cultivators' Leaflets were issued during the year and the interest aroused by them exceeded all expectations.

Horticulture.

128. The Agri-Horticultural Society of Burma in Rangoon and the Tenasserim Agri-Horticultural Society in Moulmein continued in existence during the year, but no report of the work of the latter Society has been published, and it is stated that steps will shortly be taken either to wind it up or to reconstruct it. The report of the Rangoon Society shows a satisfactory state of affairs, and the Society had a balance in hand at the end of the year of over Rs. 16,000. The laying out of the grounds of the garden has been continued according to the plans adopted in previous years. The planting of various fruit and ornamental trees has been carried out systematically, and many new varieties of ornamental plants have been obtained from Europe. The water-supply system and pipes throughout the garden have been completed, and as soon as the Municipality are able to begin the supply of water, this will greatly facilitate work and be beneficial to plants and trees in the garden.

Agri-Horti-
cultural
Societies.

CHAP. IV.—
PRODUC-
TION AND
DISTRIBUTION.
Experimental
gardens.

129. The result of the inspection of the Government experimental gardens by officers of the Agricultural Department is that the Sima garden has been closed on the recommendation of the Deputy Commissioner: the Katha garden has been taken over by the Department of Agriculture and is being managed under the direct orders of the Principal of the College: proposals have been submitted for a change in the scheme of the Sinlumkaba garden, and the Myitkyina garden has been retained for a few years more. The Sinlumkaba garden was inspected by Mr. Thompstone in March. As a result of the state of affairs disclosed, proposals have been submitted to close the garden not later than the 31st of December 1908, after such fruit trees as are worth transplanting have been moved to Katha. It is suggested that a portion of the annual allotment thus released should be devoted to experiments in connection with *taungya* cultivation in the Kachin Hills. The Sima garden has been closed on the recommendation of the Deputy Commissioner. The Myitkyina garden was inspected by the Director of Agriculture in April. It is in excellent order, due to the fact that the district has had a succession of Deputy Commissioners, who have taken a keen personal interest in it. Peaches, limes and a few other fruit trees have been successfully introduced into the district, and the garden will be retained until loquats, lichees and apricots have been similarly established. The Falam garden forms the centre from which various agricultural experiments in the Hills are controlled. The reports from the Chin Hills always reflect a considerable amount of personal interest on the part of the Superintendent. Peaches do not seem to do well anywhere in the Hills, owing probably to lack of pruning. Plums and greengages, however, succeed excellently as do apples at Hala. Sufficient experience has been gained to show what trees are likely to succeed, and attention will now be devoted to the general introduction of those, while those which it is clear will not succeed, will be abandoned. The Katha garden was inspected in March by Mr. Thompstone and the present management of it completely condemned. The garden has been taken over by the Agricultural Department. The report from the Taunggyi garden is, again, very interesting. The receipts have increased considerably, while the expenditure has shown a correspondingly large decrease. Fruit seedling grafts have succeeded well and several varieties are now available for sale. The States appear to be too cold for Sea Island and Caravonica cotton: the latter is much attacked by the red bug. Havana and Virginia tobacco are only moderately successful, and their superiority to the local *Lang Ko* of the Mawkmai State is questioned. Buck wheat and sun flower (Sutton's Giant Yellow) did very well, but the small yield of oil from the latter makes the oil more expensive than local oils, and it is thought that a better policy will be to extend groundnut which has been established in the States for 50 years. Potatoes, cloves, coffee and tea have all succeeded. As regards fruit trees, better results appear to be obtained at Thamakan than at Taunggyi. The most suitable conditions for each variety are being carefully studied, and all possible improvements in location and pruning are being carried out. The total expenditure, under all heads, on the maintenance and up-keep of the gardens amounted to Rs. 9,502, and receipts from sales of produce to Rs. 1,539. The nett Government expenditure was thus Rs. 7,963.

Forests.

Forest
Reserves.

130. During the year 1,349 square miles of new reserves were finally notified, the largest areas being in the Southern Circle. Survey corrections caused a net reduction of 52 square miles, 13 square miles were disafforested, and 2 square miles wrongly included in a reserve were transferred to unclassified forests. The total area of reserved forests at the close of the year was 22,857 square miles. Satisfactory progress was made in the work of forest settlement. Of the total area of 5,740 square miles undergoing settlement, 3,350 square miles were taken in hand during the year. The reservations under settlement in the Minbu Division were proposed in connection with the water-supply of the neighbouring

country, and, if accepted, will involve the payment of a considerable sum as compensation for land taken up, but the settlement proceedings had not been submitted to the Local Government at the close of the year.

CSAP. IV.—
Protec-
tion and
Distri-
bution.

131. The length of boundaries newly demarcated during the year was 946 miles as against 429 miles in 1906-07. The length of boundaries remaining undemarcated at the close of the year was 726 miles, more than half of which was in the Southern Circle where, however, good progress was made in demarcating the numerous newly-formed reserves. Seven hundred and twenty-six square miles of reserved forests were surveyed by the Survey of India on the scale of 2 inch = 1 mile. Four and a half square miles in the Pinkan reserve, Ruby Mines Division, were also surveyed on the 4-inch scale. In accordance with recent orders of the Government of India, the cost of these surveys will be borne entirely by the Survey of India. The area of reserved forests remaining unsurveyed topographically at the close of the year stood at 9,400 square miles as against 8,716 square miles at the beginning of the year. Surveys were also carried out by local Forest Officers, chiefly in the case of proposed reserves and for demarcation purposes.

Demarca-
tion and
surveys.

132. Five working-plans for a total area of 1,421 square miles in the Shwegyin, Mandalay and Minbu Divisions were sanctioned during the year. Plans dealing with 2,230 square miles were in various stages of preparation at the close of the year, when the area of reserved forests not under working-plans stood at 15,032 square miles. Owing to the deficiency of the Imperial staff, progress in the preparation of working-plans is necessarily somewhat slow, but regular plans are being supplemented, especially in the Northern and Tenasserim Circles, by girdling schemes for periods of ten to twenty years under which over-mature and mature teak trees not required for regeneration purposes and likely to deteriorate can be utilized under certain rules over defined areas not under working-plans. The provisions of existing working-plans were for the most part carried out as far as girdlings were concerned.

Working-
plans.

133. Rupees 93,864 were spent on the construction of 795 miles of new roads and paths, and Rs. 20,425 on repairing 1,767 miles. The reports show that good progress was made in several divisions in the construction of better and more permanent roads than were formerly in existence. Considerable difficulty is, however, experienced in many places in working up to the sanctioned five-years' programmes, owing to the insufficient labour supply. The amount spent on new buildings was Rs. 81,650 as compared with Rs. 69,198 in the previous year, and repairs cost Rs. 42,557. The annual plans of operations under this head are seldom fully worked up to, but in view of the great difficulties which are usually encountered in obtaining contractors and the necessary workmen for construction of buildings in the more remote parts of the forests, the progress made is considerable.

Communica-
tions and
buildings.

134. The number of forest offences reported during the year was 177 fewer than in 1906-07 and 180 less than the average of the previous three years. The number of cases disposed of by the Courts was 894 against 1,241 in the previous year, and convictions were obtained in 759 cases or 85 per cent., which is lower than it should be. The total number of cases compounded was 2,203 as against 2,174 in the previous year. The large majority of offences against the Forest law were of a petty nature.

Forest
offences.

135. The total area over which protective measures were taken against fire was 7,526 square miles as against 8,153 square miles in the previous year. The season was an exceptionally dry one, particularly in Upper Burma, and the fact

Protection
of forests.

CHAP. IV.—
PRODUCTION AND
DISTRIBUTION.

that the average percentage of success was the same as in the previous year is therefore satisfactory. The total cost of protection against fire during the year was Rs. 2,73,468, or about Rs. 36 per square mile attempted and Rs. 38 per square mile actually protected. Out of 22,857 square miles of reserved forest, only 737 square miles were open to all animals, and a small further area to browsers only. Grant-holders under settlement and contractors working in the forests are allowed free grazing, and over Rs. 3,000 were collected in fees from the public. Considerable work was done in cutting climbers and felling ficus-infested trees.

Plantations
and experi-
mental culti-
vation.

136. The area of regular plantations maintained by the Forest Department fell from 5,646 to 5,234 acres owing to further curtailment of the Mergui Rubber Plantation. Only 57 acres were in Upper Burma. Fifty-two acres in Thayetmyo District were under catch, 1,502 acres in Mergui under rubber; there is a small pine plantation in the Ruby Mines District, and the remaining area was under teak. Plantations on hill clearings, mostly of teak, were also practically confined to Lower Burma. The area, 74,715 acres, was nearly 1,500 acres greater than that of 1906-07. The effect of fire-protection on the reproduction of teak continued to engage the attention of Forest Officers. Observations made during the year confirm the theory that the flowering of the bamboo, which has been advancing in a wave southwards over Upper Burma during the last four or five years, has beneficial results on teak reproduction. Cultural operations of various kinds were in progress throughout the Province as in former years, and many interesting experiments were carried out. Arrangements have not yet been made for leasing the Mergui Rubber Plantation. Rupees 41,237 were spent on the plantation and garden during the year against receipts amounting to Rs. 6,044; expenditure on plantations and experiments amounted altogether to 1.11 lakhs, while some twelve thousand rupees were recovered as revenue.

Extraction
and sale of
timber.

137. Over one hundred thousand trees were girdled during the year, the figure being considerably in excess of that of 1905-07. The total quantity of timber of all kinds extracted rose from over 22 million to 26½ million cubic feet: 3.3 million were worked by Government, 21.8 million by purchasers, and the balance was divided between free grantees and right-holders. In accordance with the policy of Government, the direct operations of the Forest Department were further restricted. The expansion of production did not extend to teak, the outturn of which declined, but was chiefly confined to unreserved woods. The outturn of fuel was somewhat more than in the previous year. Efforts to find remunerative markets for *pyingado*, *padauk*, and other special woods were continued, but no notable development was reported. The timber market at home was in a depressed state, and exports of teak from Burma to the United Kingdom fell from some 31,000 tons in 1906-07 to some 24,000 tons. On the other hand exports of teak to India increased slightly and exports of other woods to India rose from 17,000 to 24,000 tons.

Miscella-
neous.

138. Further experiments were carried out without decisive result in connection with the manufacture of paper from bamboo pulp. The tanning factory remained closed; samples of the extract were sent to the Cawnpore Tanning Factory, but were reported to be unsuitable for tanning leather owing to the bad colour imparted to the material.

Mines and Quarries.

Grant of new
concessions.

139. Applications were received during the year ending the 31st March 1908 for seven exploring licenses, 52 prospecting licenses and 13 mining leases, while one application was made for renewal of an exploring license and 11 for renewal of prospecting licenses. During the same period nine exploring licenses, 32 prospecting licenses and three leases were issued and 10 prospecting licenses were renewed.

These figures indicate greater activity than in the previous year. A lease was granted to Mr. J. Boog over an area of 160 acres in the Patheingyi Township of the Mandalay District, covering the extraction of silver and lead. The mine is reported to have been abandoned. A mining lease for silver, copper, lead and zinc over an area of 16 square miles in the Tawngpeng State, Northern Shan States, was issued to the Burma Mines Railway and Smelting Company, Limited. In the Maungdaw Township of the Akyab District, three Burmans were granted a coal mining lease over 500 acres. A large proportion of the prospecting licenses were for petroleum, but gold and a variety of other minerals were also represented. A concern which has attracted some interest is the Mount Pima Mining Company, Limited, which has taken out a prospecting license for 7½ square miles in the Yamèthin District. The capital of the Company is five lakhs and the minerals believed to exist in the concession are galena and copper.

Class. IV.—
Prospect-
tion and
Development
Notes.

140. The total yield of petroleum rose from 137 million gallons valued at 84 lakhs to 149 millions valued at 90 lakhs. The increased output in the Magwe District was due to the activity of new Companies in the Yenangyaung oil fields. The expansion of the industry in the Myingyan District is attributed to improvement of the pipe line to Yenangyaung. In the Yenangyat oil field, Pakòkku District, the output of oil diminished owing, it is said, to the exhaustion of the field. The development of the field in and round the successful well sunk by the Rangoon Oil Company towards the close of the previous year, has been slow and in several wells the oil is reported to be of inferior quality. Great activity was displayed in the Native Reserves in the Yenangyaung field, Magwe District. Not only did the three Companies that were at work at the beginning of the year compete with more vigour with one another, but a new Company, the Nath Singh Oil Company, Limited, made its appearance and its arrival has increased the pressure of competition. Owing to the severe nature of the competition the price of oil wells and sites rose in a almost incredible degree. A site, which could be bought for Rs. 7,000 at the beginning of the year, at the close of it commanded any price from Rs. 30,000 to Rs. 50,000, and the price of dug and bored wells rose in a like proportion. During the year the project of the Burma Oil Company of laying a pipe line from Yenangyaung to Rangoon was completed, but it was found that the pipes being of steel and lying on the surface were too much influenced by changes of temperature and it was decided to bury them. This will take some time and it is thought that the line will not be ready for use till late in the year 1908 or the beginning of 1909. In the Minbu District the Burma Oil Company have started boring wells near Taukshabin, the port for Minbu town. At the close of the year, an application for a prospecting license, by Sulaiman Adamji, a merchant, was pending. Messrs. Jamal Brothers have obtained a moderate outturn from their wells in the Thayetmyo District. They have applied for an extension of their prospecting license and for two additional licenses. In the Akyab and Kyaukpyu Districts the outturn of oil remains insignificant and the figures show a falling off compared with the previous year.

141. The Burma Gold Dredging Company, Limited, continued to work for gold in the Irrawaddy above Myitkyina. It had three dredgers at work during the year and a fourth one has lately been launched from its dockyard at Mankin. The Company has recently been granted a license to extend its operations to points in the Malikha and 'Nmaikha rivers five and ten miles respectively above the confluence, and the Company now hopes to obtain a larger outturn of gold. The quantity of gold won during the year 1907 was 3,837 ounces as compared with 2,300 ounces in the previous year. Several prospecting licenses for gold were issued during the year, but there are at present no certain indications of the existence of gold in paying quantities elsewhere than in the Irrawaddy River near Myitkyina. As in previous years alluvial gold washing on a small scale without the aid of machinery was carried on in many different places throughout the country.

CHAP. IV.—
PRODUCTION AND
DISTRIBUTION.
Rubies.

142. No new ruby-bearing locality was discovered and, with the unimportant exception of a few workers in the Myitkyina District who paid Rs. 30 in license fees, the mining industry was monopolised by the Burma Ruby Mines Company and its licensees in the Mogök valley of the Ruby Mines District. The industry in the Myitkyina District is in a moribund state. The value of rubies (including sapphires and spinels) extracted by the Company amounted to 17½ lakhs, more than three lakhs in excess of the outturn of 1906, while the income of the Company from royalties came to 2·97 lakhs as compared with 2·65 lakhs. Work on the main drainage tunnel was continued; it had reached a length of 4,444 feet by the end of February 1908 and only 1,060 feet remained to complete the work. The state of the ruby market was on the whole good till the end of the year. In the late summer dealers in Paris and London began to get into difficulties over pearls. The distress spread to diamonds and rubies and was accentuated by the monetary crisis in America. After October the demand in London for Burma rubies ceased entirely. In Burma certain qualities were saleable at reduced prices, but the market for precious stones in Burma and India was in a worse state than it has been for twenty years. To reduce expenses the Company have lowered rates of cooly hire from one rupee to twelve annas a day and have curtailed production by stopping night work. The profits of the Company fell from £21,978 to £13,822, and no dividend was declared. The half-year's rent due on the 29th February 1908 has been allowed by the Secretary of State to stand over.

Other
minerals.

143. The quantity of jade and jadeite extracted in the Myitkyina District rose from 2,214½ cwts. valued at Rs. 1,17,929 to 3,590 cwts. valued at Rs. 2,84,973. The increased production is attributed to more favourable weather conditions. The season would have been more successful, but for a serious accident to a steam-pump at the Tawmaw mines. Two men were killed and work in the principal quarry was brought to a standstill. Less amber was produced in the same district, but, possibly for this reason, better prices prevailed. Tourmaline mining in the Ruby Mines District was less successful and the value of the outturn fell from Rs. 15,020 to Rs. 4,400. The value of tin extracted in the Mergui District fell from over two lakhs to Rs. 1,73,000. The decrease was due partly to insufficient rainfall during the working season, i.e., from April to September, and partly to malarial fever prevailing in tin mining centres, and to smaller exports owing to the fall in the local price caused by the slump in the European market. No collieries were worked in Burma during the year 1907.

Quarry
stones.

144. Clay, laterite, limestone, and gravel were extracted as usual in large quantities. The supply of these stones is practically inexhaustible and the output depends mainly on the demands of the Public Works Department, the Railway and Municipalities for building and road-making purposes. Granite was extracted in five districts. Marble continued to be quarried in the Mandalay District, where it is used chiefly for making the carved figures of Buddha met with everywhere in Burma. A large quantity, about 16,450 tons, of the gneissic granite recently discovered near Kyaikto in the Thaton District was extracted during the year by contractors for the Burma Railways and for works in Rangoon. The discovery of this stone is likely to prove an important factor in opening out this part of the Thaton District. Extensive quarries are also being opened out on the island of Kalagauk in the Amherst District by the Rangoon Port Commissioners for stone required for the Rangoon River Training scheme.

Manufactures.

Principal
industries.

145. There is no indication of any change during the year of report in the nature of the staple industries of the Province, and there is nothing new to be said on the subject. According to the census of 1901, rice mills supported over 41,000 people, of whom four-fifths were workers, and saw mills 8,000, of whom three-fourths were workers. Of the home industries cotton-weaving and spinning were by far the most important, supporting nearly a quarter of a million persons. Over 90 per

cent. of the actual workers were women. Carpenters and sawyers with their families numbered each about 70,000. Tailoring supported 58,000, the sexes being nearly equally divided. Goldsmiths, silk-weavers, mat-makers, cheroot-rollers, blacksmiths and potters come next in order of importance, and after them turners and lacquerers and makers of felt or wooden shoes. Except in the case of skilled artizans, the census figures were probably below the actual numbers at the time, and since 1901 there has no doubt been a general increase in the number of persons employed in manufactures. The industries which come within the scope of the Indian Factories Act, 1881, are mentioned in the next paragraph.

146. The provisions of the Indian Factories Act, 1881, which was in force as in the previous year in 14 districts of Lower Burma only, were extended during the year to 16 rice mills, five saw mills, one foundry and two electric tramway works, while one cotton mill and one steam tramway workshop disappeared from the returns. The most important concerns are rice mills (153) and saw mills (79), besides six foundries and three ice factories. The principal increases in the number of factories were in the Hanthawaddy District (five) and in Amherst (six). The number of operatives employed rose from 30,553 in 1906 to 35,681 in the year under report. In Akyab the average daily number was 1,531 as compared with 503 in 1906. The figure for 1906 was abnormally low, as seven out of the eleven factories in this district were closed throughout that year. Only one factory was closed in 1907. In the Hanthawaddy District there was an increase of over 2,000 in the number of operatives employed in the Syriam Oil Works. In Bassein, where two new rice mills were opened by European firms, the number of operatives rose from 1,400 to 1,900. The general sanitary conditions of the factories in the Province are reported to be good. The great majority of the factories are either rice or saw mills, which do not easily admit of overcrowding, and managers are usually willing to make adequate provision for the sanitation of their premises and the health of their employées. In Rangoon and Moulmein the swampy character of the ground on which some of the mills are built makes thorough sanitation very difficult. At Akyab and Bassein the provision of good water is probably the most important sanitary question. Cholera broke out in both places during the year. The Municipal water-works now approaching completion will, it is hoped, solve the difficulty at Akyab. The rates of wages given show little variation from the figures of 1906. The condition of the operatives is good, and unskilled labourers are generally better off in factories than when employed in the paddy-fields. The number of women and children employed in factories in Burma in 1907 was 812 and 284 respectively, as compared with 652 and 313 in 1906. The employment of children is practically confined to Rangoon and the neighbouring district of Hanthawaddy. Both women and children are employed on suitable forms of light labour and are reported to be not overworked. Steps were taken during the year to facilitate the identification of certificated children, and the revised rules for this purpose came into force just after the close of the year. Fencing of machinery is reported to be adequate, and such minor defects as have been pointed out have generally been remedied. There were 184 accidents in the year as compared with 153 in 1906. Ten of the accidents were fatal, all of them in Rangoon or the Hanthawaddy District. Inquests were held in all cases except in one in which a Chittagonian tindal was run over and killed by a train. The result showed that the accidents were either not preventible or were due to the carelessness of the persons injured. Two prosecutions were instituted under the Factories Act during the year. The managers of both of the two mills in the Thaton District were prosecuted and fined small sums under section 15 (i) of the Act for continual neglect to send in returns. Since the imposition of the fines they have made no default in this respect.

Trade.

147. Excluding Government transactions, the aggregate sea-borne trade of Burma for the year ending on the 31st March 1908 once more surpassed all previous records. The total of 56.39 crores exceeded the figure of the previous

Maritime
Trade—
Total value

CHAP. IV.
PRODUCTION AND
DISTRIBUTION
1908.

year, which itself constituted a record by no less than 796 lakhs or 16 per cent. as compared with an advance of 13 per cent. in 1906-07. Foreign trade expanded by 17 per cent. and Coasting trade by 15 per cent. The substantial improvement in the total trade (both Foreign and Coasting) during the past two years is a sign of the increasing prosperity of the Province. In the Foreign trade there was an increase in imports as well as exports, owing chiefly to larger importations of metals, silk and woollen goods and greater exports of rice. In the Coasting trade also imports and exports expanded, especially the latter. This is accounted for as in the previous year by larger shipments of rice. Of the total value the Coasting trade represented 48 per cent. as compared with 49 per cent. in 1906-07. Eighty per cent. of the entire trade passed through the port of Rangoon, Moulmein being second and Akyab a good third with over 7 per cent. each.

Foreign
Imports—
Rangoon.

148. Foreign imports at Rangoon amounted to 1,106 lakhs out of a total for all ports of 1,134 lakhs. This figure was 177 lakhs in advance of that of the previous year. There was improvement in each of the groups into which imports are divided. Under articles of food and drink there was a considerable increase of 28 lakhs due to larger importations of provisions, sugar and liquors. The value of imported salt also rose from 963 to 1087 lakhs. The United Kingdom held its own against Germany, but consignments from comparatively new sources increased largely. Shipments of sugar rose in value from 32½ to 40½ lakhs. Nearly all the sugar imported is cane sugar from Java. The noticeable advance from 185 to 262½ lakhs under metals and manufactures of metals was mainly due to heavy importations of steel pipes and other articles from the United States, the Burma Oil Company in connection with the construction of a pipe-line from the oil fields in the Magwe District to Rangoon. Imports of machinery and millwork fell off owing to reduction of the demand on account of mills under construction. Improvement under Railway plant and rolling stock is accounted for by the purchase of locomotives, etc., for the Pegu-Martaban Railway Extension. The value of cigarettes imported increased largely from 972 to 15 lakhs. Imports of kerosene oil from America again rose from 9 to 12½ lakhs. The reduction from over 5 lakhs to Rs. 70,000 in imports of jewellery and plate is due to the fact that these articles being imported mainly through the post are now classified under articles by post not specified, under which head there has been a corresponding increase in value. Matches were mostly of Japanese origin and were imported from the Straits Settlements. Imports of umbrellas, the bulk of which were supplied by the United Kingdom, advanced from 1,017,176 to 1,064,068 in number, but declined in value from 955 to 943 lakhs.

Foreign
Imports—
Minor
Ports.

149. The value of the aggregate foreign import trade in merchandise of the subordinate ports rose from 26½ to 27½ lakhs. There was an improvement in all ports except Bassein, due chiefly to larger imports of metals into Akyab, cotton manufactures into Akyab and Mergui, provisions and sugar into Moulmein, and matches into Akyab, Mergui and Tavoy. There were no importations of railway material into Bassein during the year of report, and this falling off combined with a contraction in consignments of machinery and millwork accounts for the heavy decline from nine to three lakhs in imports of merchandise to this port. The imports of salt into Bassein were very small, owing to the large stocks remaining in bond at the beginning of the year, but, owing to the fishing season being an exceptionally good one, there were large clearances of salt from bond to be used in curing fish. Substantial improvement is observable in the foreign import trade of Mergui and Tavoy during the year under review. During the past year the Burma Development Syndicate, Limited, imported large quantities of mining machinery, smelting plant, electric appliances, and railway plant into Victoria Point for working tin in the Mergui District on European methods.

Foreign
Exports—
Rangoon.

150. The export trade from Rangoon to foreign countries rose in value from 12'16 to 14'13 crores. The articles which chiefly contributed to this expansion were rice, rice-bran, wood, oils, fodder and lac. Exports of rice rose from 21½ to 21½ million cwts., while the value increased from 9'11 to 10'70 crores. The chief

features of the Burma rice trade in 1907-08 were (1) the bumper crop, (2) the strong demand from India which exceeded that of the previous year and again affected shipments to foreign ports, and (3) the rise in prices owing to the demand for Bengal above the abnormal average rate of the previous year. The average value of white rice has been steadily rising during the past few years, and in the year under report was Rs. 5-5-10 per cwt. as against Rs. 4-12-9 in 1906-07. About 300,000 cwts. of rice less than in the previous year were sent from Rangoon to the Continent of Europe, but had the demand for India been less keen, exports would in all probability have been larger. Shipments to the United Kingdom, the Straits Settlements, Germany, Belgium, Eastern Africa, and especially to Java advanced considerably, but those for Ceylon, Australasia, Holland, Austria-Hungary, Roumania, Egypt, Japan and South America declined. Towards the close of the year representatives from Ceylon visited Burma to enquire into the possibility of Ceylon obtaining more of its staple food from Burma, as Burma rice is cheaper and exports are not affected by local scarcity as frequently happens in India. Proposals are under consideration either for erecting special mills in Burma to meet Ceylon's requirements or for importing paddy from Burma and steaming it in mills to be erected at Colombo. The important position held by Burma in the rice trade of British India may be gauged by the fact that about three-fourths of the entire exports of rice from British India to coasting and foreign ports come from Burma. The value of paraffin wax exported rose from 9.59 to 16.87 lakhs owing to a steady demand. The total of other kinds of mineral oils exported rose from 819,639 gallons to more than 5½ million gallons owing to large shipments of benzine and fuel oil. It is believed that the demand by the Admiralty for fuel oil will continue. Shipments of rice bran rose from 132,298 tons valued at 44 lakhs to 206,910 tons valued at 80 lakhs. The increased demand and high prices were due to poor fodder crops in Europe, while larger supplies were available owing to an increase in the quantity of white rice milled. There was a heavy drop from 54 to 37 lakhs in the value of hides exported chiefly in the trade with the United States. The decline is attributed to the financial crisis in America, to excessive stocks in Europe and America, and to losses on stocks due to a fall in prices. Shipments of teak advanced from 30,321 tons valued at 44 lakhs to 32,548 tons valued at 49.78 lakhs. The bulk of it goes to the United Kingdom. The share of the British Empire in the total trade of Rangoon fell from 56.26 per cent. to 52.85 per cent. of the aggregate trade of the port.

151. The value of the aggregate foreign export trade in merchandise of the subordinate ports showed a substantial expansion from 307 to 365 lakhs. The improvement was most noticeable in the case of Akyab and Bassein, and was mainly due to larger shipments of rice from Akyab, Bassein, Tavoy and Mergui, and rice-bran from Moulmein. Moulmein, however, exported smaller quantities of teak and rice, owing in the first case to the continued decline in the supplies of first class or "Europe" timber, and in the second case to the large shipments to India. The navigation of the Moulmein river is still in a bad state, and several vessels left the port with part cargoes of rice and completed their loading at either Rangoon or Bassein. The improvement in the rice trade of Akyab was satisfactory in view of the poor shipments of the two previous years. A consignment of paddy was for the first time shipped from Kyaukpyu to a foreign port. The decline in the foreign export trade of Mergui was due to smaller shipments of fishmaws, fish manure and shells.

152. The expansion in the Coasting trade of the Province was not far behind that of the Foreign trade. Imports increased by 125 lakhs to 11.22 crores and exports by 237 lakhs to 16.04 crores. The value of the Coasting trade of the subordinate ports rose from 426 to 593 lakhs, of which latter amount Akyab and Moulmein account for 258 and 257 lakhs respectively. Imports advanced in value from 205 to 249 lakhs, while exports, chiefly rice, showed a substantial improvement from 220 to 344 lakhs. The following remarks are confined to the Rangoon trade. The total value of the Coasting trade of Rangoon reached 20.18 crores against 18.36 crores in the previous year. The expansion is due to con-

Chart IV
Production
of Rice
in India
1907-08

Foreign
Exports—
Minor
Ports.

Coasting
Trade.

Chart IV.—
Production and
Distribution.

tinued heavy shipments of rice to India, and in a less degree to exports of teak and to imports of gunny-bags, oils, cotton goods, grain and pulse and tobacco. Exports of rice to Indian ports rose in value from 385 to 710 lakhs. Larger shipments were made to Calcutta on account of scarcity in Bengal. A revival also took place in shipments to Bombay. Exports to Madras ports declined, but were still larger than the average exports of the previous five years. Exports of teak rose from 56,699 tons to 71,365 tons. An increase of 30 lakhs under yarns and textile fabrics was due to increased importations of silk and woollen manufactures. The expansion of trade in raw silk appears to indicate that the local weaving industry is in a flourishing condition.

Transfrontier
Trade.

153. The inland trade of Burma with foreign countries and with the tributary States and tribes on the external frontier was valued at 534 lakhs, of which 257 lakhs represent imports from foreign countries into Burma and 277 lakhs exports from Burma to foreign countries. The expansion of over 9 per cent. was shared by Western China, Northern Shan States, Northern Siam and Southern Siam. Decreases in exports of silver, required to meet expenditure in working the forests of the Southern Shan States, and in imports of teak timber from Karenni, have resulted in the decline of trade with these two States, otherwise the trade on the whole was very healthy, especially that with Western China and the Northern Shan States.

Trade routes
—Western
China.

154. The total value of trade with Western China during 1907-08 amounted to 87 lakhs, and shows an increase of 5.85 per cent. in imports, and 9.09 in exports. There was an advance under opium from the Yunnan Province and silk, raw (yellow silk) from the Szechwan Province, while silver increased by two and a half lakhs, due to large imports of bullion; but the decrease in hides was due to less mortality among cattle. In exports there has been an increase under twist and yarn, Indian, provisions, tobacco and wool. A good road has been constructed on the Bhamo-Momauk-Kulikha route leading to the frontier, but the continuation of the route across the frontier is difficult and unsatisfactory. The trade of Burma with Western China is greatly hampered for want of easy means of communication; the roads on the Chinese side are anything but good, and considerable inconvenience and delay are experienced by traders, especially during the rains. The question of constructing a railway has been engaging the attention of Government for several years past, but engineering and other difficulties have delayed the solution of the problem. From the reports of frontier officers it appears that no taxes or tolls are levied on goods entering or quitting this Province at points on the trade routes just beyond the border. But further away certain taxes are levied on goods in China and in the Shan-Chinese countries at recognised *likin* stations. In the unadministered territory of the Hukong Valley, the Chief of Walawpun collects a toll of one-twentieth *ad valorem* on all rubber exported from his territory, and he also levies a small sum on all articles imported.

Northern
Shan States.

155. Imports from the Northern Shan States rose in value from 67 to 82 lakhs and exports from 61½ to 86½ lakhs. The increase of trade by this route is an indication of the benefit derived from the opening of the Mandalay-Lashio Railway line. If a good road is constructed from Kyauktalón in the Northern Shan States to Mogók, it is believed that considerable traffic would be attracted by it as Mogók is largely dependent on the Mainglón States for grain supplies and tea.

Southern
Shan States.

156. The trade with the Southern Shan States totalled 158½ lakhs as compared with 162 lakhs for 1906-07. There was not much fluctuation under imports, the total remaining at 68 lakhs. The decline under exports was due to a fall from 38 to 16 lakhs in exports of treasure counterbalanced by an expansion from 36 to 74 lakhs under the head of merchandise. The trade of the year was rather disappointing, and the result is attributed in part to deficiency of rolling-stock at Myittha, Kyaukse District. Merchants are said to have suffered loss, as goods imported from the Shan States were stacked in the open and deteriorated in value on account of rain and exposure.

157. The trade exchanged with Northern Siam increased from 61 to 65 lakhs. The expansion was due to larger imports of treasure. Exports from Burma remained at 27 lakhs, an increase under merchandise being counterbalanced by a decline in exports of treasure.

158. The total trade with Southern Siam was valued at 14.73 lakhs, a figure only slightly larger than that of the previous year. The trade was nearly evenly divided between imports and exports. The development of trade with Siam depends to a large extent upon easy means of communication being provided, and on the adoption of effective measures by the Siamese authorities for checking elephant theft, which has been frequent of recent years, and which can only be stopped by increasing the police force and placing detectives at the various important frontier stations, especially in the Siamese-Salween District.

159. Trade with Karenni declined in value from 40 to 39 lakhs. Imports fell off by 7 per cent. while exports increased by 5 per cent. Less timber was extracted from the forests during the year.

Public Works.

160. From the 1st April 1907, the following classes of buildings, which were previously treated as Provincial buildings, were classified as Imperial:—

- | | | |
|-------------------|--|--|
| (1) Post offices; | \| | (4) Currency; |
| (2) Telegraph; | \| | (5) Ecclesiastical (excluding cemeteries); |
| (3) Customs; | \| | (6) Meteorological. |

There were no important changes during the year under review in the different cadres of the Public Works Establishment. The general reorganization of the Engineer Establishment (Executive and Assistant Engineer classes) and incremental rates of pay, introduced by the Government of India after the conclusion of the year under report, took effect from the 8th March 1908. A Committee was appointed to consider accommodation in Court Houses and to draw up Standard Plans for them. Their report has since been received and is under consideration. The total outlay on public works from all sources during the year 1907-08 amounted to nearly 140 lakhs or almost a lakh in excess of the total of the previous year. The small increase was mainly accounted for by enhanced expenditure on Imperial Civil Works counterbalanced by reductions under the Heads of Imperial Military and Contribution works. Practically the same sum was expended on Provincial Civil Works as in 1906-07.

(i) Roads and Buildings.

161. Ten thousand nine hundred and seventy miles of made roads as distinguished from *kachcha* tracks were open to traffic at the end of the year. Of this total 1,834 miles were metalled and 9,136 miles unmetalled. One hundred and thirty-eight miles of metalled and 3,197 miles of unmetalled roads were maintained by local authorities and the balance by the Public Works Department. The figures show an addition of 41 miles of metalled and 560 miles of unmetalled roads during the year. The aggregate expenditure on communications amounted to 16.23 lakhs on original works and 24.56 lakhs on maintenance. A lakh and three-quarters more were spent on repairs, but the outlay on new roads showed a shrinkage to the extent of 2½ lakhs of rupees. Practically the same amount was spent on unmetalled roads, but the cost of new metalled roads again fell off by 2½ lakhs.

162. Work on the widening of the Ruby Mines road from Thabeitkyin to Mogok was continued, metal was collected and some stone bridges of small span were built to replace old wooden bridges; protective fences were erected on dangerous parts of the road. Additional improvements to make the road suitable

CLASS IV—
Production and
Distribution.

for tonga traffic were completed and the road near Mogòk was realigned. A road round the Park at Maymyo was completed. The road from Mandalay to Lamaing was in progress and eight miles out of sixteen were metalled. The construction of a bridge over the Nadaung-Kya-Chaung at mile 13.7 on the Mandalay-Lashio road was in progress. The steel truss bridge at Toungoo over the Sittang River, connecting the hill station of Thandaung and the country east of the river with the railway, was opened to traffic. Improvements were carried out on the Pathichaung-Thandaung road which can now be considered as completed. The road from Pénwègón to Ananbaw was resectioned and raised in places. A start was made to raise and improve the Daiku feeder road. The Pegu-Tandawgyi road was nearly completed. The old wooden bridges over the Wónbadet, Wanetkôn, Tein and Bala streams on the Pegu-Taukkyan road being unsafe were dismantled and fair progress was made on new brick bridges with three forty-foot arched openings over the Tein and Bala streams. The new bridges will have reinforced concrete floor slabs with rolled steel joists as girders, the whole carried on re-inforced concrete piles. Materials were also collected for a new bridge of the same type to replace the old wooden structure over the Payagale stream on the Pegu-Toungoo road. The masonry abutments of two new bridges to replace existing old wooden structures over the Thèlôn and Myittha streams on the Thazi-Taunggyi road were completed and the erection of the timber lattice girders was started. The renewal of bridges in miles 8 to 42 was completed and the construction of a parapet wall in the 49th mile was put in hand; work was also started on the metalling of the branch road from mile 92½ to Nawnghwe, seven miles. The road to the steamer Ghat at Pakòkku was completed. Metalling the Minbu-Salin road made good progress, and the renewal of bridges with permanent abutments on the Taungdwingyi-Migyaungyè road was commenced. (The feeder road from mile 64 of the Martaban-Kyaikto road to Hninpale Railway Station on the Pegu-Moulmein Railway was practically completed.) Renewal of bridges on the Tavoy-Pagaye road was in hand. With a view to diverting traffic on to the berms of roads, the berms of the Minhla-Sinkanlan, Prome-Paukkang and the Rangoon-Insein roads in the Tharrawaddy, Prome and Hanthawaddy Districts respectively, were improved and the experiment is being watched. The Kokiné road was widened by six feet in the fourth and fifth miles; the widening of the first three miles was in progress. A beginning was made with the metalling of the Henzada-Ngathainggyaung road.

Unmetalled
roads.

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

Communi-
cations—
Miscella-
neous.

164. Three wire rope ferries were completed on the Chinese Frontier road between the Military Police posts of Lweje and Pangkham, and progress was made with another at Saw in the Pakòkku District. A number of inspection bungalows, rest-houses and caravanserais were constructed during the year. Expenditure on "Accommodation for travellers" amounted to 1.37 lakhs, nearly double the total of the previous year.

Buildings—
Imperial.

165. Owing to the transfer mentioned in paragraph 160 of certain classes of buildings from the category of Provincial to that of Imperial Works, the expenditure on Imperial buildings rose from Rs. 8,141 to Rs. 3,48,130. The northern half of the Bonded Warehouse, Customs Buildings, Rangoon, a corrugated iron structure, was dismantled to improve the ventilation and lighting of the Currency building, and the southern half was extended. Seven new post offices, two combined post and telegraph offices, and one telegraph office were completed during the year. Additional works were also carried out at the Wireless Telegraph stations at Diamond Island and Slipper Island. Extensive additions to the Currency Buildings, Rangoon, to provide extra accommodation for the Accountant-General, Burma, and Commissioner of Paper Currency, commenced in 1905, were practically completed during the year at a total cost of Rs. 4,61,952. The

work of rendering fireproof the Treasure vaults in the Currency Buildings, Rangoon, was partially completed. In January 1908, a serious collapse of a portion of the façade of the old Currency Office took place. A Church, towards which the Provincial Government contributed Rs. 3,502, was completed at Pakòkku, and new caretaker's quarters were erected for St. Mark's Church, Prome. Military Works are dealt with in paragraph 106.

Cost IV.
Provision
100 and
Duration
tion.

166. The expenditure from Provincial Funds on civil buildings amounted roughly to 47 lakhs of which repairs and up-keep account for a little over 7 lakhs. The outlay on original works was some Rs. 30,000 less than in the previous year, but it must be borne in mind that the change of classification referred to in paragraphs 160 and 165 causes an apparent reduction of expenditure under the head of Provincial buildings. Under original works the largest assignment, nearly 14 lakhs, was made to the Medical Department, while 8½ lakhs were allotted to Police, nearly 7 lakhs to Law and Justice, 4½ lakhs to Administration, 2½ lakhs to Education and under a lakh to Jails. Offices, quarters for officers and other necessary buildings were in course of construction during the year for the various departments of the Administration. Several new works were carried out at Government House, Rangoon, a hydrolytic tank and contact beds for the efficient disposal of sewage were laid down, a new tube well was sunk, and additional stabling provided; improvements were also made to the grounds and kitchens of Government House, Mandalay, in connection with His Excellency the Viceroy's visit. A new wing was added to the Secretariat Camp Office at Maymyo, and Rs. 20,930 were spent on the work during the year. Government School buildings were in progress at various centres. The boarding-house attached to the Government High School at Maymyo was enlarged to provide for 65 boys, against 30 provided for originally, at a cost of Rs. 56,544, and the High School at Minbu was improved. At Insein the Survey School and the Engineering School were completed with the exception of quarters for the Headmaster and the Technical Instructor of the Engineering School. Progress was made with the construction of the new Chief Court at Rangoon; the interior brick work of the main building was completed up to roof level and most of the face work, also the roof except that of the east and west verandahs and the central dome. The reinforced concrete flooring in the second and third storey was completed, also most of the interior plastering; and the clock tower was brought up to plinth level. This tower is carried on timber piles, and has a clean slip-joint all round so as to ensure equal settlement without affecting the surrounding portions of the building. A three-storied building to the north of the main building, providing peons' quarters, carriage shed, and stables was practically completed, and the remaining subsidiary buildings were commenced. In the mufasal a number of new Court houses were provided and two new Circuit-houses were built. Work progressed on the new Central Jail at Moulmein; certain alterations had to be made and additional buildings provided necessitating a revised estimate for Rs. 6,62,859. This jail has since been occupied. Good progress was made on the most important Police work under construction, namely, the Police Training School at Mandalay, and numerous works of minor importance were erected for the Civil and Military Police all over the country. Work advanced a stage on the new General Hospital Buildings at Rangoon, begun in 1905. Structural work in the main building and paying-patients block was brought to completion, also the internal plastering and most of the doors and windows. Work was well advanced on newillite tile dados, marble and tile floors and stamped steel ceilings. The out-patients block and matron's quarters were completed and occupied, and several other buildings were nearly finished. Additions and improvements were also made to the Civil Hospital at Maymyo. The foundations and walling up to plinth level of the new Government Press Buildings at Rangoon were completed during the year and materials for the superstructure were collected. The two pillars of Victory found outside the wall of the Town of Pegu are being erected on a masonry pedestal in front of the District Court. It is believed that these pillars were erected in 1025 and 1027 A.D. to commemorate the

Buildings—
Provincial.

Case IV—
Provo-
tion and
Distribu-
tion.

victory of Prince Rajendra-Chola I, who crossed the sea and over-ran Kidaran (or Kataha in Sanskrit), which may be identified with the ancient Talaing Kingdom of Ramanadesa now called Pegu.

Miscella-
neous.

167. Nearly 15 lakhs, the same amount as in the previous year, were spent by the Public Works Department on miscellaneous works not coming under the head of roads and buildings. Of this amount 4.41 lakhs were a charge on the Provincial Funds. Nine lakhs were devoted to improvements to towns and the balance to various minor works. Road-making and jungle-clearing was carried out at various civil stations. Work on the Rangoon Town Lands Reclamation Scheme was continued and good progress made, the expenditure aggregating 8½ lakhs, of which 7½ lakhs represents Municipal outlay and 1½ lakhs work done for other bodies or private individuals. Various minor projects of water-supply and drainage were completed during the year or in progress.

(ii) *Railways and Tramways.*

Railways—
Construc-
tion.

168. The Provincial Railway System continued to be worked throughout the year by the Burma Railways Company. The length of open line on the metre gauge rose from 1,340.15 miles at the opening to 1,474.92 miles at the close of the year, the extension being accounted for by the 121.27 miles of the Pegu-Martaban Extension, completed and wholly opened for traffic on the 25th September 1907, and 13.50 miles (from Henzada to Danbi) of the unfinished Henzada-Kyangin Extension, opened to the public from the 1st July 1907. The total expenditure on the former line has amounted to 128 lakhs as against an estimated cost of about 123 lakhs; on the latter line 52 lakhs have been expended, out of an estimated total of close on 63 lakhs. The project for the East Daga Loop line is still held in abeyance pending the settlement of various questions. The process of doubling the main lines has progressed perceptibly; on the Irrawaddy Section a second line of four miles from Hmawbi to Wanchaung, and on the Sittang Section a second line of nine miles between Togyauungale and Ledaunggan were completed and brought into use. Other important works in progress were the remodelling of Letpadan Station, the construction of the Malagón depôt, the improvement of the permanent way and the coaching stock, and the extension of the use of the automatic vacuum brake in goods trains. The settlement of final alignment of the projected metre gauge line from Thazi to Taunggyi (111 miles) was in progress, and detailed surveys of the Pyinmana-Magwe (120 miles) and Moulmein-Myawaddy (76.20 miles) Extensions have been completed. The reconnaissance survey of the Tengyüeh-Talifu line (250 miles) has been accomplished. In addition to these surveys, carried out by the Government, the Burma Railways Company completed their surveys of a line from Kyangin to Nattalin (39.56 miles), from Shwebo to Ye-u (22 miles), from Myingyan to Natogyi (18.79 miles), and from Henzada to Wetkyaung on the East Daga Loop via Danubyu and Begayet (93.84 miles), with a branch from Danubyu to Pantanaw (24.25 miles). The first of these proposals has been abandoned. The Company has had under consideration the project of bridging the Sagaing River.

Railways—
Interruptions
and acci-
dents.

169. The most serious interruption during the year was due to the dismantling of two miles of line on the Tharawaw Branch on account of the apprehension that the railway embankment would so confine an anticipated high flood of the Irrawaddy as to endanger the embankment on the southern shore, protecting Henzada town and an enormous and most valuable rice-producing area. The danger, however, passed, and traffic was resumed on the 5th November 1907. Other flood interruptions were few in number and unimportant, amounting to no more than three instances, of which the most serious caused a complete interruption of traffic for only one day. Accidents have been somewhat numerous, but fortunately there has not been any so serious as the derailment of the previous year; one accident involving slight injuries to three persons and the derailment of a considerable number of coaches was caused by the

removal of bolts and spikes from the railway line, probably by some members of the permanent-way cooly gang. Altogether in thirteen instances passenger trains were involved in accidents, generally resulting only in damage to material. In one case which occurred at Pazundaung, two firemen were injured and some passengers sustained slight hurts; in another case fire caused by the ignition of an open tin of kerosine oil by a cheroot carelessly thrown down was averted on a mail train by the prompt action of the driver who, stopping the train, extinguished the fire in a few minutes; no serious damage was done, but a woman and a boy who in their panic left the train while in motion were injured, one seriously. In another case in which fortunately collision was averted, the responsible officer was prosecuted and convicted. Another derailment was caused by a buffalo straying on the line; in this case one man was killed and three injured, one seriously. Accidents to goods trains were 8 in number, involving no casualties. Locomotives were concerned once, a ballast train twice (in one of which cases a man was killed) and a trolly once, a trollyman being injured. Injuries and loss of life were satisfactorily rare.

CHAP. IV.—
PROSECUTION AND
DISCIPLINE.

170. The capital outlay during the year of report amounted to 99½ lakhs, an increase of 54½ lakhs on the figure of the previous year; the total capital expenditure now stands at 16 crores 45 lakhs. The gross earnings of the railway were 179 lakhs, an advance of 19½ lakhs on the year 1906-07, and working expenses fortunately increasing in a smaller proportion from 100½ lakhs to 108½ lakhs, the net earnings for the year amounted to 70½ lakhs, an increase of over 10½ lakhs. The percentage of expenditure to receipts decreased to 60.69, while that of net receipts to capital outlay advanced to 42.8. The aggregate train mileage 5,528,215 miles was 333,672 in excess of the record for the year 1906-07, and earnings per train mile rose slightly from 3.08 to 3.24, this being however counterbalanced by a slight rise in the average expenses per train mile from 1.93 to 1.97. The figures, however, are on the whole satisfactory.

Railways—
Finance and
traffic.

171. No addition was made during the year of report to the existing number of tramways in the Province. The steam tramway, nearly 8 miles long, over which the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company run one passenger train daily each way between Thaton and Duyinzeik on the way to Moulmein, earned roughly Rs. 16,000 from the 1st April to the 15th November 1907. As was anticipated, it was no longer found profitable to continue the service after the opening of the Pegu-Martaban extension of the Burma Railways, and the line was closed for traffic from the later date mentioned. The first electric car was run on the Rangoon Tramway lines on the 15th December 1906 and the electrification of the system was completed in March 1907. During the year 1907 many new sections were opened and further extensions are contemplated. The total number of passengers carried during the year ending 31st December 1907 was 6,026,915 as against 3,433,540 in the preceding year. The running mileage was 973,187 and receipts Rs. 5,68,603 as compared with 328,180 running mileage and Rs. 2,75,753 receipts during 1906. In Mandalay the Electric Tramways extend to 6½ miles of double track. The prosperity of the Tramways appears still to be adversely affected by the prevalence of plague. The mileage run increased from 543,587 to 651,043 miles, but the number of passengers carried, 2,575,925, was again somewhat less than in the previous year. One fatal accident occurred on the line. Some advance was made in the construction of the Madaya light railway in the Mandalay District, but difficulties were encountered and the period allowed for completing the line was extended by twelve months.

Tramways.

(iii) Canals.

172. The Pegu-Sittang and Sittang-Kyaikto Canals, respectively, 45½ and 14 miles long, remained open for traffic throughout the year. All other canals in Burma are primarily irrigation works and, with the exception of the Shwetachaung in the Mandalay District, are not used to any extent for traffic. Two hundred

Navigation
Canals.

CHAP. IV.—**PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.**—and thirty-five thousand two hundred and sixty-five tons of goods and rafted produce valued at 105½ lakhs were carried on the Pegu-Sittang Canal, and 18,802 tons worth 9½ lakhs on the Sittang-Kyaikto Canal. Traffic improved on the former and declined on the latter. The Lower Burma Canals earned Rs. 1,81,104 and Rs. 8,532 respectively, while expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,56,607 and Rs. 17,371. Navigation charges on the Shwetachaung brought in nearly six thousand rupees.

Irrigation.

Major Works, Imperial—
(i) Completed works.

173. The Mandalay and Shwebo Canals were the only major irrigation works which earned revenue during the year 1907-08. The area irrigated from these Canals rose from 46,282 and 44,639 acres to 53,503 and 70,670 acres respectively. These figures show a marked improvement on previous results. On major irrigation works the bulk of the receipts represent water rates *plus* the difference between the "dry" and "wet" rates assessed as land revenue. During the year revenue collections amounted to 4.04 and 2.94 lakhs on the Mandalay and Shwebo Canals respectively, and working expenses to Rs. 94,307 and Rs. 1,27,621. The surplus revenue of both works shows satisfactory expansion, and is equivalent to 6.03 and 3.38 on the capital expenditure of 51 lakhs on the Mandalay Canal and 49 lakhs on the Shwebo Canal. An effort is being made to extend the irrigated area on the Mandalay Canal by the construction of direct outlets from the Main Canal to serve land not previously irrigated, and in some cases not included in the original project, and four watercourses for this purpose are under construction. A further increase is anticipated as a result of draining tracts that were formerly water-logged. The Shwebo Canal project is still incomplete. The head works are complete in all respects, but some protection to the left bank of the river below the undersluices was needed and was carried out during the year. Work remains to be done on the distributaries and watercourses.

Major Works—
(ii) Works under construction.

174. Very little work was done on the Ye-u Canal and only Rs. 5,504 were spent on it. A revision of the original project design is being prepared. The total outlay to the end of the year amounted to 6½ lakhs against an estimate of 35 lakhs. Progress on the Mön Canals was again delayed owing to the difficulties experienced by the contractors in obtaining labour. The excavation of the North Canal and the construction of all but one of the cross drainage works as originally designed have been completed. The first 15 miles of the South Canal have also been practically finished. An exceptionally heavy fall of rain (5½ inches in six hours) occurred in October and the North Canal was badly damaged by the drainage water which swept across it. Over eight lakhs were spent during the year, and on the 31st March 1908, the capital outlay exceeded 25 lakhs, the estimated cost of the work being 44 lakhs.

Minor Works—
Provincial.

175. The total area irrigable from the minor irrigation works in the dry zone of Upper Burma is roughly 526,000 acres, but the area actually irrigated in any year is usually very far short of this maximum. With some important exceptions, these works were constructed before the annexation of the Upper Province, but they have been much improved in the course of time by the Public Works Department. During 1907-08 253,000 acres were irrigated as compared with 246,000 in the previous year, and the receipts, consisting of a varying share of the land revenue assessment, increased by Rs. 95,000 to 10.03 lakhs, while working expenses, 6.81 lakhs, fell off by over a lakh, resulting in a net revenue of 3.22 lakhs. 1.96 lakhs were expended on new works and 1.60 lakhs on repairs. The most important works were carried out on the Shwetachaung and Kinda Canals, and on minor works in the Kyauksè District, while a considerable sum was spent on repair works on the Salin Canals.

CHAPTER V.

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

REFERENCES:—

- Land Revenue Administration Report of Burma for the year ended the 30th June 1908.
- Report on the Administration of the Excise Department in Burma during the year ending the 31st March 1908.
- Report on the Administration of Salt Revenue in Burma during the year 1907.
- Report on the Administration of the Stamp Revenue in Burma during the three years ending the 31st March 1908.
- Report on the working of the Income-Tax Act, II of 1886, in Burma for the triennium 1905-06 to 1907-08.
- Report on the Maritime Trade and Customs Administration of Burma for the year 1907-08.
- Report on the working of the Rangoon Municipality for the year 1907-08.
- Resolution reviewing the Reports on the working of the Municipalities in Burma during the year 1907-08.
- Forty-second issue of the Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India with the British Empire and Foreign Countries in the year ending the 31st March 1902, and the four preceding years, Volume II, Table 7.
- Second issue of the Statistics of British India for the year 1907-08 and preceding years.

Provincial Settlement.

176. The new Provincial Settlement came into force on the 1st April 1907, and no particular term of years has been fixed for its duration. Changes of some importance have been made in the distribution of Revenue and Expenditure between Imperial and Provincial Funds. The heads Salt, Customs and Post Office have been wholly imperialised and certain minor changes of classification have been made (*e.g.*, the imperialisation of the receipts and charges on account of Imperial buildings). Political expenditure has been provincialised. As regards divided heads of expenditure generally, the standard distribution which has been recently adopted or approached in the settlements made with other provinces has been followed. These standard proportions are as below:—

2. Assignments—to be shared between Imperial and Provincial in the same way as the corresponding heads of revenue.
3. Land Revenue—wholly Provincial.
- X and 12—Registration—wholly Provincial.
- Other divided heads—half Provincial.

The effect of the Settlement is that the Local Government receives revenues which amount to 349 lakhs and will be responsible for expenditure amounting to 439½ lakhs, the difference being made good by an annual fixed assignment of 90½ lakhs. An initial grant of 50 lakhs was made to Provincial revenues. Of this sum 15 lakhs were provided as a final allotment to cover all future plague charges and the remaining 35 lakhs were intended to meet ordinary initial requirements.

Gross Revenue.

177. The sum total of all receipts of the year preceding the 1st April 1908 paid in to the credit of Imperial, Provincial and Local Funds was in round numbers 10 crores 27 lakhs of rupees, or £6,847,000 sterling, calculated at the rate of 15 rupees per sovereign. Of this total the Imperial share amounted to 382 lakhs or £2,547,000 sterling, an increase of 47 lakhs over the receipts of the previous twelve months, mainly due to adjustments under various heads consequent on the introduction of the new Provincial Settlement. Provincial Funds were credited with 441 lakhs or £2,940,000 sterling, a decline of 31½ lakhs as compared with the receipts of 1906-07, owing to the adjustments mentioned; while the various District (Cess), Port and Municipal Funds covered by the expression Local Funds accounted for 204 lakhs or £1,360,000 sterling, the restriction of loan transactions by the Rangoon Port Trust being the chief cause of the deficiency of 14 lakhs compared with the total collections of the previous year. The gross expenditure under all heads fell from 730 to 728 lakhs or £4,853,000 sterling. Provincial expenditure rose by 18 lakhs to 471½ lakhs, the most important increases being 4 lakhs under Police, a like amount under Political, and nearly 3 lakhs under Law and Justice, while Customs expenditure declined to the extent of 4 lakhs. On the other hand, expenditure from Excluded Local Funds fell off by 23½ lakhs owing to the contraction of capital outlay by the Rangoon Port Trust.

(a) IMPERIAL REVENUE AND FINANCE.

Land Revenue.

178. Receipts credited to the major head Land Revenue are divided equally between Imperial and Provincial Funds, but this equation is seriously interfered with owing to the fact that adjustments under the Provincial Settlement are made under this head. The gross land revenue of the Province increased to a small extent only from 386 to 387 lakhs. After adjustment of contributions the Imperial and Provincial shares amounted to 96 and 291 lakhs respectively. The Report on the Land Revenue Administration deals with the agricultural year which closed on the 30th June and in consequence the statistics of revenue there given differ from those exhibited in the Financial Accounts of the Province for the financial year ending on the 31st March. The great bulk of the revenue is, however, assessed and collected during the nine months common to both years, and in most years the explanations of variations given in the departmental report are equally applicable to the fluctuations shown in the accounts. The figures quoted in the remainder of this paragraph are taken from the Land Revenue Report and relate to the agricultural year. Statistics relating to *Ordinary Land Revenue*, that is, revenue levied on land under occupation in Lower Burma and under at least partly successful cultivation in Upper Burma have been given in paragraph 40, and it is unnecessary to repeat them here. Receipts from capitation-tax rose from 50'27 to 51'22 lakhs. A million and a quarter persons were assessed the increase of nearly 40,000 being well above the average of the past few years. There were increases of 1,000 assesseees and over in nine districts. In Akyab the further large increase of 15,238 persons was due to the strict assessment of Chittagonian coolie immigrants. The number of households assessed to *thathameda* in Upper Burma amounted roughly to three-quarters of a million some 6,000 households in excess of the figure of 1906-07. Rates were, however, reduced in many districts and remissions were granted on a large scale owing to the unfavourable season, so that collections declined from 45½ to 37 lakhs. Receipts from land-rate in lieu of capitation-tax fell off from Rs. 96,453 to Rs. 95,162. The total Fishery Revenue, which amounted to 25½ lakhs, shows a decrease of half a lakh. In the Irrawaddy Division from which about half the revenue is derived, though the season was good there had been bad seasons from 1904-05 onwards, and the result was that there was less money at the auctions and some fishermen had taken to cultivation. In Upper Burma the season was bad. The river failed to rise to a height at all approaching its usual level, and many fisheries which are fed from the river were either not filled or ran dry before the fishery season. Miscellaneous Land Revenue

remained steady at something under 25 lakhs. The most important item represents fees, rents and royalties on petroleum, and the next important similar imposts on rubies. The Magwe and Myingyan oil fields were prosperous, but the Pakokku fields were less successful. Payment of half the yearly rent payable by the Ruby Mines Company was postponed by order of the Secretary of State. The depressed state of the ruby market led to cessation of night working in four mines and to the entire closing of the Shwebontha mine.

CHAP. V.—
REVENUE
AND
FINANCE.

Canal (Navigation and Irrigation) Revenue.

179. Mention has been made in paragraphs 172 to 175 above of the amount of revenue derived from Canals and Irrigation works during the financial year 1907-08. Receipts from Canals used for navigation purposes only are wholly Provincial; revenue derived from the Minor Irrigation Works is included in the land revenue assessment and dealt with accordingly, while receipts from Major Irrigation Works are wholly Imperial.

Sources of Imperial Revenue other than the Land.

180. The few items of Customs Revenue, consisting mainly of overtime and holiday fees, which were formerly credited to Provincial Funds, have been imperialised since the revision of the Settlement and all customs receipts are now Imperial. During the financial year 1907-08 they amounted to 135 lakhs, or 11 lakhs in excess of the revenue of the previous twelve months. The increase was the result of the expansion of trade and of larger exports of rice to Europe on which duty is paid.

181. Receipts credited to the Major Head Opium, which is wholly Imperial, represent the cost of opium, at Rs. 8-8-0 a seer, supplied by the Government of Bengal for distribution to the licensed opium shops in Burma. They amounted to 536 lakhs as compared with 577 lakhs in the previous year. The reduction is attributed to the progressive restriction by Resident Excise Officers of the quantity sold to each purchaser to the amount which he requires for his personal use.

182. From the 1st April 1907 revenue falling under the Major Head Salt became wholly Imperial. The total collections (Rs. 19,69,693) credited to this head during the calendar year 1907, with which the Report on the Administration of Salt Revenue deals, showed a large expansion amounting to Rs. 2,73,497. The increase of revenue is mainly accounted for by larger withdrawals from bond but the excise duty on local salt also rose by Rs. 35,000. The estimated consumption of salt in the Province amounted to 2,70,295 maunds, of which local salt accounted for 784,721 maunds against 721,664 maunds in the previous year. The total consumption is much above that of 1906 (1,986,044 maunds) as well as of preceding years. No satisfactory explanation of this increase is forthcoming. The percentage of the consumption of local salt to the total consumption fell from over 36 to under 35. The reason for the exceptionally large imports is not clear, but that in their presence the output of local salt increased so much on the whole is a striking fact. Pending the completion of the special enquiry mentioned in the previous report no changes of importance were made in the policy regarding salt. The continuance in the Akyab, Sandoway and Thaton Districts of the policy of concentrating manufacture and restricting the issue of licenses was sanctioned by the Local Government in July 1907. In accordance with that policy the names of two *twins*, one in the Sandoway and one in the Thaton District, in which no licenses had been taken out during 1906, were removed from the list of areas open to salt manufacture. A modification was made in the orders relating to the storage of salt in the vicinity of certain factories. The modification remedied an omission and prohibited, in the areas defined, the erection of unlicensed godowns whether erected by licensees or by others. It involved a change in the form of salt license.

Chap. V.
Revenue
and
Finance

The features of the statistics of imported salt were the very large amount brought into the Province despite the large quantity left in bond at the end of 1906, the much greater share in the imports of countries other than England and Germany, and the large stocks left in bond at the end of the year. Both Bassein and Akyab imported somewhat less salt than in the previous year. The increase was almost entirely in imports into Rangoon. The Chief Collector of Customs assigns as causes the general prosperity of the Province and the entry on the market of two new descriptions of salt from Egypt and Asiatic Turkey.

183. From the 1st April 1907 Excise receipts were divided in equal shares between Imperial and Provincial Funds instead of as heretofore in the proportion of two shares to Imperial and one to Provincial. The gross excise revenue for the year 1907-08 amounted to Rs. 84,32,945 as compared with Rs. 82,38,959 in 1906-07. The increase was divided equally between Excise and Opium receipts. License fees for the sale of imported liquors and locally produced foreign spirit rose from Rs. 9,98,334 to Rs. 11,76,309. There was an increase of nearly two lakhs under this head in Rangoon Town, where the fees realised in 1906-07 were abnormally low. Duty on locally made spirit excised at the tariff rate shows some improvement with increased issues. The duty on distillery country spirit issued under the contract distillery system and the fees for sale of the spirit under this system give together an increase of half a lakh of rupees, as the system was in force for the latter part only of 1906-07, and the revenue from the outstills, which the contract system is intended to replace, decreased by some Rs. 30,000. There was an increase in the small duty obtained from Mandalay brewery beer, with increased issues, and with an increase from one to two annas per gallon in the rate of duty towards the end of the year. Toddy revenue fell from Rs. 6,77,597 to Rs. 5,82,075, and the receipts from other country fermented liquors were Rs. 43,000 below the figures of 1906-07. A combination amongst bidders in the Amherst District and the adverse effect of plague kept down the toddy revenue, and there was again a decline in fees paid for licenses for other country liquors in the Delta districts. The revenue derived from opium and other drugs rose from Rs. 46,59,763 to Rs. 47,64,624. The increase is chiefly in the duty on opium. There was a large decrease in issues of Government opium to the shops, but this was counterbalanced or nearly so by higher wholesale rates of issue. The increase in revenue resulted from the arrangement temporarily made by which foreign opium was purchased by Government and issued to the shops in the northern districts at fixed wholesale rates. Under this system the whole proceeds of sales of foreign opium to the shops were credited as revenue, the cost of purchase being charged to expenditure, whereas under the system of importation by licensees the duty on the imported opium forms the only revenue, apart from the shop license fees. The total expenditure debited to Excise decreased slightly from Rs. 15,59,087 in 1906-07 to Rs. 15,43,572 in 1907-08. No material changes have been made in the strength of excise establishments since the reduction in the Upper Burma staff in 1906-07, and there are no large variations in the figures for the two years under the different headings of expenditure. The year 1907-08 was not marked by any special development in the systems of Opium and Excise Administration in Burma. The arrangements for the vend of opium and the number of licensed opium shops have remained unchanged. There has been steady and continued improvement in the supervision exercised over sales by the Government Officers in the shops, and the quantity of opium sold has been brought into closer relationship with the requirements of authorized consumers. The restriction on sales has led to a decrease by 8 per cent. in sales of opium in Lower Burma as compared with the figures for 1906-07, and to a decrease of 20 per cent. in comparison with the figures for 1904-05. In the northern districts of Upper Burma illicit foreign opium has been less readily obtained and shop sales of foreign opium increased in consequence. Arrangements were made from the 1st July 1907 for the purchase of foreign opium by Government for issue to the licensed shops at which such opium is sold, but this measure has since been abandoned, and the system under which the opium is imported by the licensed vendors has been restored. The profit of licensed vendors in both Lower and Upper Burma were generally reduced at the beginning

of the year by the raising of the wholesale rates at which opium is issued to the vendors from the Treasury. The result has been to increase the opium revenue over the figures for the previous year in spite of the decrease in the quantity of opium sold. Opium continues to be smuggled into Burma in large quantities from other provinces of India, and a decrease in the total seizures of illicit opium indicates no diminution in the smuggling trade. A stronger excise tariff at the ports and in the coast districts is needed to deal effectively with this trade, and proposals have already been made to this end. The growth in the cocaine habit in Rangoon and adjacent districts, in part it would seem, as a substitute for opium, is a disquieting feature of the year.

184. From the 1st April 1907 the Imperial share of receipts falling under the Major Head Stamp has been raised from one-fourth to one-half. They do not include postage and telegraph stamps. The gross stamp revenue in 1907-08, amounting to nearly 40½ lakhs, showed an increase of some Rs. 64,000 compared with an expansion of over two lakhs in the preceding year and of over 4 lakhs in 1905-06. The causes of this slower rate of expansion are sufficiently plain. The creation of a separate Judicial Service in 1905 stimulated the revenue derived from Court-fee stamps; later the spread of plague in the Province and floods or unfavourable agricultural seasons especially in Lower Burma in 1905-06 and 1906-07 and in 1907-08 in Upper Burma exercised a depressing influence. These factors explain a greater decline in the revenue from non-judicial stamps than from judicial. Charges debitable to stamps, 1½ lakhs, were rather less than in the previous year. The cost of general supervision amounted to Rs. 23,776, practically the same figure as in 1906-07, and the cost of stamp papers supplied by the Central Depot rose from Rs. 28,126 to Rs. 32,400. The steady growth of revenue from Judicial stamps received a check in the year of report as receipts under this head, 24½ lakhs, declined slightly. Stamped copy sheets are mainly used in connection with appeals and the consumption of these sheets increased somewhat notwithstanding the decline in receipts from Court-fees. The revenue from non-judicial stamps amounted to 13½ lakhs and shows an increase of about three-quarters of a lakh over the total of 1906-07. The principal items are impressed sheets and impressed labels contributing 7½ and 4½ lakhs respectively, and the increase was common to both items. The number of stamp vendors and the amount of commission drawn by them, Rs. 44,891, both increased to a small extent, but the appointment of more vendors seems to be needed. The number of documents impounded by Civil Courts and by Collectors fell off slightly and the amount of duty and penalty realised decreased considerably owing to the receipts of the previous year having been swollen by exceptional windfalls. Prosecutions for offences against the stamp law were more numerous and the amount of fines imposed increased. Greater energy was shown by Collectors in taking action to test the value of estates for which applications for probate and letters of administration were put in and deficit Court-fees amounting to Rs. 10,716 were realised. Legal business and consequently the purchase of stamps is more and more attracted to Rangoon. Advocates from Rangoon are employed to appear in many cases in the Courts outside, or to draw deeds or make applications on behalf of clients who live outside.

185. The Income-tax Act, though in force in the whole of Burma, was operative during the year only in Lower Burma and in Mandalay town. With effect from the 1st February 1907 a new Income-tax Collectorate was formed by the splitting up of the Pegu Subdivision into two subdivisions, one retaining the old name, the other being nominated Dabain. There was practically no change in the method of assessment or in the agency employed in the administration of the Act. Some improvement was however effected in the work of assessment. Receipts collected under the Act are shared equally between Imperial and Provincial Funds. The net collections rose from 15.42 lakhs to 17.29 lakhs, but a comparison of the annual figures does not reveal a steady rate of progression everywhere. The falling off in certain districts indicates a set back in material prosperity owing to plague,

Chap. V.—
REVENUE
AND
FINANCE.

to the collapse of speculation in land, or to trade losses. The number of companies whose profits were assessable increased from 62 to 63, and collections from 2'36 to 3'08 lakhs. One company in Mandalay was not assessed as its accounts showed no profits for the year. The value of securities held in the Province, the interest of which is liable to taxation, showed a slight reduction after the abnormal rise of the previous year. There was a satisfactory increase of Rs. 72,114 under the head of "Other Sources," that is, chiefly, assessments on private persons. Expenditure amounted to Rs. 40,459, somewhat less than in the year 1906-07. A considerable amount of income-tax work is done by officers whose salaries are charged to Land Revenue.

186. The gross receipts of the Forest Department during the forest year ending on the 30th June 1908 amounted to 88'33 lakhs, nearly two lakhs in excess of the total of the previous twelve months. The income from timber and other produce extracted by Government agency shows a small further decline of about half a lakh, but enhanced receipts to the extent of nearly 2½ lakhs were derived from other sources. These changes are chiefly due to the further extension of the policy of reducing the area worked by the department and of throwing open to working under the purchase contract system forests which have hitherto been worked departmentally. The expenditure incurred on the operations of the Forest Department declined slightly from 36'34 to 35'59 lakhs and the surplus revenue shared equally between Imperial and Provincial Funds rose from 50'04 to 52'74 lakhs. The arrested expansion of expenditure is due to the policy referred to.

Imperial
Expenditure.

187. Except under the head of Land Revenue, where expenditure is debited entirely to Provincial Funds, Imperial and Provincial Funds contribute to the charges incurred under the various budget heads in the same proportion as they benefit by the revenue accruing thereunder and these contributions form the bulk of the Imperial expenditure, so far as it is dealt with in this report. During the financial year ending March 1908 the total Imperial expenditure rose from 57'24 to 58'76 lakhs. The principal variations were due to changes of classification consequent on the revision of the Settlement and have been mentioned in paragraph 176. Apart from changes of classification nearly two lakhs less were spent on Military Works, Customs expenditure increased owing to improvement of the service, and Irrigation Works accounted for nearly a lakh in excess of the figure of 1906-07.

(b) REVENUE AND FINANCE OTHER THAN IMPERIAL.

Provincial Revenues.

Provincial
Receipts.

188. Provincial Funds derive the great bulk of their receipts from the heads which are shared with Imperial Funds. The revenue under the remaining heads, which are either entirely Provincial or are shared with Local Funds, amounted to only 33½ lakhs in the year 1907-08, and fluctuations under these heads do not materially affect the Provincial Budget. The total Provincial Receipts for the year of report amounted to 44½ lakhs, showing a decrease of 31½ lakhs, which was principally accounted for by changes of classification consequent on revision of the Settlement. Explanations for these variations have been given in the preceding paragraphs relating to Imperial Receipts under the same heads. Under *Law and Justice—Courts of Law*, the decrease of Rs. 41,000 was due to a falling off in the amount of fines levied in Criminal cases. A reduction in the rate of Burma Coast Light dues was the cause of a decline of Rs. 32,000 under *Ports and Pilotage*. The decrease under *Miscellaneous* amounting to Rs. 47,000 was chiefly due to the recovery in the previous year of a special contribution made to the Moulmein Municipality in 1905-06. Under *Contributions* the decrease of five lakhs was due to the discontinuance of the payment of contributions by District

Cess Funds towards the cost of revenue collections by village headmen. The increase of Rs. 31,000 under *Interest* was the direct result of recovery of interest from the Akyab Municipality towards the Government loan which was drawn in instalments, and of larger recovery of interest from advances to cultivators. A larger demand for jail-made articles is responsible for improvements under *Fails* to the extent of half a lakh. The increase of Rs. 27,000 under *Police* was mainly due to larger receipts under *Fines and Forfeitures*. A large expansion amounting to nearly 10 lakhs under *Minor Works and Navigation* was due to the share of land revenue and water-rate on Minor Irrigation Works in Upper Burma having been brought on to the books of the Public Works Department as direct revenue in accordance with the orders of the Government of India.

Cess, Revenue
AND
FINANCE.

189. The total expenditure met out of Provincial Funds during the financial year 1907-08 amounted to 471½ lakhs, exceeding the income of the year by over 30 lakhs and the expenditure of the previous year by 18 lakhs. The increase of Rs. 1,86,000 under *Land Revenue* was due to the appointment of a separate Deputy Commissioner and his establishment for Rangoon Town, to the general growth of expenditure under travelling allowances and contingencies, and to heavy outlay on account of Supplementary and Town Surveys. The increases under *Excise, Registration and Political*, and the decreases under *Stamps and Customs* were chiefly due to changes of classification as already explained. Under *General Administration* a rise of Rs. 1,27,000 was due to the fact that a Commissioner and two officers in the Secretariat were on special duty, and to the increase of the Financial Commissioner's and Secretariat establishments. Under *Courts of Law* the main causes of the expansion of Rs. 2,89,000 were the reorganization of the Subordinate Judicial Service with establishments, appointment of an additional Judge for the Chief Court for part of the year, heavy outlay on diet and travelling allowance of witnesses and on fees to Government Pleaders, and payment of certain special refunds. The increase of Rs. 54,000 under *Fails* was due to the revision of the Inspector-General of Prisons' Office establishment, to increased rate of pay sanctioned for Jailors throughout the year, to larger outlay on dietary charges, and to larger purchase of raw materials. Enhanced expenditure on *Police* amounting to Rs. 4,41,000 was chiefly due to the gradual introduction of the Police Commission reforms, and to a larger expenditure on arms and allowances and on purchase and carriage of food supplies. The increase of Rs. 1,56,000 under *Ports and Pilotage* resulted from the payment of privilege leave allowance of the Principal Port Officer, from the entertainment of the First Assistant Port Officer throughout the year, from larger payments for freight, shipping and landing charges, from the purchase of stock towards the close of the year, and from an enhanced price of coal. Larger expenditure on *Education* to the extent of Rs. 1,20,000 was chiefly caused by the appointment of an Assistant to the Director of Public Instruction, the opening of new schools and larger payments of salary grants to certificated teachers. The expansion of medical charges by Rs. 1,87,000 was the outcome of the establishment of new hospitals, enhancement of Municipal taxes on the Rangoon General Hospital buildings, larger expenditure on equipment grants and grants to hospitals and dispensaries, the transfer of Political charges to this head and heavy outlay on plague preventive measures undertaken by Government and local bodies.

Provincial
Expenditure.

Local Funds.

190. Incorporated Local Funds in Burma in the year 1907-08 consisted of 20 District Cess Funds in Lower Burma, 16 District Funds in Upper Burma, and the Burma Steam Boiler Inspection Fund. No change took place in the number of District Cess Funds during the year. The aggregate balance at credit of these funds on the 1st April 1907 stood at Rs. 15,22,609. The total receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 32,49,165, and the total expenditure to Rs. 24,37,246, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 23,34,528 on the 31st March 1908, being Rs. 8,11,919 higher than the opening balance. There was a net increase of Rs. 2,49,857 in receipts in 1907-08 as compared with the previous year. This

Incorporated
Local
Funds.

CHAP. V.—
REVENUE
AND
FINANCE.

was due chiefly to increases under Provincial Rates, Miscellaneous and Civil Works by Civil Officers, counterbalanced by a decrease mainly under Contribution from Provincial to Local. The net decrease in expenditure as compared with the previous year was Rs. 3,20,508. The decreases occurred chiefly under General Administration and Contribution from Local to Provincial, while there were increases under Provincial Rates, Education, Miscellaneous, Civil Works by Public Works Officers, and Civil Works by Civil Officers. The decrease under General Administration was due to the discontinuance of the levy of fees realized from District Cess Funds for audit of their accounts under orders of the Government of India. Under Contribution from Local to Provincial the decrease was due to the District Cess Funds having been relieved, in accordance with the terms of the Provincial Settlement, of the payment of contributions towards the cost of revenue collections by village headmen. The number of District Funds was the same as in the previous year, namely, 16. The aggregate balance at credit of the Funds on the 1st April 1907 was Rs. 2,59,379; the total receipts of the year amounted to Rs. 7,00,903, and the total expenditure to Rs. 5,97,047, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 3,63,235, or Rs. 1,03,856 more than the opening balance. The accounts show an increase of Rs. 1,34,882 in receipts as compared with the previous year, resulting from increases mainly under Police, Miscellaneous and Contribution from Provincial to Local. On the expenditure side there was a net increase of Rs. 12,897, as compared with the previous year, which occurred chiefly under Civil Works by Public Works and Civil Officers in consequence of more funds having been available for outlay on public works purposes. The Burma Steam Boiler Inspection Fund closed with a credit balance of Rs. 30,687 on the 31st March 1908, the receipts of the year 1907-08 having been Rs. 43,900 and expenditure Rs. 26,258.

Excluded
Local
Funds.

191. In the category of Excluded Local Funds there were in the year of report 7 Cantonment Funds, 16 Town Funds, the Rangoon Port Trust and 6 Minor Port Funds, 4 Pilot Funds, the Rangoon Police Reward Fund and the Educational Syndicate Fund. The total income of all the cantonments excluding debt heads amounted to Rs. 2,16,760 and the total expenditure to Rs. 1,72,123. The corresponding figures for 1906-07 were Rs. 1,80,825 and Rs. 1,55,867 respectively, so that there was an increase of Rs. 35,935 and Rs. 16,256 under income and expenditure respectively during the year under review. Out of the sixteen Town Funds existing at the end of the previous year, one, the Lemyethna Town Fund, was abolished, leaving fifteen Town Funds at the end of the year under report. The total income of the Funds shows an increase of Rs. 78,342 as compared with that of the previous year, the figures being Rs. 3,87,651 for 1906-07 and Rs. 4,65,993 for 1907-08. The expenditure also increased by Rs. 13,598, the total for 1906-07 being Rs. 4,14,013, and that for 1907-08, Rs. 4,27,611. The aggregate balance at credit of the several funds rose from Rs. 1,38,862 at the commencement of the year to Rs. 1,77,244 at the close of the year. Exclusive of the Rangoon Port Trust, the affairs of which are dealt with separately in paragraphs 109 and 110, the receipts of the six minor Port Funds amounted to 3.77 lakhs and the expenditure to 3.28 lakhs. At the end of the year there was an aggregate balance of 2.43 lakhs. The number of Pilot Funds was four. The pilotage receipts are credited to these funds from which the earnings of pilots, the cost of maintenance of pilot vessels, and other expenses are disbursed. The receipts of the Rangoon Police Reward Fund consisting of fines recovered from policemen and undisbursed rewards amounted to Rs. 1,086 as against Rs. 1,075 in the previous year. The fund is utilized in rewarding policemen for good conduct, for arresting criminals, and obtaining convictions, etc. The expenditure on this account amounted to Rs. 881 during the year under report as against Rs. 1,092 in the previous year. The total income of the Educational Syndicate Fund amounted to Rs. 54,145, of which Rs. 16,500 was on account of contributions from Government, and Rs. 500 is contributed by the Rangoon Municipality towards the Bernard Free Library. The remaining income consisted chiefly of fees for examinations held by the Educational Syndicate. The balance at the end of the year was Rs. 28,344.

Road and Education Cesses.

192. No special cesses are levied in Burma for the construction and maintenance of roads and the provision of education but the Ten per cent. Cess levied on Land Revenue in Lower Burma is partly devoted to education and local public works. CHAP. V.—
REVENUE
AND
FINANCE.

Municipal Revenues.

193. The Rangoon Municipality does not bank with Government and its transactions are not therefore shown in the Government accounts. The gross income for the year was Rs. 51,53,562. Omitting loans, advances, deposits and adjustments under stock account from these figures, the balance, Rs. 34,99,091, represents the ordinary income for 1907-08 as against Rs. 30,03,564 for the previous year. The income for 1906-07 included a sum of Rs. 1,58,719, on account of grants received from Government towards expenditure incurred by the Municipality in connection with the Hlagwa Water Works and plague operations. The receipts for 1907-08 include larger realisations from Municipal taxes to the extent of Rs. 7,11,214, due to enhanced Municipal scavenging and water taxes being realized for a whole year, and also to the recovery of Rs. 1,72,680 on account of arrears of taxes on Government buildings for 1906-07. The ordinary expenditure for the year, excluding items under deposits and advances and charges for works paid for from loans, was Rs. 32,76,187 as against Rs. 29,67,956 in 1906-07. The large difference is partly due to the increased cost for maintenance and improvements of the water-supply and drainage systems, and to the grant for roads in 1907-08 being Rs. 2,21,166 more than in the previous year. Besides this the loan charges and the expenditure on plague increased by Rs. 86,624 and Rs. 59,008, respectively. On the 1st April 1907, the total loans outstanding amounted to Rs. 1,22,50,500. During the year Rs. 57,500 was repaid as principal on account of the 1887 loan of 23 lakhs, and a fresh loan of Rs. 6,94,000 was raised. The Municipality was, therefore, indebted to the extent of Rs. 1,28,87,000 on the 31st March 1908. Of the sum outstanding Rs. 18,00,000 represents loans raised on account of reclamation works. Rangoon
Municipality.

194. With the exception of Moulmein all the 43 minor Municipalities in the Province bank with Government. Exclusive of debt accounts amounting to Rs. 4,01,154, and of the opening balance of Rs. 8,59,909, the aggregate income of all the minor Municipalities was Rs. 33,36,901 as compared with Rs. 30,42,039 in the previous year. The ordinary expenditure was Rs. 35,49,678, showing an increase of Rs. 2,40,823 over the figures for 1906-07. At the end of the year there was a closing balance of Rs. 7,64,117. Municipal Rates and Taxes produced Rs. 13,60,810 as compared with Rs. 11,68,011 in 1906-07. The largest increase, Rs. 85,853, occurred in Mandalay. Realizations under Special Acts produced Rs. 35,037 as compared with Rs. 34,035 in the previous year. The total revenue from other sources of income amounted to Rs. 15,33,763 as compared with Rs. 15,30,033 in 1906-07. The amount received in the form of grants and contributions from all sources during the year was Rs. 3,77,719 as compared with Rs. 2,77,879 in 1906-07. Of this sum Rs. 1,48,430 was contributed by Government in aid of measures for the prevention and suppression of plague. Other contributions from Provincial funds included a grant of Rs. 40,000 to Moulmein for general purposes, and Rs. 50,000 to Mandalay towards expenditure on Public Works. The expenditure on General Administration amounted to Rs. 3,47,791 as compared with Rs. 3,30,482 in 1906-07. Expenditure on Public Safety shows a slight increase from Rs. 2,23,680 to Rs. 2,24,385. Of this total Rs. 2,01,325 was incurred on street lighting. The expenditure on Hospitals and Dispensaries is shown as Rs. 7,17,305 as compared with Rs. 4,35,326 in 1906-07. But the actual increase of expenditure is not so great as the figures appear to show as in some cases plague charges have again been entered under this head. Conservancy charges rose from Rs. 5,80,653 to Rs. 6,43,721. The expenditure on markets amounted to Rs. 2,19,494 as compared with Rs. 3,06,083 in Other Municipalities.

1906-07. The effect of plague on the finances of Municipalities was again noticeable in the decrease of expenditure on Public Works. The liabilities on account of interest on loans during the year under review amounted to Rs. 1,13,846 as compared with Rs. 1,02,646 in 1906-07. The largest loans made by Government during the year were loans of Rs. 80,000 to Henzada and Rs. 70,000 to Akyab. Loans were also granted to Myanaung, Toungoo and Shwebo.

Other Funds.

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

Paper Currency.

196. The returns for the year 1907-08 show a falling off in the circulation of currency notes. The total value of the notes in circulation declined from 2,1 to 260 lakhs. The local preference for notes of Rs. 10 and Rs. 100 continues. There was a large increase in the circulation of notes of Rs. 10, while the decrease in the circulation of notes of Rs. 100 was accidental and due chiefly to 25,78 notes of this denomination being included in the transfers made during March 1908 from the Government account at the Bank of Bengal, Rangoon, to the Currency Office, Rangoon. The circulation of notes of Rs. 50 is gradually decreasing while that of 5 and 20-rupee notes is normal. There was a slight drop in the circulation of notes of Rs. 500 and Rs. 1,000, but taking all the three higher values (500, 1,000 and 10,000) together, the value of the circulation on 31st March 1908 was practically the same as on the same date in 1907. The circulation of these notes of large denomination depends mainly on the requirements of the Local Banks which, during the stock season, tender their unemployed coin and small notes at the counter of the Currency Office in exchange for higher value notes.

CHAPTER VI.

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

REFERENCES—

- Report on the Sanitary Administration of Burma for the year 1907.
Triennial Report on the Hospitals and Dispensaries of Burma for the years 1905 to 1907.
Report on the working of the Government Medical School, Rangoon, for the year 1907.
Note on the Lunatic Asylums in Burma for the year 1907.
Triennial Report on Vaccination in Burma for the years 1905-06 to 1907-08.
Second issue of the Statistics of British India for 1907-08 and preceding years.

Births and Deaths.

197. The total population of the Province, subject to registration of Births and Deaths, was computed at the census of 1901 at 8,485,980, and is estimated at 9,731,233 on March 1st, 1908. Commencing from 1st January 1907 returns of births were received from certain rural areas in Upper Burma, such records having been previously available for the Town populations only. Birth statistics of the population of the greater part of the Province are thus for the first time available. The work of verification is probably very perfunctory in a large number of cases and the results are, in consequence, open to doubt. Out of 29,395 villages and towns under registration, the vital records of 17,679 were scrutinised by inspecting officers and 162,766 entries (nearly one-third of the total for the whole province) were subjected to verification. Two hundred and seventy-eight thousand five hundred and thirty-three births were registered, giving a birth rate for the whole province of 32.82 per mille. The ratio for Lower Burma was 32.65 and for Upper Burma 33.14. The male births exceeded the female by 8,755, 100 males having been born to every 93.9 females. In Lower Burma a total population of 715,518 residents in towns exhibits a birth-rate of only 25.10 while the 17 towns with 329,769 residents in Upper Burma show a birth-rate of 32.16. The low urban birth-rate in Lower Burma is however dependent upon the enormous disproportion of the sexes in the three biggest towns, Rangoon, Moulmein and Akyab. If the returns of these three towns be omitted the birth-rate for 37 Lower Burma towns becomes 31.83. In the whole area under registration the male population exceeds the female by about 200,000. But this condition is due entirely to the excess of males over females in the foreign population. The greater portion of the foreign element is confined to Lower Burma and materially affects the sex and race distribution of the population in the rural areas of many districts, and in all the largest towns, influencing in consequence the birth and death-rates. The following districts (rural areas) show a decline in the birth-rate when compared with the previous year's returns:—Sandoway, Hanthawaddy, Prome, Ma-ubin, Pyapôn, Mergui and Toungoo. An increase in the birth-rate is observed in Akyab, Tharrawaddy, Henzada, Myaungmya, Amherst, Tavoy and Thatôn. The death-rate for the whole Province was 26.60, being 26.84 for Lower Burma and 26.13 for Upper Burma. The death-rate for rural areas in Lower Burma was 24.58 and was higher than the five years' average in all districts except Bassein, Myaungmya, Ma-ubin and Thayetmyo. In Upper Burma rural areas the death-rate (24.40) was nearly 5 per mille above the mean of the previous five years. In the towns of Lower Burma the average death-rate was 42.18 while in Upper Burma it was 39.69. Great variation in the death-rates of different towns is exhibited, thus Akyab (30.33), Rangoon (45.00), Pegu (65.10), Bassein (63.21), Moulmein (46.21), and Mergui (48.22) may be contrasted with Sandoway (17.93) and Tavoy (26.06). The infantile death-rate for the whole Province was 198.50. In districts including towns it was for Lower Burma 182.91 and for Upper Burma 227.81. In towns, Lower Burma gives a ratio of 247.15 against 322.27 for Upper Burma. The higher rate for Upper Burma may be very probably due to defective registration of births in the rural areas. The ratio for towns in 1907 shows a decrease on 1906 for Lower Burma of only 2.12 per mille, but for Upper Burma the decrease amounts

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

to 57.64 per mille, a definite improvement. The death-rate of male infants for the whole Province is 217.50 and of female infants 178.27, a difference in favour of the females of 39.23 per mille. In Rangoon the infantile death-rate (348.93) is excessively high, and though it would probably be reduced by better registration of births, it indicates clearly the need for improved sanitary administration in that city. Akyab returns a death-rate of 324.10 per mille of births, Prome and Bassein over 290.00 and Mandalay 360.78. The headquarters branch of the Society for the Prevention of Infantile Mortality held several meetings at Rangoon during the year. This Society received a grant of land near Hmawbi from Government during the year for the purpose of pasturing cattle, with a view to the establishment of a milk depôt for infants. The Municipal Committee of Pakokku town initiated during 1907 a scheme of milk depôts in the interests of the infant population, and it is to be hoped that their example will be emulated by other public bodies in the Province. No connection can be traced between the price of food-grains in any area and the birth and death-rates.

Causes of
death.

198. The total of 225,692 deaths that occurred in the Province in 1907 is distributed as follows:—

Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	8,378
Fevers	...	...	...	...	...	79,745
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	2,883
Respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	5,781
Dysentery and Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	10,327
Wounding and accident	...	...	...	...	...	1,175
Snake-bite and wild beasts	...	...	...	...	...	1,600
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	130
Plague	...	...	...	...	...	925
All other causes	...	...	...	...	...	106,228

Of these causes deaths from cholera, fever, plague and "All other causes" showed an increase as compared with the returns of the previous year. Cholera was most prevalent in the Pegu and Irrawaddy Divisions in March, April and May, but outbreaks recurred in January and December. In Arakan, August to December, and in Tenasserim, February to December, were the months of greatest prevalence. In Rangoon the disease was practically confined to dwellers on or by the banks of the river and main creeks, in the areas not provided with a pipe water supply or with an efficient conservancy system. In the case of the boating population the evidence appears to be overwhelming for the dissemination of infection through the use of the river water. The remedy is to be found in providing an ample supply of fresh water for all purposes, in introducing an efficient system of conservancy in the riparian quarters, and in preventing by legislation and an effective police organization, the pollution of the shores of the rivers and creeks. A serious epidemic originated at a *Pôngyi-byan* at Tharawa, and spread to the Henzada side of the Irrawaddy and to many villages in the Tharrawaddy District. Two hundred and thirty-four deaths in 57 villages of the Tharrawaddy District and 150 deaths in 17 villages of the Henzada District, besides 214 deaths in Henzada town, were traced to this origin; a total recorded mortality of 598. Visitors to the *Pôngyi-byan* were undoubtedly infected through the pollution of the pools from which they obtained drinking water. Fevers were responsible for more than a third of the total mortality of the Province. Deaths from malarial fevers are included under this head, but what proportion of the mortality is due to malaria there is no certain means of ascertaining. The fever death-rate of 16.70 in the Akyab District, that of 14.29 in Mergui and 14.12 in Henzada are perhaps due to this cause, but in some other districts and towns, there appears ample evidence that the ratio is partly made up of undiagnosed deaths from plague and other febrile diseases. Enteric fever appears to be more widely distributed than was formerly supposed and it is known to be common in Rangoon, Moulmein and Myitkyina. While in Lower Burma 6,371 fewer deaths from small-pox occurred than in 1906, in Upper Burma there was an increase of 713. A special enquiry was made into the Pakokku outbreak by Hospital Assistant Maung Aung Pru, who travelled through the district and his report shows that the infection was introduced in the preceding year, having been prevalent in the Myaing township as the result of importation from Henzada in February 1906.

It appears probable that it was conveyed to the other townships through the medium of increased communication due to the Shwepaunglaing pagoda festival which took place near Pauk about the commencement of April 1907, and was widely attended by people from all parts of the district, and at which several cases of small-pox are known to have occurred. The threatened population had freely employed Burmese "Sayas" to inoculate their children. Tubercular lung disease which is increasing in the larger towns, is undoubtedly associated with the congestion of population and the enforced indoor life led by a growing proportion of the urban population, as well as with the defective ventilation and generally insanitary construction of town houses. In the towns, owing to the increased attention paid to diagnosis in connection with the detection of plague, a large number of deaths which would previously have been registered as due to "Fever" have since 1905 been more correctly credited to the account of dysentery and diarrhoea. The total number of deaths registered from plague in the Province in 1907 was 9,249, an increase of 612 on the plague mortality of 1906. This increase was confined to Lower Burma, there being a decrease of 137 in Upper Burma. In Burma the epidemic of plague has so far affected the larger towns without spreading to any extent to villages in rural areas. Thus while a plague mortality of 620 in Lower Burma and in Upper Burma 175 is recorded in rural areas, 5,352 deaths occurred in Lower Burma towns, and 3,102 in Upper Burma towns from this disease. As in previous years the Arakan Division remained free from indigenous plague, a single imported case being registered at Akyab. Rangoon with 2,114 deaths shows a decrease of 860, Moulmein records an increase of 287, and Mandalay an increase of 310 deaths from plague over the figures of 1906. A total of 7,544,645 rats was reported to have been destroyed at a cost of over two lakhs of rupees. Eighteen thousand one hundred and sixty-four persons were inoculated in the Province with Haffkine's prophylactic fluid during 1907. Of these 60 persons subsequently contracted plague, and 43 died. The operation was not popular in Rangoon or Mandalay. In the Henzada District 6,163 operations were performed; in the Amherst District 4,652, and in the Yamethin District 2,551. In accordance with the recommendations of the last Plague Commission, the policy of the Local Government as regards the measures for combating the epidemic was, as indicated in General Department Circular No. 80 of 1907, slightly modified in adaptation to the accepted results of scientific investigation. The importance of rat extermination was given greater prominence. Every effort was made to impress upon the native population the value of inoculation with Haffkine's prophylactic as a safeguard against plague, and Medical Officers well conversant with the Burmese language were specially detailed to infected areas to afford the people all possible opportunities of obtaining protection by undergoing this operation.

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

Emigration and Immigration.

199. The great majority of immigrants and emigrants to and from Burma pass through the Port of Rangoon. The second port of entry is Akyab, but here the movement is of a local character, and adapted to the local demand for labour. The returns for Rangoon for 1907 show a decrease of 52,040 immigrants and 20,002 emigrants as compared with the previous year's figures, but the figures are higher than in any year preceding 1906. The excess of immigrants over emigrants in Rangoon was 12,735 being 32,038 less than in 1906. This excess is the lowest recorded during the last six years. At Akyab the excess of emigrants over immigrants was 7,495. The total increase to the population of the Province in 1907 by immigration amounted to only 3,520, as compared with 40,718 in the previous year.

Medical Relief.

200. There were 227 Hospitals and Dispensaries open in the Province at the end of 1907 as compared with 213 in 1906. Of the 17 institutions opened

Hospitals
and Dis-
pensaries.

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

during 1907, that known as the Cantonment Hospital was established at the Rangoon General Hospital on the 1st April 1907, under the provisions of the Cantonment Code, and separate returns are obtained from it. The dispensary established at Kemmendine supplies the wants of the residents of this suburb of Rangoon which is over three miles distant from the nearest charitable dispensary. Pazundaung, another suburb of Rangoon, was given a dispensary for the exclusive treatment of women and children under the charge of a female doctor. A similar dispensary in charge of a female doctor was also opened at Mandalay. Six Local Fund Institutions were opened, all in Lower Burma, during 1907, and are maintained from District Cess Funds. Efforts to establish dispensaries in the more remote and isolated localities was greatly hindered owing to difficulties in obtaining Hospital Assistants. Mansfield's oil-gas installations sanctioned for the operation rooms at the Bassein and Prome Civil Hospitals have lately been completed. A complete scheme for provincial laboratories has been submitted to Government for approval. With funds placed by Government at the disposal of the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, an experimental laboratory was started at Maymyo and handed over to the control of the Sanitary Commissioner for the cultivation of Danysz virus and other work connected with plague preventive measures. Buildings of importance completed in 1907 and nearing completion in 1908 are the Special Nursing Wards for the New General Hospital, at Rangoon, the building for the Shore Dispensary at Mandalay, the Princess of Wales' Ophthalmic Ward at Mandalay, improvements to the Maymyo Hospital, the Lady Minto's Nurses' quarters at Rangoon and Maymyo, and the Out-door Department of the New General Hospital, Rangoon.

Attendance.

201. The total attendance of in- and out-patients for 1907, excluding the figures for special and Railway Institutions was 1,043,360 or 27,040 more than in the previous year. There has been an increase of 30,740 in the number of out-patients treated which more than counterbalanced a decrease of 3,700 in the number of in-patients and accounted for a net increase of 27,040 in the total attendance of in and out-patients. The number of female in-door patients increased from 5,263 in 1906 to 5,303 in 1907, while the number of male adults decreased from 42,703 in 1906 to 39,133 in 1907. The decrease in male adults was due to the stricter enforcement of orders prohibiting the detention for treatment at Rangoon of out-going passengers for diseases other than suspected plague and other infectious diseases, to the cessation of the small-pox epidemics at Rangoon and to the more rare occurrence of panics due to plague. Every effort has been made to provide further accommodation for female in-patients. The total number of beds available at the end of 1907 was 3,302 for males and 968 for females. The attendance by classes for the three years ending 1907 as compared with the corresponding period ending 1904 shows an increase in all classes except the Burmese. The decline in 1907 among Burmese is chiefly noticeable in Kyaukpyu, Pegu, Prome, Henzada, Sagaing, Magwe, Kyaukse and Myingyan. The Civil Surgeon, Kyaukpyu, attributes the decrease to an outbreak of cholera and to small-pox in various places preventing district people from visiting the town. At Pegu the decrease is attributed to the opening of two new hospitals in the district. In Prome, Sagaing and Kyaukse plague scares are said to be responsible and at Henzada frequent change of Hospital Assistants during the year greatly influenced the attendance. Efforts made to provide better accommodation, to secure the separation of the sexes to a greater extent, and to provide female attendants on patients have met with some success. There has been a general increase under all the principal diseases treated during the year, except small-pox, worms, rheumatic affections, respiratory affections, ulcers, dyspepsia, diarrhoea and dysentery. Malarial fevers contributed the largest number of patients. Sixteen thousand two hundred and ninety-one more cases of malaria were returned in 1907 than in 1906. (The Hospitals and Dispensaries in the Rangoon Town, Pyapôn, Thatôn, and Upper Chindwin Districts and the Chin Hills each show increases of over 1,000, while the Pakokku, Bhamo, Thayetmyo, Mergui, Amherst, Ma-ubin, Tharawaddy and Hanthawaddy Institutions return increases of between 500 and 1,000 in the number of

patients treated for malarial fevers in 1907 over the number treated during 1906. It is not improbable that a large proportion of cases in which the fever is but a symptom have been registered under Malaria. Much has been done towards securing better registration of disease-causes, but still much more remains to be effected. Venereal diseases show a steady increase year by year, the increase in 1907 being 2,219 over the total treated in 1906. The number of patients treated for tubercular diseases in 1907 exceeded the figure of 1906 by 915. Mandalay District alone is responsible for no less than 728 out of a total of 2,094 patients treated for tubercular diseases in 1907. Leaflets in English, Burmese and various vernaculars of India indicating briefly precautions to be taken in treating and preventing the spread of venereal and tubercular diseases were prepared and distributed from all Hospitals and Dispensaries. Excellent surgical work was done during the year, the total number of operations performed during 1907 being 27,206 against 25,893 in 1906. The Hospitals in which most surgical work was performed during 1907 are Rangoon, Mandalay, Moulmein, Thayetmyo and Bassein. At the General Hospital, Rangoon, the total number of operations performed during 1907 was 4,018 against 3,053 in 1906. To supply the want of instruments and appliances in accordance with modern demands of asepticism, special equipment was obtained through the Secretary of State for India, and the Hospitals at Akyab, Prome, Pegu, Mergui, Henzada, Toungoo, Thayetmyo, Ma-ubin, Sagaing, Magwe, Myingvan, Shwebo, Yamèthin, Minbu, Mnywa, Meiktila and Myitkyina have been suitably equipped. Medical expenditure under all heads amounted during 1907 to Rs. 22,47,407 against Rs. 10,26,752 (exclusive of investments) in 1906. Excluding a sum of Rs. 10,63,832 being the expenditure on the New General Hospital, Rangoon, the actual excess over the preceding year, *vis.*, Rs. 1,56,823 is accounted for by increase in the number of dispensaries, promotions of officers and subordinates and the larger number of patients treated during 1907. The expenditure on diet fell from Rs. 1,74,964 in 1906 to Rs. 1,57,601 in 1907 while the expenditure under miscellaneous charges has increased from Rs. 1,35,521 in 1906 to Rs. 2,25,065 in 1907. This large increase during 1907 is due to expenditure on equipment obtained for the New General Hospital and increased Municipal taxation in Rangoon. During 1907, two appointments for superior grades of Medical Officers were added to the cadre, *vis.*, (1) a Sanitary Commissioner for the Province and (2) a second class Civil Surgeoncy for the Hanthawaddy District. At the close of the year 1907, there were 17 Military Assistant Surgeons on the rolls for Civil employment besides 11 lent temporarily for plague duty, and two out of six promised to replace temporarily Civil Medical Officers nominated especially for anti-plague inoculation work. In order to render the service of Civil Assistant Surgeons more attractive special allowances were sanctioned for certain appointments. The Burma allowance which stood formerly at Rs. 50 fixed for all grades was increased. The service of Civil Hospital Assistants continues to be very greatly undermanned, and in spite of various attempts to carry out special recruitment and the offer of special terms of salary for temporary employment, it has not been possible to bring the staff to anything like the sanctioned strength. Attention having been drawn to the great mortality from snake-bite among the people of this Province Sir Lauder Brunton's lancets for the immediate treatment of snake-bite with permanganate of potash was introduced, and during the year 1907, 1,500 of these lancets were sent to Commissioners of Divisions for free distribution to select *Myothugyis*, Village Headmen, Revenue Surveyors, Police Officers, Vaccinators, Veterinary Inspectors, Township Officers and Hospital Assistants. A few reports have been received of successful treatment of snake-bites with potassium permanganate; the snakes in these cases were alleged to have been the Russels Viper, Cobra, and "Gyat" (a species of water serpent). With a small laboratory some Pathological work was performed at the Rangoon General Hospital. At a public meeting held under the presidency of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, on the 19th September 1907, it was decided to establish a Pasteur Institute in this Province, and plans and estimates are being prepared for the construction of the Institute at Maymyo. One hundred and seventy-one patients were treated for plague at the Government Plague Hospital, Rangoon, during 1907 and

CHAP. VI.—
VITAL STATISTICS AND
MEDICAL SERVICES.

32 cured against 489 treated and 169 cured in 1906, the decrease during 1907 being due to the fact that suspected cases among the out-going passengers sent to the Plague Hospital for treatment were very few. In Maymyo 9 patients were treated for plague during 1907 and 6 cured against 159 treated and 69 cured in 1906.

Miscellaneous.

202. Seven hundred and twelve lepers were treated at the different Asylums in the Province against 751 in 1906. Government contributed towards the Rangoon Leper Asylum an allowance of Rs. 50 per mensem. In connection with Nursing, the "Results-system Midwives" scheme has been sanctioned by Government and a lump sum of Rs. 7,800 granted for the building of quarters for candidates undergoing instruction. The Dufferin Hospital Committee undertook and completed the building of quarters and eight candidates have been admitted for training. The Burma Government Medical School for training Burmans, Karens, and other lads of indigenous as well as domiciled races was formally opened on the 4th February 1907 by Colonel W. G. King, I.M.S., the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals. The stipends originally allowed having been found to be too small to attract students a higher rate has been sanctioned.

Lunatic Asylums.

203. During the year a small Lunatic Asylum was established at Minbu as a temporary measure for the detention of a portion of the surplus criminal male population of the Rangoon Asylum. The Rangoon Asylum has accommodation for 429 inmates of all classes. On the first day of 1907, the population stood at 493, and rose to 514, the maximum, on the 18th and 19th April. By the transference of 78 harmless and recovered lunatics to Minbu in April and May, it was reduced to 445, but a steady increase continued throughout the year which closed with 456 inmates in confinement. The daily average strength was 469 against 474 in 1906 and 454 in 1905, so that notwithstanding the opening of a branch Asylum in Minbu, there was overcrowding throughout the year. As in previous years, it was confined to the criminal and female sections. The Minbu Asylum has accommodation for 80 at 50 square feet per head. Its daily average was 73 males. Of the 78 inmates sent there, two were released. Compared with 1906, the daily average sick rate at Rangoon fell from 31.07 to 22.27, but the death-rate rose from 6.74 to 10.01. The higher death-rate is attributable to the admission of a large number of moribund civil patients and to the transfer of 78 healthy inmates to Minbu. In Minbu there were 26 admissions for trivial complaints but no deaths. Expenditure amounted to Rs. 82,433 for Rangoon and Rs. 7,358 for Minbu. Taking both Asylums together the average cost of maintaining a lunatic amounted to Rs. 164, rather more than in 1906. Under manufactures there was a net profit of Rs. 17,962-2-7 in both the Asylums against Rs. 14,165-4-8 in Rangoon during 1906.

Sanitation.

Expenditure.

204. A sum of over 47 lakhs out of a total income of 115 lakhs was devoted by Rural and Municipal authorities to sanitary purposes. The proportional expenditure on sanitation was greater than in previous years. Excluding Rangoon, Municipalities expended 4.98 per cent. of their income on water-supply, 1.33 per cent. on drainage, 20.84 per cent. on conservancy, and 17.42 per cent. on other sanitary works during the year. The proportion of income devoted by Municipalities to sanitary works averaged therefore 44.57 per cent. Though this figure represents improvement it is noticeable that the average amount expended on water-supply is less than the figure of the preceding year. Having regard to the annual recurrence in many towns of water-borne diseases such as epidemic cholera and the risk at each recurrence of its attaining serious dimensions, the small proportion of income spent by Municipalities on the improvement of their drinking water-supply affords ground for misgiving. Town Funds allotted 42.56 per cent. of their income to sanitary purposes and 60 per cent. to water-supply.

205. In Rangoon the scheme alluded to in the Annual Sanitary Report of 1906, for the distribution of pipe water-supply throughout the "Pucca" area has continued to progress. Of other Civil sanitary works alluded to in the Annual Sanitary Report for 1906, the gravitation water-supply scheme of Akyab has advanced a stage. The water-supply scheme of Mandalay has now reached the stage of choice between two projects, *vis.*, the Sedaw Reservoir Scheme estimated to cost Rs. 23,16,587, and the Irrawaddy Intake Scheme, estimated to cost Rs. 18,51,086. The suggestions made in the Annual Sanitary Report for 1906 are undergoing practical trial at Pynmana and Shwebo, the operation of an experimental infiltration gallery for a length of 50 feet being in progress at both of these towns. During the year under review deep borings for tube wells were made at Bhamo, Letpadan, Kyaiklat and elsewhere with varying degrees of success. At the towns of Pyu and Kanyutkwin in the Toungoo District results have been so encouraging that it is proposed to institute an experimental boring at Toungoo itself. The question of increasing the water-supply of Maymyo has been under consideration during the year, with the result that it has been decided to construct a second reservoir supplied by a separate and additional catchment area.

Civil Works
Water Supply
Mandalay
Sewerage
Water-supply.

206. The work of improving and extending the "Shone and Ault" system of sewerage in Rangoon has been continued. The introduction of the Henzada Conservancy Scheme sanctioned by Government during the year has been commenced. The undertaking of an improved Conservancy Scheme for the Town of Mandalay has been temporarily suspended for lack of funds. At the Town of Allamye a project for the construction of masonry drains in the more crowded areas has been adopted, and Government have sanctioned a loan of Rs. 15,000 to the Municipality for its execution.

Conservancy
and Drainage
e.g.

207. The Provincial Sanitary Board held two meetings during the year, one at Rangoon and the other at Maymyo. Papers relating to the Henzada and Mergui conservancy schemes and the Mandalay water-supply schemes were considered.

Sanitary Board.

Vaccination.

208. The vaccination staff employed during the year 1907-08 consisted of 253 Vaccinators and 44 Native Superintendents of Vaccination, compared with 244 and 32 respectively in the previous year. The total number of operations performed during the year was 387,402 against 411,131 in 1906-07 showing a decrease of 23,729 cases. This falling off in the number of operations performed is considered to be to some extent due to the improved supervision of the work performed by rural Vaccinators, by a staff of trained Native Superintendents, which has had the effect of making the submission of false returns less easy; and partly to the apathetic but rarely hostile attitude of the people of some districts towards vaccination. In the Henzada District alone, there was a decrease of 20,369 recorded operations which was reported by the Civil Surgeon to be the result of the unreliable and grossly exaggerated figures returned by Vaccinators in past years, when there was a lack of proper supervision. The total expenditure from all sources on account of vaccination was Rs. 1,38,604 compared with Rs. 1,27,528 for the previous year. The increase in expenditure was largely accounted for by the gradual increase in the number of Native Superintendents of Vaccination since 1906-07 and it was enhanced by the fact that the additional Native Superintendents posted during the year to their respective districts drew travelling allowance during the major portion of the period. The cost of each successful vaccination has also increased from 6 annas and 1 pie in 1906-07 to 6 annas and 11 pies in 1907-08. The proportion of the cost of the Vaccination Department borne by Government, Local Funds, Municipalities and Native States was 40.41, 41.52, 15.56 and 2.51 per cent. respectively. The percentage of success in primary operations in which results are known was 91.78 and in re-vaccination 58.71 against 90.65 and 52.39 respectively for 1906-07. The percentage of cases

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

found successful, out of the total number inspected by Civil Surgeons was 90·52 against 89·20 in the previous year. The rate of success reported by Native Superintendents of Vaccination on inspection was 89·22 against 88·28 in 1906-07. The Native Superintendents have inspected 40·05 per cent. of primary operations and 44·85 per cent. of re-vaccination, while the percentages of operations verified by the Civil Surgeons are only 13·51 and 23·09 only. There has during the last few years been a great improvement in the quality of lymph prepared at the Vaccine Depot at Meiktila, whence the supply for the whole Province excepting the town of Rangoon is obtained. The ratio of success obtained has not been in many instances, however, commensurate with the quality of the lymph supplied and this failure has been due partly to deterioration which is unavoidable owing to the length of time occupied in transit from the depôt to the scene of operation, and partly to carelessness and want of skill on the part of the Vaccinators employed. Inoculation with variolous matter against small-pox is widely practised in non-Municipal areas where it is not illegal, and the rural population freely resort to it whenever they are threatened by an epidemic of small-pox. A Bill to prohibit the practice of inoculation in notified rural areas has been passed into law since the close of the year of report. Its operation may be expected in time to put an end to this dangerous practice throughout the Province.

CHAPTER VII.

INSTRUCTION.

REFERENCES.

- Report on Public Instruction in Burma for the year 1907-08.
Report on the Insein Reformatory School for the year 1907.
Second issue of the Statistics of British India for 1907-08 and preceding years.

The information under the red-letter heading "General System of Public Instruction" in the Report for 1901-02 is to some extent out-of-date. The section has therefore been revised and is repeated with necessary modifications in the following 34 paragraphs.

General System of Public Instruction.

209. On the annexation of Lower Burma the British found an almost unique system of vernacular education ready to their hand throughout their newly acquired possession. The *kyauungs* or monasteries were the schools, and the *pongyis* or monks the teachers, while the taught embraced the whole of the male population of the country, for custom then, as now, demanded that every Burmese Buddhist male, from the highest to the lowest, should pass some portion of his youth in a religious seminary. The tuition given in these indigenous schools was not of the profoundest; but including, as it did, reading, writing and the rudiments of arithmetic, it was not to be despised, and, apart from its intrinsic worth, it was of value as forming a parent stem on which Western educational methods could be grafted. This process of grafting was first systematically carried out by Sir Arthur Phayre in 1866. An Education Department, with a system of grants-in-aid, has been in existence in Burma for many years previously but it was then placed on a sound footing. The attention of the newly appointed Director of Public Instruction was directed to supervising and fostering the scheme for spreading vernacular education through the *kyauungs* or Buddhist monasteries in Rangoon and Moulmein, and the principle of adapting the existing indigenous agency for the diffusion of primary education has since then occupied the foremost place in the educational policy of the Province, Upper Burma having been included in the Education Department's sphere of action in 1889-90. Missionary schools are now plentiful, lay schools both public and private abound, but the bed-rock of vernacular education in Burma is still the monastery teaching and with it is intimately bound up the educational welfare of the people.

Regarded from a purely departmental point of view, education in Burma falls under two main heads, Vernacular and Anglo-Vernacular, the latter being carried on wholly under the supervision of the Government Educational authorities. The former is only partially supervised, for a large number of the monastery schools have not yet conformed to the rules of the Education Department and sought registration. Non-registered schools obtain no assistance from Government, but schools which have been registered and have submitted to Government inspection are helped with grants of various kinds.

210. The Education Department is under the control of the Director of Public Instruction and consists of an Imperial, a Provincial and a Subordinate Service. Members of the Indian Educational Service have a British University training and are appointed in England by the Secretary of State. In this Service are included the Director of Public Instruction, an Assistant Director, six Inspectors of Schools, the Principal and three Professors in the Rangoon College, the Principal, Government High and Normal School, Moulmein, and the Principal of the Rangoon Collegiate School. The Provincial Service includes six Assistant Inspectors, the Head Master, Government Collegiate School, Rangoon, the Head Master of the Moulmein High School, the Head Master and Technical Instructor of the Government School of Engineering, Insein, the Editor, Vernacular Text Books, the Superintendent of the Insein Reformatory and four Lecturers at the Rangoon College.

CHAP. VII—
INSTRUC-
TION.

The Assistant Inspectors are Natives of Burma while the other Provincial Officers are ordinarily Europeans recruited in Burma. The Subordinate Service consists of two branches, one (the general branch) is ungraded and includes 206 appointments on pay ranging between Rs. 400 and Rs. 40 per mensem, whereas the other is graded and includes 52 Deputy Inspectors, 16 Sub-Inspectors and 213 Itinerant Teachers. The Subordinate Service consists mainly of Burmans, Karens or Talains. In addition to the Education Department there is a body called the Educational Syndicate who advise on educational matters and conduct the Teachers' Theoretical Test and Provincial Examinations.

Government
control.

211. The teaching staff of the Education Department consists of the masters of the Government schools (high, middle, normal, etc.) in the Province; but it is comparatively small as until recently the accepted practice was that Government should "ordinarily not establish and directly manage schools and colleges of its own, but should inspect, regulate and assist schools established and managed by private persons or associations." The direct management of schools was left to individual or corporate private enterprise and to Municipal and Town Committees. Schools managed by these agencies were and are aided by Government grants and inspected and guided by the Education Department. This policy has been modified and it is intended that Government shall take a more direct part in the management of Colleges and Schools. In pursuance of this intention the management of the Rangoon College and Collegiate School was resumed some years ago by Government from the Educational Syndicate. It is also proposed that Government should take over the principal Municipal Schools. The intention is that in the course of time there shall be a Government Anglo-Vernacular High School in every district and it is hoped that in most cases the Principals of these Schools will be members of the Indian Educational Service. But the great part of the tuition is given and must continue to be given by non-Government teachers.

To spread elementary education, however, and to assist such persons as are anxious to have their schools registered by the Education Department, or to raise their grade, a staff of itinerant teachers is maintained by Government. Measures have also been taken to facilitate the appointment of pupil teachers for small and struggling institutions needing special assistance of this kind. These teachers are examined yearly and undergo a practical training at a normal school. In Lower Burma municipalities and committees of notified town areas have the general control of educational affairs within their jurisdiction subject to the rules laid down in the local Education Code; in Upper Burma the control of municipal and town schools rests directly with the Education Department. In Lower Burma education is one of the objects on which District Cess Fund money may be spent, but the District Funds of Upper Burma may not be thus applied.

Schools and
Colleges.

212. The Province has no separate University, but there are two colleges which are affiliated to the Calcutta University, one up to the B.A. Standard (the Government College) the other up to the F.A. Standard (the Baptist College). Secondary schools are classed as High and Middle. In the former pupils are taught up to the Calcutta Entrance Standard and to the Vernacular Ninth Standard, in the latter up to the Seventh Standard Vernacular and Anglo-Vernacular. The Education Department maintains six High Schools (one Vernacular, one European, four Anglo-Vernacular) 24 Middle Schools (nine Anglo-Vernacular and 15 Vernacular) and 20 Primary Anglo-Vernacular and Vernacular Schools (18 for boys, two for girls). There are seventeen Municipal Anglo-Vernacular Schools for boys in Lower Burma. Of these, one is a Primary School and twelve are Middle Schools. The remaining four are High Schools. A considerable number of Anglo-Vernacular and Vernacular Schools are under private management receiving Government aid in the form of grants. As already stated a special feature in the Primary education of the Province is the instruction given by the *pangyis* or Buddhist monks. In almost every village there is a monastery where one of the chief duties of the presiding *pangyi* is the instruction of the children belonging to the village. No fees are taken, but

in a few cases the schools receive aid from Government. Other schools are established by lay teachers. The primary schools are assisted by itinerant teachers appointed by the Department and working under the orders of the Deputy Inspectors. Besides these schools all the Middle and High Schools have primary departments attached. There are also special schools for non-Burman races. The training of teachers is provided for at twelve Normal Schools of which eight are for masters and four for mistresses.

CHAP. VII.—
INSTRUC-
TION.

213. The rules of the Government in the Education Department are to be found in the Education Code which is revised every five years, a conference of managers being called to submit proposals for revision. The Code as revised contains the working experience of the previous five years. A revised edition is now under issue. A separate code is published for the use of European Schools.

Education
Code.

214. The persons responsible with the officers of the Education Department for the educational administration of the Province are:—

Administra-
tion.

- (a) Officers of the Civil administration from Commissioners to Myoōks.
- (b) Municipal and Town Committees.

The Educational Budgets are arranged by them in consultation with the Department and supplemented when necessary from Provincial and District Cess Funds.

215. There are five Inspection circles, Northern, Eastern, Western, Central and Southern under five Inspectors; a separate Inspector is in charge of the Normal and European Schools. Under them are six Assistant Inspectors, 52 Deputy Inspectors, 16 Sub-Inspectors and 213 Itinerant Teachers.

Inspection.

216. For the special supervision of Vernacular Primary Education, each circle of Inspection is divided into sub-circles, each corresponding with a civil district and placed under a Deputy Inspector of Schools. The sub-circles of Pegu, Hanthawaddy, Pakōkku and Shwebo, owing to their size have each two Deputy Inspectors of Schools. For Anglo-Vernacular work, Rangoon schools are divided among the Inspectors of Schools, Eastern, Western, Southern and Central Circles and for Vernacular work under the Inspector of Schools, Eastern Circle. There is a separate Mahomedan Deputy Inspector for Urdu Schools and a separate Karen Deputy Inspectors for Karen Schools. A Tamil Deputy Inspector has charge of all the Tamil Schools in the Province.

Distribution
of work.

217. Educational institutions are classed as Colleges and Schools, Anglo-Vernacular or Vernacular or European, public or private.

Classifica-
tion of insti-
tutions.

218. Colleges teach pupils who have passed the Entrance or Matriculation for the F.A. (in the case of the Baptist College) for the F.A. and B.A. (in the case of the Government College). The Government College is supported from Provincial funds and fees. Private enterprise has as yet provided no endowments. The Baptist College is supported by Government aid, fees and mission grants.

Colleges.

219. Schools are public or private, indigenous or non-indigenous, general or special, primary or secondary, Vernacular or Anglo-Vernacular or European, under public or private management, Government or aided.

Classifi-
cation of
schools.

Public Schools are those—

- (a) in which the course of study conforms to the standards prescribed by Government or a University and
- (b) which are inspected by the Department and present pupils at the public examinations held by the Department or by the University.

220. An indigenous school is one established by natives of Burma or India and conducted on purely vernacular lines. It may be monastic or lay. The former are conducted in monasteries by monks and usually admit no girls. The

Definition of
an Indigen-
ous School.

CHAP. VII.—**INSTRUCTION.** latter are for boys or girls or both. Vernacular schools conducted by Missions are classed for purposes of examination and receiving grants as indigenous.

Special Schools. 221. Special schools are of six kinds:—Training, Surveying, Engineering, Medical, Industrial, Veterinary.

Training schools are Government and aided. Survey schools are supported by Government and are under the supervision of the Commissioner of Settlements and Land Records. There is one School of Engineering. It prepares for the Subordinate grades of the Public Works Department. The new buildings in connection with this school were opened by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor in March 1908. There is a Government Medical School in Rangoon.

Reformatory School. 222. The Government Reformatory at Insein is now under the control of the Director of Public Instruction. There are six literary standards and technical instruction reaches the Seventh Standard. Besides the Reformatory there are three Industrial Schools attached to aided schools in the Province.

Manual Training. 223. Manual Training or Slöjd is taught in all Normal Schools and in St. John's College, Rangoon, and the Roman Catholic Mission School at Thônzè.

Standards of Instruction. 224. There are at present ten standards of instruction from the Infant to the Ninth for Vernacular, Anglo-Vernacular, and European Schools. The first three are Lower Primary, the next two Upper Primary, the next three Middle or Low Secondary and the last two High or Upper Secondary. The Ninth Standard Anglo-Vernacular and European is the Entrance class. After passing it, a student may enter an Arts college. Under the new Anglo-Vernacular Code there will be an additional standard (X) in the Anglo-Vernacular High School next year.

Vernacular Schools. 225. Vernacular Schools are those in which no English is taught: Anglo-Vernacular those in which English and a Vernacular are taught in every standard from the lowest to the highest.

Teaching of English. 226. Under the new Anglo-Vernacular Code mentioned above, the teaching of English is now limited in Anglo-Vernacular Standards I—III to conversational and oral methods; a change which will give the vernacular its proper place in the Primary standards.

Management. 227. An institution is considered to be under public management when it is under the direct management of Government or of officers or committees acting on behalf of Government or of local committees constituted by law. Government institutions receive no grants-in-aid, while schools under Municipalities receive aid in the form of half-salary grants. Schools under private management are all aided.

System of Aid. 228. There are two systems of aid: one under the "Grant-in-aid rules for Anglo-Vernacular Schools and European Schools" and one under the "Grant-in-aid rules for indigenous schools." Before a school is eligible for grants it has to be registered under the rules for registration. The grants are of nine kinds:—

- (a) *Ordinary or maintenance* grants, calculated on the difference between the income and expenditure, the income from fees being calculated on definite rules as to the rate of fee and remissions.
- (b) *Boarding* grants for each pupil supplied with board and lodging on the school premises.
- (c) *Results* grants for technical subjects.
- (d) *Special* grants to supplement private expenditure on buildings, furniture and apparatus.
- (e) *Salary* grants to fully certificated teachers.
- (f) *Fixed* grants, tenable for five years, subject to progress and to the observance of the rules laid down by the Department.

- (g) *Normal School grants.*
 (h) *Extra grants for Europeans and for girls.*
 (i) *Cadet grants for every European or Eurasian cadet who is efficient during the year.*

CHAP. VII.—
INSTRUCTION.

All grants, except the two last, are subject to the condition that the total given to a school must not exceed the amount contributed during the previous year from private sources.

229. Indigenous schools are maintained by Burmans, Karens, Tamils, Telugus, Chins, Kachins, Mahomedans, Talaings, Taungthus and Manipuris, and by missionary societies. As in the case of Anglo-Vernacular schools these schools have to be registered. The requirements for registration are—

Indigenous
Schools.

- (a) That the school has a working session of at least four months.
 (b) That at least four pupils are able to read and write their vernacular as judged by standard I.
 (c) That the school passes pupils within a year of registration by the recognized standards.

The aid given is of six kinds—

- (a) *Results grants.*
 (b) *Pupil-teacher grants.*
 (c) *Special grants for buildings, furniture and apparatus.*
 (d) *Salary grants for two years to enable managers to maintain themselves till fees and results grants render their schools self-supporting.*
 (e) *Fixed grants.*
 (f) *Extra grants.*

230. The training of teachers for Vernacular, Anglo-Vernacular and European work has received special attention in recent years. There are now five Government and seven aided Normal Schools, of which eight are for men and four for women.

Training
Institutions.

231. The education of backward tribes is fully attended to by the Department. Those of a specially backward nature are given extra grants and in their cases the rules are considerably relaxed. Extra grants are also given in the case of European schools owing to the greater cost of maintenance.

Education
of special
classes.

232. A special form of aid is open to the children of Europeans in Burma—

Aid to Euro-
pean
Orphans.

- (a) A fixed number of monthly stipends, tenable for three years, awarded annually, towards the maintenance and education of orphans, at approved institutions.
 (b) A fixed number of boarder stipends, tenable for three years, to enable poor European parents to send their children to boarding schools.
 (c) A fixed number of apprentice stipends, tenable by apprentices at approved workshops.

These stipends are awarded by Boards at Rangoon, Moulmein, Akyab and Mandalay, under rules laid down in the Code. No stipends are paid except on account of children who are actually under instruction. The stipends are tenable subject to good conduct and progress.

233. An examination in Pāli is held annually in Mandalay, Rangoon, Moulmein and Akyab, to which monks, laymen and nuns are admitted. This is known as the Patamabyan. It is divided into three grades: Patamangā, Patamalat and Patamagyi. The candidate who heads the list in the last grade is known as "The Patamagyaw" of the year. His certificate is specially presented to him by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor. The Patamagyaw is exempted for life from *thathameda* or capitation-tax, as the case may be. If he is a *pōngyi* his natural parents are so exempted. Rewards and certificates are given for passes in each grade. To any candidate who is forbidden by his habits of life to take

Pāli Exam-
inations.

CHAP. VII—
INSTRUC-
TION.

money presents of robes of equal value are made. The examination is very popular and has done much to enlist the sympathies of the monks.

Examina-
tions.

234. The examinations held in Burma are of two kinds: (a) *University* and (b) *Provincial*. The former consist of the Entrance, F.A. and B.A. examinations of the Calcutta University. The latter are conducted by the Education Department and consist of the examination of standards One to Nine Anglo-Vernacular, Infant to High School in European Schools, and Infant to Ninth, Vernacular; School of Engineering, upper and lower subordinate grades; pupil teachers, first and second years, theoretical, and first, second and third years, practical; normal schools, first and second years, theoretical and practical; teachers' drawing tests; Patamabyan; and technical examinations.

Scholarships
and prizes.

235. The scholarships and prizes consist of—

- (a) Five *senior University* scholarships, tenable for two years by students who have passed the F.A. and read in a college for the B.A.
- (b) Twenty *junior University* scholarships, tenable for two years in a college, by students who have passed the Entrance and read for the F.A.
- (c) Thirty-eight *Middle English* scholarships, tenable for two years in a high school, awarded on the results of the Seventh Standard examination.
- (d) One *Medical* Scholarship tenable for five years at the Medical College, Calcutta, offered every year for candidates of Burman or Indo-Burman origin, one offered every other year for European and Eurasian candidates whose parents are domiciled in Burma. Candidates for these scholarships must be over 24 years of age and have passed the F.A. Examination and must ultimately pass the L.M.S. degree.
- (e) Five *Hospital Assistant* scholarships open to candidates of Burmese and Karen origin, of whole or half blood and Burmese-speaking sons of Hospital Assistants who have served 10 years in Burma. The initial qualification is the Seventh Anglo-Vernacular Standard.
- (f) Three *female medical* scholarships, tenable for four years in the Medical College, Calcutta, by female candidates of any nationality, who are permanently domiciled in Burma, and who have passed the Entrance Examination and have a knowledge of Burmese equivalent to the Seventh Standard.
- (g) Three *Lower Subordinate* scholarships, tenable for two and one-fourth years in the Government School of Engineering, Insein, by a candidate who has passed the Seventh Standard.
- (h) Two *Upper Subordinate* scholarships, tenable for three and one-half years in the Government School of Engineering, Insein, by a candidate who has passed the Entrance.
- (i) One *Draftsman* scholarship tenable for three and one-half years in the Government School of Engineering, Insein, by candidates who have passed the Entrance Examination of the Calcutta University.
- (j) Two *Maung Ohn Ghine* scholarships, tenable under certain specified conditions detailed in the Code for two years each, in the Upper and Lower Subordinate classes respectively, of the Government School of Engineering, Insein.
- (k) One *Maung Ohn Ghine* medal, awarded annually to that pupil of the Government School of Engineering, Insein, who gains the highest marks in the final test for the Upper Subordinate class.
- (l) One *Copleston* prize, open to the student, male or female, reading in a recognized normal school, both of whose parents are either Burmese, Talaing, Karen, Chin, Shan or Kachin, who stands first in the Vernacular Secondary Grade Teachers' Test Examination.
- (m) One *Governor of Rennaung* prize, the product of an endowment by His Excellency Khaw Sein Kong, awarded annually in the Government Collegiate School, Rangoon, to the best scholar of the year in the Entrance, in English and Burmese.

- (u) One *Jardine* prize, awarded to the student of the Rangoon College who passes highest in the first division of the F. A. Examination. CHAP. VII.—
INSTRUCTION.
- (o) *Garnet Man* prize, five in number awarded to pupils from the five principal schools in Rangoon for proficiency in English history and more especially English naval history.

236. Scholarships open to pupils from European schools are of five grades—
 Fifteen Primary tenable for three years in Middle classes. Scholarships
tenable in
European
Schools.
 Fifteen Middle tenable for two years in High classes.
 Seven High tenable for two years.
 Two Collegiate tenable for two years.
 One Final tenable for two years.

237. One Engineering scholarship is offered annually to candidates of Burmese and Indo-Burmese blood, and to Europeans and Eurasians whose parents are domiciled in Burma. Candidates must have passed the B.A. Course of Calcutta in Physics and Chemistry and be under 23 years of age or the F.A. Course of Calcutta and be under 21. This scholarship is tenable at the Engineering College, Sibpur. Engineering
Scholarship.

238. The Educational Syndicate awards from funds in its keeping to women three scholarships a year known as the St. Barbe scholarships, tenable for one year in the Dufferin Hospital, Rangoon. They also award one scholarship, known as the Bigandet scholarship of Rs. 600 tenable in the Calcutta Medical College for five years, to candidates male or female, who are domiciled in Burma, have a fluent knowledge of Burmese and have passed the F. A. Examination, if male, the Entrance if female. St. Barbe's
Scholarship
and Bigandet
Medical
Scholarship.

239. The *Bigandet* medal is awarded every three years to any person who is either a native of, or is domiciled in Burma and who has, during the three years preceding the date of award, distinguished himself or herself by marked success at an university or professional examination or by the publication of any literary or scientific work of exceptional merit. Bigandet
Medal.

240. The *Gilbert* scholarship is tenable on the technical side of the Rangoon College by a selected student who has passed the Anglo-Vernacular Seventh Standard. Till such technical side is opened, it is tenable in any approved workshop. Gilbert
Scholarship.

241. The Burma Railways Company, Limited, entertain a number of apprentices, limited to 35 Europeans and Eurasians and 35 Natives of Burma. The apprenticeships last for five years. Government supplies a teacher for English, a teacher for mensuration, practical geometry, and mechanical drawing. Railway
Workshop
Apprentices.

242. The Text-Book Committee is a standing body consisting of the Director and twenty members, official and non-official, appointed by the Local Government. Books in English and Vernacular are submitted at the instance of the Director to the Committee for approval, prior to authorization by Government for use in schools. The Committee however has no control over books intended for use in European schools which are dealt with departmentally. The Committee is divided into two Sub-Committees dealing with Vernacular and English books respectively. As part of the Education Department's staff an Editor and Sub-editor of Text-Books are maintained, their duty being to prepare works approved by the Committee and Government for use in schools and to make any necessary translations. Text-Book
Committee

Education.

243. The number of colleges and schools of all descriptions during the year ending the 31st March 1908 was 22,425. These were attended by 423,819 pupils, of whom 70,298 were girls. Public institutions numbered 6,563 and included Number of
schools and
scholars and
expenditure.

CHAP. VII.—
INSTRUC-
TION.

249,400 pupils. Private institutions which numbered 15,862 with 174,419 pupils were all of an elementary kind and of this total only 101 were girls' schools. In comparison with the previous year's figures, the returns for public and private institutions show an increase of almost five per cent. as regards number and over six per cent. as regards attendance. The percentage of male scholars to the male school-going population now stands at 44.12 against 41.96 in the previous year; that of girls to the female school-going population is now 9.10 against 8.14 in 1906-07. The total expenditure on education rose from under 35 to over 39 lakhs, the increase being nearly equally distributed between direct and indirect expenditure. Nearly one-half the amount was met from Provincial Funds, about one-fourth from fees and the balance from Local and Municipal Funds and contributions from private sources. Provincial Funds provided 18.79 lakhs for education as compared with 16.09 lakhs in 1906-07. Of this sum 6½ lakhs roughly were spent on Government schools, a little more on aided schools and Rs. 74,000 on District Fund and Municipal institutions. The expansion of expenditure from Provincial Revenues was mainly incurred on Government schools. A satisfactory increase is shown in the receipts from fees, 9.71 lakhs, and from "other sources", 4.36 lakhs. Expenditure from all sources on buildings and furniture amounted to 5.24 lakhs, 1½ lakhs more than in 1906-07, and charges for Direction and Inspection, which are almost entirely paid by Government, rose from 3.25 to 4.63 lakhs.

Primary
Education.

244. The term 'primary school' includes schools teaching English as well as purely Vernacular schools. The total number of primary schools shows an increase of three per cent., but it must be noted that a considerable number were raised to secondary grade. Their attendance is thus reckoned under secondary schools and this accounts for the small increase of six per cent. in pupils attending primary schools. Anglo-Vernacular schools have decreased by five, four having been transferred to the secondary list, two abolished and one opened. The total number of pupils in the primary stages of instruction in all schools including those in the primary departments of secondary schools was 234,999 compared with 214,687 in 1906-07, an increase of nine per cent. The figures are distributed as follows:—

Pupils in primary schools	...	...	...	183,290
In primary departments of secondary schools	...	...	...	51,709
			Total	234,999

Of Anglo-Vernacular primary schools four are managed by Government and twenty are aided. Of Vernacular schools fourteen are managed by Government, a decrease of five on the previous year, due to the transfer of six schools to the secondary list. No 'five-hundred rupee' schools were opened during the year.

The total expenditure on primary education including the cost of the primary departments of secondary schools was Rs. 12,22,252 against Rs. 11,29,378 in 1906-07, of which Rs. 4,71,763 came from Provincial Funds and Rs. 2,61,553 from District Funds.

Secondary
Education.

245. Secondary schools increased by seven per cent. during the year and to this increase the Pegu, Irrawaddy and Meiktila Divisions and Southern Shan States have contributed. Attendance increased by thirteen per cent. and all parts of the Province share in this advance. In Vernacular secondary education the improvement is still more remarkable, schools showing an increase of twenty-two per cent. and attendance of twenty-six per cent. There are now ten Vernacular high schools with 1,521 pupils as compared with eight schools and 992 pupils in 1906-07. Government Anglo-Vernacular schools increased from twelve to fourteen. Municipal Anglo-Vernacular schools remain at sixteen while aided schools increased from fifty-seven to sixty-one. The number of Anglo-Vernacular high schools are as follows: 5 Government, 4 Municipal, 10 Aided; of Middle Schools—Government 9, Municipal 12, Aided 51. Government Vernacular schools have increased by 6 and aided schools by 87, an increase of 75 and 21 per cent. respectively. There was a large increase in the number of passes by the Entrance examination,

the total rising from 105 to 164. Out of the pupils who passed only five were girls. Only five pupils passed the Vernacular ninth standard as against six in the previous year. This figure does not include normal students of whom seventeen passed. In the Anglo-Vernacular eighth standard examination 336 pupils were presented (six girls) and 285 passed (five girls), a much better result than in the previous year. In the Vernacular eighth standard 54 appeared and 20 passed and 36 normal students were successful. The passes in the Middle School examinations in Anglo-Vernacular schools increased by 80 per cent. and in Vernacular schools by 23 per cent. The total expenditure on secondary schools rose from 13.13 to 14.83 lakhs of which nearly 5 lakhs came from Provincial Funds and 5½ lakhs from fees. There was considerable expansion under both these heads.

CHAP. VII.—
INSTRUCTION.

246. There are two colleges in Burma—the Government College and the Baptist College—both teaching the Arts course. The former teaches up to the B.A. standard, the latter up to the F.A. The total attendance in the Rangoon College was 115 or four more than in the previous year. Ten students appeared for the B.A. Examination and seven passed. Forty-nine appeared for the F.A. Examination and 25 passed, 16 in the second division. The Baptist College had 23 students on the roll. Fifteen candidates were presented for the F.A. Examination of whom one passed in the second division and obtained a scholarship and two passed in the third division. The total expenditure on Collegiate education has risen by twenty-eight per cent. and is now almost a lakh. Provincial Revenues contributed about Rs. 67,000, an increase of 37 per cent.

Collegiate
Education.

247. The new buildings in connection with the Government Engineering School, Insein, were opened by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor during the year. The number of students on the roll during the year was 90 as compared with 63. Of these 9 were Europeans or Eurasians, 12 Burmans and 69 Natives of India. Other Technical schools exist at Rangoon and Toungoo and the number of pupils enrolled in such schools amounted to 192. A certain amount of technical instruction is given in ordinary schools. The subjects taught include drawing, weaving, cooking, carpentry, lace-making, sewing, etc.

Technical
Education.

248. The rules relating to Normal Schools were thoroughly revised during the year and the new regulations took effect from the 1st January 1908. The initial qualification on the Anglo-Vernacular side is now a seventh standard pass. This was required only from secondary grade students before, the primary grade students being admitted with a fifth standard pass. The period of training is two years, except for higher grade students, who require three. The literary course requires more English, but in other subjects has been limited so as to give students a thorough knowledge of what they will afterwards be called on to teach. This literary work no longer corresponds to the work of the standards. On the Vernacular side the qualification for admission is a pass by the sixth standard. Students who remain two years leave with a primary grade certificate, those who remain three years with a secondary grade certificate and those who remain four years with a higher grade certificate, provided that their work merits this recognition. The higher grade Vernacular certificate is a new institution. Until recently the seventh standard was the highest stage reached on the Vernacular side. The eighth and ninth standards were introduced in 1898 and have proved very popular with Normal students and with the best school managers. The additional literary work now imposed for the higher grade certificate carries the students still higher. There were 12 Normal schools in the Province of which 8 are for men and 4 for women. These figures are the same as in 1906-07. Pupils have decreased from 542 to 466. The figures for men show a decrease of 7 per cent. The largest decrease was in the Government Normal School, Rangoon, where numbers fell from 75 to 19—the decline being due to the changed rules which now compel students to attend for the whole day. Of students in Normal schools 172 took the Anglo-Vernacular and 294 the Vernacular course compared with 297 and 245. Outside candidates were allowed on the Vernacular side and a large number appeared for examination. Taking Normal students and outside

Training
Schools.

CHAP. VII.—
INSTRUC-
TION.

candidates together the following is the list of presentation and passes under various grades:—

	Presented	Passed
Primary Vernacular	1,368	312
Primary Anglo-Vernacular	78	57
Secondary Vernacular	422	64
Secondary Anglo-Vernacular	93	33
High Anglo-Vernacular	15	9

Expenditure on Normal schools is borne by Provincial Revenues and 'other sources.' The total cost was Rs. 1,22,355 representing an increase of 24 per cent. and of this Rs. 1,10,029 was met from Provincial Funds.

European
Education.

249. The total number of European pupils in all classes of registered institutions was 3,518, an increase of 3 per cent., but of these no fewer than 1,296 were in schools registered under the Anglo-Vernacular Code. This number will be much reduced shortly, as several schools will open European departments. There were 16 Secondary and 2 Primary European schools; of the Secondary 9 have high departments. One hundred and forty-one pupils attending European schools were returned as non-Europeans as compared with 151 in the previous year. Of the 3,334 pupils returned as in European schools 1,767 were in Primary standards, 453 in Middle School standards, and 114 in High School standards. Of the latter, 74 were girls and 40 boys, a fall of 27 and 10 respectively. The total expenditure on European education rose from Rs. 2,24,401 to Rs. 3,45,001 and the Government share of this expenditure from Rs. 97,926 to Rs. 1,68,105. Scholarships have increased from Rs. 1,533 to Rs. 5,097. Expenditure on European schools (exclusive of building, scholarships, etc.) has increased from Rs. 1,77,564 to Rs. 2,02,411, an increase of 14 per cent. In 1906-07 Provincial Funds contributed only Rs. 39,105, while in the year of report the share of Government was Rs. 95,636, an increase due to the fact that in 1907-08 the cost of European schools was met entirely from Provincial Revenues.

Education
of Special
Classes.

250. The total number of Mahomedans under instruction shows a decrease of 1,547 or 21 per cent.; one in 43 pupils of school-going age attend school. This decrease is on the Vernacular side and is confined to Primary schools. The decrease in private schools is 48 and in public schools 7. Primary schools were attended by 459 pupils less while Secondary schools showed an increase of 197. This decrease is entirely in Arakan. Passes gained by Mahomedans in Higher Examinations include 12 in the Entrance Class, two by the F.A. Standard and one B.A., a great improvement on last year. The passes in the Middle School were nearly doubled. Karens maintained 12 Anglo-Vernacular and 85 Vernacular schools, the latter showing an increase of 10 per cent. Tamils and Telugus maintained 11 schools with 1,820 pupils. Talangs maintained 72 public schools with an attendance of 3,370. Shan schools have risen from 37 to 112 and attendance from 1,313 to 2,911. There were two Chinese schools as before, one at Bhamo maintained by Government and one in Mandalay under the Roman Catholic Mission. There was also a special Chinese class attached to the Methodist Episcopal Burmese Boys' School, Rangoon. The Chins maintained 16 schools as compared with 14 last year and attendance has also increased. There are now 15 Kachin public schools, an increase of 6. Palaungs, Taungthus and Manipuris among them had 11 schools, but this is a decrease on the figures of 1906-07.

Female
Education.

251. The total number of girls in institutions of all kinds, public and private, was 70,298, of whom 66,220 are in public institutions—one girl in every eleven of school-going age is attending school as compared with one in twelve in 1906-07. The largest number of girls in attendance in public schools is to be found in Pegu Division, but the Irrawaddy and Tenasserim Divisions are not far behind. Five girls attended the Colleges and in the Training Schools the numbers fell from 165 to 98, a decrease due to the changed conditions of admission referred to above. There was an increase of one Anglo-Vernacular Girls' school and 665 pupils, a rise of 22

per cent. On the Vernacular side there was an increase of three schools and 306 pupils. Of the girls in public institutions 64,615 were in Primary Standards, 1,099 in the Middle stage and 97 in the High School stage representing a considerable increase in the Primary, a small increase in the Middle, but a serious fall of 19 per cent. in the High stage. The total expenditure on Girls' Vernacular schools was Rs. 85,367 and on Girls' Anglo-Vernacular schools Rs. 2,41,687. The cost of Anglo-Vernacular Secondary schools has risen by Rs. 39,789, while that of Anglo-Vernacular Primary schools has fallen by Rs. 2,802, the increase under the former head being due to the larger number of girls' schools. The total amount of contributions from Local and Municipal Funds fell from Rs. 86,321 to Rs. 65,893. The percentage of direct expenditure from public funds on girls' schools of all classes was 11.5 as compared with 11.6 in 1906-07.

252. The total number of boys confined in the Insein Reformatory School at the end of the year was 80, the same number as in 1905. There were 23 admissions and as many discharges. Of the 23 boys admitted 20 were illiterate. Six literary standards are taught and the boys are reported to have done well in the examinations. They are also taught other work including gardening, tinsmith work, carpentry, cane work and boot-making. In these technical subjects instruction reaches the Seventh Standard. The reports which have been received from the Deputy Inspectors of Schools regarding boys who have left the school are, on the whole, satisfactory. The Director of Public Instruction is now making enquiries in England as to the management of English Reformatories and, on his return from leave, will submit proposals for the improvement of the institution. The net expenditure on the school amounted to Rs. 12,253, slightly less than the figure of 1,206. There was a profit of Rs. 703 from manufactures and a sum of Rs. 174 was obtained by the sale of garden produce.

Literature and the Press.

253. The total number of publications registered during the calendar year 1907 under the Printing Presses and Books Act, 1867, was 171, as against 263 registered during the previous year, a decrease of 92. The outturn of 1906, however, was exceptional, being almost double that of the year before. Of the 171 publications no less than 155 were written in Pali, Burmese or both combined. Of the small remainder six were written in English, three in English and Burmese together, and one in English and Shan. Only six books were written entirely in a Vernacular other than Burmese, one in Kachin, one in Talaing, three in Sgau-Karen and one in Tamil, this last, a translation of the Vedic poems by Hajarath Sahib, being the solitary product of the Indian mind in Burma. Seventy-eight works are included under the head of Religion, 52 under Drama and 11 under Language. Books of poetry and songs (wrongly included) swell the number of dramas, but even without these the section would still comprise a large proportion of the books published during the year. Burma cannot complain of a plethora of fiction. This heading is represented by four works only, two of which are translations. The story of Maung Ta Naw, which appears first in the list, is in no sense a novel; it is a collection of puns, jests and those verbal quibbles to which the Burmese language so readily lends itself. The only other work of fiction which is not translated is Maung Nyo's story of Dudiwahana and the Princess Pathadassandi. This book, however, which relates the adventures of a sort of Don Juan, bears all the marks of adaptation from India. The style meets with the reviewer's approval, but the moral tone does not. The most important, or at any rate the most useful new contribution under the heading of language is a Pali Grammar by Mr. Duroiselle of the Rangoon College. This has been prepared to meet the special needs of Burmese students, who are invariably innocent of Sanskrit. The only law-book published during the year was a short handbook by Mr. Richard, Township Judge of Pyapön, on the law of gambling in Burma. The four medical works issued were all on Burmese medicine. There are apparently two schools of medicine in Burma, the Dietists and the Druggists.

CLASS. VII.—
INSTRUCTION.

Both are entirely empirical and full of quackery, but the former is slightly the more respectable, and it is to this school that the works under review belong. Owing to faulty classification only one Burmese poetical work has found its way into the poetry section. This is the *Mingala Egyin* of Maung Po Shin, Township Judge of Okpo, a collection of odes intended to be sung at the obsequies of the late Okpo *Sayadaw*. Works on religion account for nearly half the total number of books. The most notable feature of the year's list is the literary activity of the Ledi *Sayadaw* and his following, who are responsible for no less than 22 books and pamphlets on moral, religious and kindred subjects, ranging from cow-eating to metaphysics. The scientific spirit is not yet abroad in Burma. Four works appear in this section, but none of them are, strictly speaking, scientific. Perhaps the most important literary feature of the year under review is the literary campaign of the Ledi *Sayadaw*. Whether it indicates any sustained effort to revive a Buddhist propaganda and to render Buddhism as a religion a more practical guide on the conditions of modern life in Burma remains to be seen. None of the other classes of literature exhibit any new tendencies or any features specially worthy of notice except perhaps the morbid sensationalism of the indigenous school of dramatists.

Presses,
Newspapers
and Periodicals.

254. Eighty-six printing presses were at work in the Province during the year 1907-08, eight more than in the previous year. Forty-seven newspapers and 158 periodicals were issued from these presses as compared with 38 and 49 in 1906-07. Of the newspapers 24 were published in English and 13 in Burmese. Seven daily newspapers were published, four in English, two in Burmese, and one in Chinese. All except one Mandalay English paper appeared in Rangoon. The most important daily papers are the "Rangoon Gazette," published in the morning, and the "Rangoon Times," an evening paper. A number of newspapers of no great importance are also published in English and Burmese at intervals varying from three times a week to once a month. There are besides a weekly and a bi-weekly paper in Tamil, a bi-weekly Gujerati and a weekly Telugu paper as well as several Karen newspapers. A considerable number of the Burmese and Karen newspapers as well as most of the periodicals other than Government publications are of a religious character, and many of them are published by the American Baptist Mission Press, Rangoon.

Literary Societies.

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

Arts and Sciences.

255. The annual Provincial Art Competition was opened by the Lieutenant-Governor in February 1908. There were more entries than usual in all classes and the workmanship was up to the high standard expected at these competitions. The wood-carvers were especially well represented in all the grades. The prize offered to master-silversmiths for a large piece of plate was taken by a man from Bassein. The picture and photograph sections showed a great falling off in the number of exhibits though some of the work was good, a study of exceptional merit being awarded the Lieutenant-Governor's prize.

CHAPTER IX.
MISCELLANEOUS.

Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

(See paragraphs 492 and 493 of the Report on the Administration of Burma for the year 1901-02.)

Ecclesiastical.

257. No ecclesiastical event of interest occurred during the year. The Right Revd. A. M. Knight, M.A., D.D., Bishop of Rangoon, went home on furlough in February 1908 making over charge of the Diocese to the Revd. C. P. Cory, M.A., Archdeacon of Rangoon and Bishop's Commissary. Grants-in-aid were sanctioned by Government towards the construction of new Churches at Mogók and Pakókku.

Stationery.

258. The bulk of the paper used for official purposes continued to be supplied by the Controller of Stationery, Calcutta, from the Indian Mills. The cost of stationery supplied to general departments during 1907-08 amounted to Rs. 1,22,942, and that supplied to presses to Rs. 2,43,752, showing increases of Rs. 10,517 and Rs. 38,231 respectively over the previous year's figures.

Chemical Examiner and Bacteriologist.

259. Nine hundred and eighty-nine articles were examined in the Medico-legal Department compared with 864 in 1906, and in the General Chemical Department 5,386 compared with 8,547. The greater part of this decrease is in work done for the Excise Department, where the number of articles examined has dropped from 7,281 to 4,248 chiefly under the heading of cocaine, opium and ganja. Out of 482 cases investigated the result was successful in 201 cases. Three hundred and forty samples of water were analysed. The number of specimens and articles examined bacteriologically was 642, while during 1906 the number was 633. Bacteriological examinations of water increased from 51 to 122 mainly in connection with the Viceroy's visit. The number of articles examined for plague was 250 and for typhoid 99. A series of experiments was carried out with Danysz virus. Briefly the result showed the virus to be an inferior direct rat poison and incapable of producing illness or death by contact. Pathological specimens increased from 13 to 39. One case of mycetoma was seen.

CHAPTER VIII.

ARCHÆOLOGY.

REFERENCES.—

Report of the Superintendent, Archæological Survey, Burma, for the year 1907-08.

256. During the year of report arrangements for the administration of the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act in Burma were approved by the Local Government and steps have been taken to bring them into effect. As a preliminary measure, all the monuments of historic and architectural interest at present maintained at the expense of Government by the Public Works Department have been notified to be protected monuments under section 3, sub-section (1) of the Act. To these will be added, in due course suitable monuments selected from the classified list of all the important architectural remains in the Province which the Superintendent of Archæological Survey is now occupied in compiling. The Superintendent anticipates that the list will be completed in a much shorter time than was at first thought possible, and there is therefore reason to hope for the completion before long of the most important operation under the Act, namely, the bringing within its scope as protected monuments of all the remains in Burma which are worthy of preservation. The task of framing rules and directions of general application has proved to be of considerable magnitude and complexity, and their issue in Burma has been deferred pending the co-ordination by the Director-General of Archæology of the varied suggestions on the subject which he has received from all parts of India. Owing to the curtailment of funds available for public works generally the expenditure on Archæological operations during the year showed a very substantial diminution from Rs. 1,25,930 to Rs. 68,475 and a further reduction during 1908-09 has been rendered unavoidable by the pressure of more urgent claims. Current repairs were, however, executed and eleven buildings were added to the list of those whose conservation is undertaken by Government. Of these perhaps the most interesting is the Seinyet Pagoda in the Pagan Township, which is supposed to have been built in the 11th century, and exhibits distinct evidence of the influence of Chinese Buddhism at that period. Excavation, probably the only trustworthy means by which it is possible to form an idea of the remoter history of Burma, is still in its infancy. A preliminary survey has been made of the site of ancient Prome or Srikshetra, now known as Yathemyo, and has yielded sculptures of an unexplained origin, and inscriptions in an unknown language. The ultimate conclusions to which the detailed study of the site will lead cannot yet be anticipated, as there is little information available whereby the discoveries made can be explained. There is, however, considerable evidence of Indian influence. The site is very extensive, covering an area of no less than 400 square miles, and its examination will be sufficient to occupy the attention of the Archæological Department for many years. The cost of the Department exclusive of expenditure on works, amounted to Rs. 22,637, some fifteen hundred rupees less than in the previous year.





M A P
OF
B U R M A
SHOWING

DIVISIONS AND DISTRICTS.

SCALE: 1 INCH = 31 MILES.



REFERENCES.

District Boundary	...	...
District Boundary	...	...
District Headquarters	...	...
District Headquarters	...	...
Municipality	...	...
Continent and Township Headquarters (also at District Headquarters)	...	...
Railways completed	...	...
Railway station	...	...
Railway in progress	...	...
Manifold Roads	...	...
Unimproved Roads	...	...
Equipments	...	...
Highways	...	...
Light-towers and Light-stations	...	...

