ANNUAL REPORT on the
WORKING
or
COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES
IN TIIE
BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

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For the tweive months ending March 31st, 1914.

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From

> R. B. EWBANK, EsQ., I. C. S., Registrar, Cooperative Societies, Bombay Presidency ;

To
The DIRECTOR of Agricultur E,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.
Camp Poona, 7th July 1914.

## Sir,

I have the honour to submit the Tenth dunual Report on the working of the Cooperative Societies Act in this Presidency for the year ending March 31st, 1914.

## I.-Abministration and Touring.

2. Permanent Staff.-The post of Registrar was held by me throughout the year. During the rains Mr. V. H. Gonehalli, M.A. (Cantab.), Extra Deputy Director of Agriculture, was gazetted as Assistant Registrar, Oooperative Societies, Konkan Division, in addition to his own duties. He has devoted himself to problems of agricultural organization and has not been called upon to assist in ordinary audit and registration work, The audit staff has been increased by the addition of one Auditor, Mr. K. B. Bhadrapur, M.A., one Assistant Auditor, and one Inspector. There are now five Auditors, one Assistant Auditor, and five Iuspectors. The constant growth in the number of societies make further additions to this staff in the near future inevitable, and no alternative to an official audit agency is yet in sight. The three Special Iadmlatdárs, who are employed chiefly in making enquiries on behalf of the Central Bank into loan applications received from rural societies, have continued to work on the same lines as last year. Three expert Weaving Assistants are employed under the Registrar in managing weaving schools and holding village demonstrations. The Registrar's office staff consists of one head clerk and five clerks.
3. Honorary Staff-Working alongside this permanent staff and in cloye cooperation with it, is a large body of Honorary Orgauisers to whose labours the progress made by the movement must be largely ascribed. The great majority of new societies that have been registered have been organised by their efforts. It is a pleasure to acknowledge in the forefront of this report the debt which this Department owes to their energy and enthusiasm. In Ahmedabad Mr. Jivanlal P. Lakhia and in Panch Maháls Mr. Manvantrai J. Desai continue to make steady progress without relaxing their supervision of previously existing societies. In Kaira Mr. Gordhandas Keshavlal, a young Patidar, has thrown himself into cooperative work with a zeal which rivals that of his colleague Khún - Sáheb Saidumia Faizumia. In Broach Ráo Sáheb Lubbashankar U. Malji whose title was conferred at the last Birthday Honours has taken the place of Sardár Ráo Bahádur Mptilal Chunilal, who has resigned and received the thanks of Government, ant proposes to give up part of his leading practice at the bar in order to devote more time to cooperative work in which he is helped by Mr. Laxmiram Mahipatram. Surat district is fortunate in having two such experienced officers as Ráo Bahâdur Khandubhai G. Desai and Râo Bahádur Naranbhai L. Desai in charge of its destinies. Thána and Kolába districts are still without Honorary Organisers, but in Bombay City Ráo Sáheb S. S. Talmaki is always ready to help forward the movement and has been decorated with the title of Ráo Sáheb in acknowledgment of his public services. In the Central Division Mr. G. K. Chitale has visited a large number of the Ahmednagar Societies but is now handing over part of his duties to Sardár Gopalrao Mirikar.

Khándesh is in charge of Mr. S. D. Garud and Ráo Bahádur Bhangannkar whose missionary efforts are expected to bear fruit in the coming year. In Násik Mr. Yeshwantrao N. Palshikar continues in his unassuming way to make very solid progress. Mr. M. R. Tarkunde of Sáswad in the Poona district and Mr. R. M. Sane of Bári in the Sholápur district are both working. very effectively and on sound lines. In the Southern Division Ráo Sáheb R. G. Naik's forceful personality has achieved great results in the Belgaum district and has won him the very well-earned title which he recently received. A similar success has attended the business-like methods and constant touring of Ráo Sáheb S. J. Deshmukh in Bijápur. The movement has gained greatly by the weighty advocacy of the Honourable Ráo Babádur S. K. Rodda in Dhárwár and the enerıy of Ráo Sáheb Pundiikrao Pandit in Kánara. Ráo Sáheb Shiwaji R. Kulkarni of Malsamudra and his son Mr. Mahadev have by their practical and sincere work given great assistance in the East of the Dharwár district, and in the Devgadh taluka of the Ratnágiri district the efforts of Mr. L. B. Kadulkar deserve a word of special acknowledgment. This list comprises all the officially recognised Honorary Organisers, but has omitted the names of many regular unofficial helpers who have earned our thanks to an extent scarcely less than that of the Honorary Organisers themselves.
4. Touring.-I was on tour for 224 days and inspected 286 societies. All districts were visited at least once with the exception of Kolába and Ratnágiri, which were frequently visited by the Assistant Registrar.

## II.-Summary of General Progress.

5. General Progress.-The rate of progress has been slightly more rapid than last year. The number of societies of all sorts, which in $191 \%-13$ increased by 147, has during the current year increased by 183 from 515 to c 9 j . The total number of members has risen from 46,221 to 66,704 , and the working capital from Rs. $48,47,763$ to Rs. $66,13,135$. Government have laid down the policy that the growth of societies should be allowed to proceed spontaneously and that no official pressure should be used to accelerate the movement. This course has been honestly followed, and with the exception of a few agricultural purchase or sale societies all new organisations have come into existence in response to a real local demand, created in most cases by the persuasions of unofficial organisers. In view of the credit which cooperative societies are beginning to secure amongst the general public, as well as the banking crisis through which the Presidency has just passed, the need of great caution in the registration of new societies has been keenly realised. The movement shows no tendency yet to run away, but it is doubtful whether more societies could have been solidly organised and set at work in the course of a year without overstraining the staff available. It may be noted here that the reason why the opening figures in the appended statements shown for 1913-14 do not tally with the closing figures of 1912-13 is that societies cancelled during the year have been omitted from the statements.
6. Central Societies.-The number of Central Societies has risen from 4 to 6 and their working capital from Rs. 13,64,565 to Rs. 17,94,531. A feature of the year is the introduction of the system of attiliating rural societies to Central Banks or Unions for the purposes of supervision and finance. Seventy societies bave affiliated themselves to 4 Central Societies. The working capital is drawn from various sources in proportions which banking authorities generally pronounce to be sound. Share capital, held by 1,611 members, amounts to Rs. $4,08,221$, deposits by members to Rs. 7,87,041, and loans and deposits by non-members to Rs. $5,71,663$.
7. Agricultural Societies.-The number of agricultural societies has risen from 409 to 568 , their membership from 27,905 to 38,621 , and their workng capital from Rs. $22,41,896$ to Rs. $28,03,849$. An analysis of the last figure shows that Rs. $1,85,657$ or $6 \frac{1}{2}$ per cent. represent loans from Government as against 9 per cent. last year and 20 per cent. in 1910. The truest test of the credit of a society is its power to attract deposits from the public. Progress under this head has been'satisfactory. Deposits from members and non-
members have risen from Rs. $6,18,275$ to Rs. $8,71,249$ or in other words have increased from 27 per cent. to 31 per cent. of thy total working capital. One of the great advantages of rural societies is that they open up for the rayat access to the general money market. Societies have not been slow to realize this and now hold Rs. 15,9 i,667 on loan from financing institutions, custitutins 57 per cent. of their total funds as against. 59 per cent. last year. The average number of members per society has remained unaltered at 68, but the average amount of capital available per bead has fallen from Rs. 80 to Rs. 72. In view of the number of new agricultural societies that have been registered, this decrease was probably inevitable.
8. Non-agricultural Sosieties.-The number of non-agricultural societies has risen from 102 to 12 b , their membership from 16,730 to 36,472 and their working capital from Rs. 12,41,302 to Rs. 0,14,755. The rapid growth in membership and funds has fully realise the sanguine forecast which was made last year. These societies have relied on themselves to find their own capital and have only drawn Rs. 00,675 or $2 \frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of their total resources from financing institutions. The great bulk of their funds has been derived from the members themselves, Rs. $7,11,744$ or 35 per cent. as share cajital, and Rs, $\mathbf{6}, 79,836$ or 33 per cent. as deposits. But the public also is beginning to come in and its deposits now amount to Rs. $3,67,0 \geq 2$ or 18 per cent. of the total working capital. The average membership is 213 , a figure which is perhaps too high, if members are really to combine and if the committee is to exercise close supervision over them all. . The average sum available per head has risen from Rs. 74, to 76 .
9. Profits and Reserve.-The total profit earned during the year amounted to Rs. $1,90,578$ as against Rs. $1,42,280$ in 1913. Apart from this sum societies hold Rs. $2,12,999$ on account of reserve fund. Bad debts written off during the year amounted only to Rs. 263 but the figure would no doubt have been larger if stricter banking methods had been followed. The total overdue arrears outstanding on March 31st are returned at Rs. 2, 83,527 which works out at. 4 per cent. on the total working capital engaged. It is fairly certain that many societies to save their credit have reported less arrears thun actually exist. An attempt will be made nest year to secure more accurate figures.
10. Cancellation.-During the year 212 new societies were registered and 29 societies were cancelled, leaving a net gain of 183. In 20 cases liquidators have been appointed. Altogether 780 societies have been registered since the passing of Act $X$ of 1904 and 82 have been cancelled. A table is appended which shows how many of the societies registered in any particular year have had to be dissolved subsequently.

| Year of regiatration. | Number of societies registered. | $\begin{gathered} \text { Number } \\ \begin{array}{c} \text { subsequently } \\ \text { cancelled. } \end{array} \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1904-05 | 12 | 1 |
| 1905-08 | 19 | 5 |
| 1906-07 | 38 |  |
| $1907-08$ | 75 | 46 |
| 1908-19 | 24 | 2 |
| 1909-10 | 39 | 5 |
| 1910-11 | 44 | , |
| 1911-12 | 117 | 14 |
| 1912-13 | 147 | - 2 |
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The Sátára district is' the plague spot of the Presidency. In all 113 societies have been registered in it, and 46 of these have had to be subsequently liyuidated. There are still some 15 thoroughly bad societies to be wound up before this incubus can be shaken off. The most serious of the failures during the year was' that of the Northern Gujarat Urban and Trading Cooperative Credit Society, Limited. The causes were reckless lending on all sorts of insufficient security, indifferent members, a careless committee, and a total

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disregard of all warnings and advice. A considerable portion of the paid up share capital ( $\mathrm{Rs}, 20,708$ ) will probably be found to have been lust.
11. The Banking Crisis.-The year was marked by a grave financial crisis and a suddeo contraction of credit which drove many joint-stock hanks into bankruptcy. Cooperative Credit Societies were far less affected than might have been supposed. Indeed it may be said that rural societies and all others with unlimited lialility escaped without any damage or inconvenience at all. One or two limited societies, which had been newly registered, were unable to get their share capital subscribed, and in one society there was a brief run of depositors which was stayed by the local influence of the Chairman, On the other hand the majority of limited societies reported larger deposits than withdrawals during the last three months of 1913, and cases have come to notice where considerable sums withdrawn from the banks have been transferred to societies. The Bombay Central Cooperative Bank was naturally more affected than institutions in the mofussil. Its shares (Rs. 15 paid up) fell from 23 to $14 \frac{3}{4}$ and some of the short-term deposits lying with it were withdrawn. But it was never forced to stop or curtail its lending businuss or to raise its rates. Any deposits that were withdrawn were at once replaced by one of the Directors. At no time was it in the slightest danger and its position seems now as strong as ever. The Surat Union lost Rs. 1,307 which it had deposited in the Yeople's Bank and the Chatusringee Society lost Rs. 400 in the Specie Bank.

## III.-Workina or Societies.

## A.-Central Societies and Unions.

12. The liombay Central Cooperative Bank.-The credit for the manner in which the Central Cooperative Bank weathered the financial crisis is entirely due to the cautious and strong policy pursued by the Board of Directors, the Honourable Mr. Lallubhai Samaldas, C.I.E., Sir Shapurji Bharucha, Sir Vithaldas Thakersey, Dr. Stanley Reed, and Mr. Chunilal Mehta. There were only 12 meetings of the board during the year, but current business was carried on very efficiently by the Honorary Manager, Mr. Vaikunthrai 1. Mehta. An analysis of the Bank's position at the end of the year will explain its strength. The number of share-holders was 871 , of which 6 were registered societies. 14,000 shares of the nominal value of Rs. 50 each have been subscribed. Rs. 15 were paid on allotment and during the year a further call of Rs. 10 per share was made, raising the paid up share capital to three and a half lákhs, of which Rs. 11,870 are still to be collected. On the basis of this guarantee fund, a further capital of Rs. $12,33,912$ has been raised, which consists chiefly of debentures with interest at 4 per cent. guaranteed by the local Government amounting to Rs. 6,15,000 (held by 13 persons), fixed deposits bearing an average interest of $4 \frac{2}{3}$ per cent. amounting to Rs. 4, 88,791 , current deposits Rs. 22,181, and deposits from share-holders in advance of calls Rs. 36,770 . A few debentures, which the Bank wished to issue, were not taken up mainly because under Government Resolution No. 635 of January 21st, 1914, Revenue Department, the High Court has refused to recognise the debentures of the Bank under the Indian Trusts Act and the Government of India have given a similar refusal under the Charitable Endowments Act. The number of loans advanced during the year was 353 and amounted to Rs. 10,42,293. Recoveries amounted to Rs. 8,30,184. There were no defaults but about half a dozen cases of unpunctuality, which on enquiry were found to be due to carelessness and were remedied without difficulty. Of the loans advanced Rs. 6,14,729 were granted for financing sugarcane and other irrigated crops and Rs. $1,20,225$ for redeeming old debts. The total amount outstauding at the end of the year was Rs, 13,73,878. The net profit on the year's working was Rs. 21,977, of which Rs. 13,343 are being devoted to paying a dividend on shares at 6 per cent., Rs. 7,000 are carried to the reserve fund which now

- stands at Rs. 9,700 and the remainder is set aside for paying bonuses to borrowing societies. The financial results of the year's working are so satisfactory that it will be strange if the market value of the shares does not rise above 26 . the figure at which they are now quoted.

13. Nira Canal Societies.-The Nira Canal is the scene of the most important part of the Bank's operations, and it will be convenient to describe here the work done by the branch at Bárámati and the group of 29 canal societies. Their membership has risen from 2,312 to 2,374 and is not expected to expand further. In the course of the year several Committees have purged their members' registers of unsatisfactory members and as many as 54 have been expelled at Málegaon. The working capital has risen from Rs. 8,47,275 to Rs. $8,99,445$. The system described last year has continued practically unaltered. Thé immovable assets of each society have been valued, and a cash credit opened up to one-third of the estimated total. Applications for drawals on these cash credits are forwarded by the conmittees through the Special Mámlatdár, Mr. R. B. Badve, who has shown great discretion and energy in supervising the whole scheme, and preventing reckless borrowing. He passes only those loans which are really required for the current expenses of agriculture by persons with good records for industry and punctual repayment. This check is necessary because nearly all committees display great weakness in refusing loans to persons whou they privately distrust. The Bank grants' approved advances to societies at $7 \frac{1}{2}$ per cent. which are passed on by them to their members at $9 \frac{3}{b}$ per cent. on the security of mortgage bonds and recovered out of the sale price of the jaggery sold at the jaggery store. The net profit for the year to the societies has amounted to Rs. 14,255, raising the total reserve fund in their possession to Rs. 26,913. The accounts are well Lept by a staff of five whole-time secretaries working under Mr. Badve and maintained at a cost of Rs. 3,873 by the societies. They have been active in bringing pressure to bear on defaulters and in seeing that loans are not misapplied and that jaggery is not sold privately behind the back of the Central Bank. In spite of their efforts however out of Rs. 8,77,522 outstanding from members on March 31st, Rs, 71,790 are overdue arrears, occurring in most societies but particularly in Bárámati, Dorlyachiwadi, Khandaj and Mekhali. The causes are scanty rainfall for three successive seasons, bad crops due to laziness and to irregular supply of rater from the canal, a rise in the cost of labour accompanied by a recent fall of Rs. 2 per atki (lbs. 200) in the selling price of jaggery, knowledge that decrees of the Sub-Judge are rarely enforced within a year, and the failure of committees to realize their responsibilities and to urge their members to be punctual. By stopping all loans to a society, some pressure can be brought to bear on it. All arrears are believed to be well-secured and can ultimately be recovered. The public credit of these societies is growing. Deposits from members have risen from Rs. 21,501 to Rs. 34,311 and from non-members from Rs. 19,310 to Rs: 60,614 . Many local gentlemen and particularly the Raje of Málegaon and Mr. S. V. Karandikar are taking an increased interest in the movement and making deposits at rates below those charged by the Central Bank. Of the sum of Rs. $6,82,916$ advanced during the year $98 \cdot 7$ per cent. Was secured by mortgages and only $1 \cdot 3$ per cent. by surety bonds. Rs. $6,20,650$ or 91 per cent. was lent for sugar-cane cultivation and only 9 per cent. for building wells and bandhs, redeeming old debts, etc. In the course of the year all societies revised their by-laws in accordance with the new Act, and many of them have taken steps to obtain schools and to send their children to them. In these villages there are now 28 Government schools and 16 private institutions. Special commendation is due to the societies at Málegaon ably managed by Kumar Shri Ratansioh, Pandhara, Kambleshwar under Mr. Keshavrao Ghorpade, and Karanje.
14. An integral part of the canal scheme is the jaggery shop with its branch recently opened at Nira Station, to which all members of societies are bound to bring their produce for sale. In the course of the year it has dealt with $1,82,463$ lumps of jaggery, realising a total price of Rs. $6,09,805$ as against Rs. $3,26,571$ in 1912 -13. From this sum dues to the Central Bank were recovered together with commission amounting to Rs. 7,309 befure the balance was refunded to the owners. The rules of the shop are now convenient and popular and private traders are trying to imitate some of its methods. It has large godowns for which it pays Rs. 1,151 rent, but must hire still larger ones next year, sufficient to accommodate 3,000 cart-loads of produce. On May 5th,
[^0]1913, the price of gul was Rs. 12-11 per atki, on June 16th it was Rs. 16-13. In view of fluctuations like this the cultivator must be allowed to store and hold over his jaggery for a month or two if he thinks the market will improve. Besides dealing in jaggery the shop has been forced by the public demand to take up the question of the supply of artificial manure. It has distributed 3,589 khandis of safflower, castor-cake and karanji to 376 members at a cost of Rs. 57,603 . The shop's prices were higher than the bazar rate which fell suddenly at the beginning of the season, and it was only with difficulty that reluctant members were induced to take the manure. It is believed that the quality supplied was superior, but the manure market is a most uncertain one and it is not easy to make a profit. This year tenders in advance have been incited and with luck should provide cheap manure at a lucrative rate. The net profits on the jaggery and manure transactions are Rs. 3,107, divisible equally between the societies and the Central Bank.
N15. The Central Bank and Unions.-The growth in the volume of the Bank's business and the ever-expanding number of Cooperative Societies is forcing to the front a problem which will have to be solved in the next two or three years. No loan is at present lent to any unlimited society until its immorable assets have been valued by one of the three Special Mamlatdars placed at its disposal by Government or by its own Special Enquiry Officer in Gujarát. But as business extends, these officers cannot be ubiquitous. Nor it is satisfactory that the Central Bank should rely exclusively on mechanical tests such as raluations of assets, or on the Registrar for an opinion on those features which are the true criterion of a society's success: caution in lending, punctuality in recovery, accuracy in accounts, and zeal among the Committee and the members. There is a gulf fixed between the financiers and city men who manage the Central Bank, and the humble village panchayat, which can only be bridged by the creation of some intermediary institution in touch with both extremes. The history of other countries and provinces points to Unions and district Banks as the best solution. But the liability of these Unions is limited, their share capital not very large, and their inspecting staff usually inferior in capacity. The Central Bank therefore holds that the guarantee of a Union is not worth having and that the present system of direct enquiry is more satisfactory. Rural societies too, finding that they can obtain reasonable amounts of money at 7 per cent. from the Central Bank without much delay, demur at being called upon to take shares in Unions and to pay fees for inspection and affliation, unless the Unions can promise funds at a lower rate than the Central Bank, which at first they certainly cannot do. The result of this impasse is that the growth of Unions is stifled; there is no agency to train and guide new or backward societies and no prospect of devolving on autonomous local bodies the supervisory duties now performed by my official staff. The best course would seem to be concentration on the creation of strong district Banks, lending funds to rural societies, which, when their financial position is consolidated, may gradually take up supervision and agency on commission on behalf of the Central Bank. For the present local supervision may perbaps be allowed to slide and financial strength only may be aimed at. The business of lending to unlmited rural societies is undoubtedly safe and remunerative.
16. Unions.-For the reasons set forth in the last paragraph progress in the higher organization of cooperative credit has been retarded, and in fact is the least satisfactory feature of the year's record. The only genuine Union that has been started is that at Dhárwár. The by-laws have been thoroughly threshed out at meetings which representatives of the leading societies of the district attended. The President is the Honourable Ráo Bahádur Rodda, who owing to the numerous other calls on his time has not been able to give to the Union quite so much attention as it requires. However, 23 societies have already affliated themselves and taken up shares. The paid up share capital is Rs. 3,950 and the deposits amount to Rs. 16,000 . The by-laws are being translated and printed in the vernacular, and when they have been distributed and a touring inspector appointed, a considerable increase in membership is anticipated. Onsix months' working the Union showed a loss of Rs. 152 owing to its allowing large cash balances to lie idle on its hands. The Sátára Union, which was organised last year by the leading residents of Sátara proved an utter
failure. Affiliated societies were not consulted, very small funds were collected, and the Manager appointed was incompetent. It was therefore cancelled immediately after the close of the year and other methods of regenerating the societies of that district are being sought. In Nortbern Gujarit most of the hest societies have expressed their willingness to become members of a Central Union and the scheme has been entrusted to Mr. Lakhia for carrying to completion. A similar Union is being promoted in Belgaum and is expected soon to apply for registration.
17. Central Banking Unions.-The Broach District Bank which is headed by Sardár Ráo Bahádur Motilal Chunilal has consolidated its position by affiliating. 24 rural societies and appointing a whole-time Manager. Its working capital has increased from Rs. 67,497 to Rs. $1,06,333$, of which Rs. 33,000 represent share capital, and Rs. 69,000 deposit capital. Its management shows marked improvement since last year, but some of its rules are inconveniently rigid, and affiliated societies are hardly allowed to have sufficient voice in the management. Ráo Sáheb A. U. Malji's labours to improve the condition of the rural societies ought to make its business both safe and profitable. The Surat Union under the able guidance of Khán Bahádur Bomanji Modi and Ráo Bahádur Khandubhai Desai has developed on similar lines and is now doing a most useful work. Its total working capital has risen from Rs. 79, 223 to Rs. $1,11,978$, of which Rs. 89,000 consist of deposits raised at $4 \frac{1}{3}$ and 5 per cent. No less than Rs. 76,525 have been lent out to societies in the district at 7 per cent. Central Banking Unions are defined as societies which lend out more than half their working capital to affiliated societies. But it seems worth while to include Mr. R. M. Sane's admirable Bársi Táluka Union in this group because it has employed a competent touring inspector to supervise the societies which are gradually affiliating themselves to it and because it is determined to appropriate as large a part of its funds as possible to Union work. Its total working capital has risen to Rs. 50,795, of which Rs. 8,000 were on loan in May to other societies.

## B.-Agricultural Societies.

18. Type of Societies.-The first Cooperative Societies Act was passed and the Cooperative Department was called into existence with the prime object of dealing with the problem of agricultural finance. Without adequate capital available on reasonable terms agriculture can never become a profitable or progressive industry. There are parts of the Presidency where the ordinary rates paid by ryots to their sowkárs vary from 25 to 50 per cent. Such usurious terms swallow up the whole of the outturn of the land and rob the ryot of all the fruits of his labour. In some districts of the Konkan and Gujarát, it is true, the sowkar's rate occasionally falls as low as 5 per cent., but the 'general average would seem to be about 12 to 18 per cent. Societies, therefore, which charge a uniform rate of $9 \frac{3}{8}$ per cent. confer a material advantage on their members. The type of society which seems to be equally well adapted to all • parts of the Presidency follows the model first invented by Raiffeisen. Its main principles are of course unlimited joint liability, a restricted area of membership, an indivisible reserve fund, gratuitous service, and the rejection of shares and dividends. Its rules and account forms are simple and within the capacity of rural folk. The unlimited liability sometimes frightens away substantial cultivators whose support would be useful. But on the whole no other system seems likely to work equally well.
19. Common Faults.-It would be ridiculous to assert that societies do not frequently develop grave faults and occasionally lapse into utter disorganization. Of the 568 agricultural societies now existing I estimate that about 150 are excellently managed and about 250 more are in a sound and satisfactory condition. The remainder are crippled by defects which may be ascribed not to the system under which they work but to their failure to adhere to that system faithfully. The most ineradicable fault is the lack of education. A committee of utterly uneducated men, unable to understand or to read the accounts and rules, cannot be expected to manage a society properly. For this reason nearly all societies of Mahars and Tanners have now been cancelled, and
no new society is registered which has not a nucleus of members educated up to the fourth book. If landlords would visit their estates more frequently, it is to them that such societies might look for guidance. Wolff points out that one of the merits of the Raiffeisen system is that "while insisting that every assistance rendered in money shall be fully and promptly repaid, you can help by lending guidance to the unskilled, experience to the inexperienced, time, labour, interest, attention, safe-guarded liability, all on a footing of equality." In fact, the only hope of such societies lies in the self-sacrifice of more educated people. Other common defects are default or unpunotuality in repayment, which is generally the sign of a slack committee, carelessness in advancing money to unfit persons, and failure to press for recovery. The chairman occasionally engrosses all power himself and excludes the rest of the unembers from any share in the management. The local deposits with which the society is started have sometimes been brought from sairkárs at exorbitant rates and are sometimes fictitious and have to be written off. Many societies are distracted by factions and deal with loan applications not on their merits but in a spirit of party jealousy. Some societies admit far more members than their capital justifies and. by supplying only a few of their needs and leaving the sávkirs to supply the rest, succeed only in giving their members two masters instead of one. Persons are in some cases accepted as members who have neither character nor property to entitle them to receive loans, or who are submerged in hopeless debt. The indifference of leading members, who can borrow money privately at cheap rates, numbs the activity of many Gujarati societies: A very common obstacle is the impossibility of finding any secretary capable of keeping accounts other than the talati or school-master who are rarely keen on the work and

- always liable to transfer. Many societies seem to regard themselves as charitable institutions and forget that their humane objects can only be achiced by a stern insistence on the terms of their bonds and the rigid honesty of their members.

20. Remedial Ifeasures.-These evils are fully recognized and are attacked by every method at our disposal. The audit memoranda, which must be read out at the annual gencral meeting, describe clearly and tersely the faults which need correction. Inspection, official and unofficial, is constantly advocated, and should be accompanied by instructions and warnings to peccant societies. The Central Bauk exacts a high standard of management from societies which require loans from it and absolutely refuses to make eleemosynary advances. The Unions, as they strengthen their position, will follow the same policy of boycotting untrustworthy societies, and by employing an itinerant inspector will help offenders to improve and to fit themselves to receive loans. Liquidations, when cancellation has been due to the sloth or folly of the members, are carried out with some harshness as a warning to surrounding societies. The appointment of whole-time group secretaries on good pay for six or seven adjoining societies is being recommended in the interest of efficiency. There are 5 such secretaries at Bârámati, one in Ahmednagar and 4 in Gujarát.
21. Northern Gujarati.-Progress in this region has been steady and has followed familiar lines. Nine new societies have been organized by Mr. J. P. Lakhia in the Ahmedabad District, including a co-operative store and a seed society managed by Mr. Waghji Amarsing at Bákrol. Owing to the fodder fawine of $1911-1912$ several societies were burdened with a large amount of authorized and unauthorized arrears but on the whole have made creditable recoveries. The officially formed group of societies in Parántij Táluka are with a few exceptions moribund and, the term of 5 years having elapsed, many of the original depositors are clamouring for the return of their deposits. A joint whole-time secretary has been appointed for the táluka in the hope of putting affairs on a more businesslike footing. In Kaira the number of societies has risen from 26 to 33. Mr. Gordhandas Kesharlal, the recretary of the well managed Anand Society, received a turban of honour at the Collector's darbúr in recognition of his useful work as honorary organizer. In societies where Pátidárs predominate, progress, though slow, has been real and satisfactory. Societies which deserve special mention are Jamiátpur under Pátel Desaibhai Shankarbhai, Santhál under Pátel Jivabhai Gokalbhai, Bhikda aided by the Mahálkari Mr. Dhirajlal Bhatt, Radu, Traj under Pátel Chhotalal

Dwarkadas, and Pithai. Panch Maháls can now, through the exertions of Mr. Manvantrai Desai, boast of 10 small societies, mest of which are being financed by Ráo Sáheb Bhawrai Desai of Godhra. One he has courageously organized entirely of Bhils and its working will be watched with interest, if without high hopes. 'The tálukdír of Kanjari, Sardarr Fatesinhji, and the landlord of Rustumpura, Sardár Bomanji Dalal, have started societies among their tenants which promise to do well.
22. Southern Gujarat.-The rural population of the Broach District is so heterogeneous that it is most difficult to secure genuine co-operation. The Suni Bohras, the Kolis and the Pátidárs are as diverse as it is possible for neighbours to be and shrink from pooling their credit with joint liability. Many of the societies have been imposed upon them by rather slapdash methods and are neither liked nor understood. The new honorary organiser, Ráo Sáheb A. U. Malji, has shown the greatest zeal and activity in overhauling accounts, bringing defects to light and generally in stimulating inanimate societies. He has done wonders in rousing a cooperative spirit and, if the rather frigid methods of the Distriat Bank can be altered, will undoubtedly effect a marked advance next year. In Surat District the prospect is more encouraging. The District Union under Khán Bahádur Bomanji Modi and Ráo Bahádur Khandubhai Dosai is sympathetic and efficient. The majority of societies among the Kadva Patidárs, and specially those between Olpád and Ránder, are estremely good. The number of rural societies has risen from 60 to 68 and the working capital from Rs. 2,83,712 to Rs. 3,31,629. The main credit for this progress is due to Ráo Bahádur Naranbhai L. Desai who has been untiring in his activitics on behalf of co-operative work and who is now engaged with the help of the Mámlatdár Mr. Fleming in organising a big vegetable selling society for the Chorási Táluka. Among the best societies are Sansek under Purshottam Ichharam, Segva Sadla, Masma under Dewa Makan, Sithána group under Purshottam Daji and Umra under Vasanji Dahyabhai. These societies have won such credit locally that they are now being financed by Kalidas Makan, a sávkár of Ichhápur, to almost any extent, at a rate 5 to 6 per cent. The Káliparaj group of societies in the Mándvi Táluka has been placed under a joint secretary and is working satisfactorily. There has been some increase of keenness among the members, and the chairman of the Godavari Society, Patel Bhavan Koya, well deserved the reward conferred on him at the Collector's darbár. The Sukesh Society under Taláti Bhavabhai Lallubhai has set an excellent example which is beginning to affect the whole Pardi Táluka.
23. Thána and Násik.-The number of societies in Thána has risen from 4 to 21 , but 11 of these have been recently organized and have not yet started worls Of the remainder the Mároli Society under Mr. Dhapre and the Umbargaoy Society under Mr. Vithaldas Sanjanwala are much the best. The Mároli Society has employed a sweeper on a monthly pay to keep the village clean and is active in requiring its members to send their children to school. The compittee intend shortly to start a grocery store and a cattle-breeding society as distinct but allied institutions. The progress in Násik, as in Thanna, has been rather local in character and has derived its chief impulse from the very careful and solid work of the honorary organizer Mr. Y. N. Palshibar. The number of societies has risen from 8 to 14 , but the real advance has been intensive. Dáregaon with Rs. 12,740, Kupkheda with Rs. 13,257, Mrálegaon with Rs. 10,497 and Jalgaon Galne are all run in a most efficient and businesslike way and are making their influence felt in the Eastern sub-division. Mr. Palshikar with the support of Mr. Lalasa Bhikasa and Mr. Balkrishna Sakharam has used the best societies in a very wise manner as agencies for agricultural improvement. The members have been induced to dig pits and store their manure properly. A large number of English iron plougbs have been introduced. 'The sacieties distributed prizes at the time of the Registrar's visit to the growers of the finest cotton crops and the producers of cotton with the best ginning percentages. All members are forced to use their cotton seed for feeding their cattle instead of selling it. The propagandist work of Mr. B. R. Deshmukh, Mámlatdár of Dindori, also deserves a word of acknowledgment.
24. Khándesh.-In East Khándesh the district officers-Mr. Rothfeld, Mr. Jolly and Mr. Joglekar-have been taking greatest interest in cooperative work and have now set the movement going on sound lines. The number of societies has been raised from 2 to 11, and the new societies have been placed in close touch with the táluka educational and agricultural associations which are strong in this district. Money is on the whole plentiful and cheap, and cotton seed distributive societies are what the agriculturists chiefly require. However, credit societies, such as Bodwad under the patriarchal sway of Khán Sáheb Vazir Pitil and Titwi, are doing very well in a ferv places. West Khándesh has lagged behind and though there seems to be a great opening for co-operation in the Southern tálukás no substantial progress has been made. The honorary organizers will perhaps be able to spend more time and attention on this matter next year.
25. Poona District.-Apart from the 29 societies forming the Bárámati group, which have been described already, progress has been steady. The Hadapsar Society under Mr. Govindrao Kale has increased its capital from Rs. 36,072 to Rs. 46,354 (of which Rs. 16,746 are derived from menibers' deposits and Rs. 20,262 from non-members), and has begun to supply its members with fish and cake manure bought wholesale in conjunction with the Mutha Canal Society. Mr. Tarkunde's society at Síswad has increased its capital to Rs. 10,029 and is very well managed.
26. Ahmednagar and Sholapur Districts.-In the Eastern Deccan famines are frequent, crops poor, lending rates very high, and cultivators ignorant and backward. It is therefore very easy to start societies but most difficult to ensure that they are properly managed. Honorary organizers have been asked to devote themselves more to inspecting and guiding existing societies than to starting new ones. The last three bad seasons have thrown recoveries gravely into arrears and shaken the credit of the societies with their financing institutions. There has occurred, however, in the majority of rural societies a slight improvement. In Ahmednagar the number of societies has risen from 24 to 26 and the working capital from Rs. $1,40,768$ to Rs. $1,66,984$. Good societies are beginning to appear at such places as Miri under Sardár Gopalrao Mirikar, Ashwi under Mr. Honmode, and Newása under Mr. Ranade, and at Wadála and Kendal the help of American and German missionaries has been enlisted. If Mr. Chitale's Central Bank can enforce strict rules on societies borrowing from it, and show rather less.sympathy towards societies that have once defaulted, further improvement may be expected. In Sholápur the number of societies has been raised from 8 to 21 , of which 7 are not yet in working order, and the working capital has risen from Rs. 16,564 to ks. 56,741. Dongaon, started by Ráo Sáheb Pitre, with a capital of Rs. 13,828, Mohol with Rs. 11,539, Akole and Kari are doing well but are all handicapped by the famine and rely almost entirely on outside deposits. Mr. R. M. Sane has paid great attention. to the societies round Bársi and has financed them within reasonable limits.
27. Sátara District.-The process of eliminating useless societies has continued. Urban societies of sweepers or tanners have been the chief victims. The worst rural societies have now been wound up, and by employing wholetime group secretaries for maintaining the accounts of the rest, it is hoped that management may improve. The number of agricultural societies has risen from 45 to 50 and the capital from Rs. $1,15,748$ to Rs. $1,16,334$. The reason why the total capital, which has in fact expanded, appears stationary is that in many societies accounts have been re-written under the directions of the Special Mámlatdár, and deposits found to be fictitious have been removed from the books. In the Válva Táluka a brighter prospect has appeared and may prove the dawn of new progress. The people are intelligent, substantial and less disputatious than elsewhere. Garden crops are common and the need of more capital is acute. Excellent new societies have been started at Peth, Kápusshed, Yelur, Aitáváde, and Jakhinvádi, which are equal to societies in any other part of the Deccan. The credit for this advance is due to the Special Mámlatdar Mr. G. J. Padhye whose prudent and effective work I wish here to bring to notice as he is shortly to retire after 35 years of Government service.
28. Belgaum.-With the steady support of the Collector and the district officers Ráo Sáheb R. G. Naik's efforts to further co-operative work have proved very fruitful. The number of societies has risen from 19 to 33 and the working capital from Rs. 24,253 to Rs. 60,227 . In most tálukás the best class of agriculturists are joining the societies and there is every prospect that the district will in time rival Dhárwár as a field of co-operative enterprise. As a result of the Conference held in March a District Union is being promoted for-the guidance and finance of rural societies. The Saundatti Society, formed under Mr. G. J. Manoli and Mr. B. G. Sabnis, in a village where loans were previously made to cotton-growers at about 300 per cent., has with its capital of Rs. 18,885 proved a model of good management. Of the newer societies the Tigdi Society under Mr. Giriappa Marathe, Mámdápur under Mr. Girgavda and Kaujalgi under Mr. Mahadevappa Hullikeri, deserve special notice. Seed grain and weavers' societies also are all spreading as rapidly as is desirable.
29. Bijápur District.-The famine conditions which have prevailed in Sholápur have proved a great obstacle in Bijápur also, and for some years it will be necessary to advance very circumspectly. Societies have increased from 30 to 39 and working capital from Rs. 1,01,623 to Rs. 1,34,302. The district is fortunate in having 3 energetic and practical co-operators working in different sections of it. In the north Ráo Sáheb S. J. Deshmukh has a model society and granary of his own with a capital of Rs. 20,100 at Almel. In the centre a pleader Mr. P. G. Halkatti runs the Bijápur Urban Society and interests himself in surrounding rural societies. In the south Mr. Lingangowda Patil is at the head of the Sulebhávi Society with a capital of Rs. 17,361 and has been active in propagating co-operative ideas among his Lingayat neighbours. The Sub-Judge of Bägalkot, Mr. Saldanha, has started a co-operative and social club there. The work of a Circle Inspector in Bádáni; Mr. Basangowda Patil, also deserves mention. The need of co-operation is great and the workers are available, but until the people are more educated, and one or two favourable seasons occur, substantial progress seems scarcely possible.
30. Dhárwad District.-This district has, of all the districts in the Presidency, proved to be the most favourable field for co-operation. The number of agricultural societies has risen from 49 to 70 , membership from 4,685 to 6,925 and working capital from Rs. 2,70,432 to Rs. 4,64,181. An analysis of this last figure shows that the remarkable sum of Rs. 1,47,102 has been derived on deposit from the villagers themselves, while Rs. 28,674 have been, deposited by non-members and Rs. 2,38,651 obtained from various financing' institutions. When it is remembered that in addition to this, non-agricultural societies in this district command a capital of Rs. $6,30,318$, of which all except Rs. $4,88,643$ have been subscribed locally as shares or deposits, it will be realized that coooperation is at last becoming a factor to be reckoned with in the financial organization of the district. Signs are continually appearing of the hold which societies are obtaining on the confidence of the people. The founder of the Lakkundi Society, now deceased, bas made the Managing Committee trustees of his income which has been deposited with the society on behalf of his minor son. At Kalghatgi and elsewhere the society has become the repository of the temple funds. In Hulkoti and many other societies the number of women depositors, a traditionally timid class, has increased amazingly. Some of the largest and best managed societies, which could easily obtain further capital if they wanted $i t$, seem to have reached the saturation point and bave not increased their means during the year. This indicates that they have now completely supplanted the sávleárs as far as their own members are concerned. In many societies the annual election of the Chairman has become a sensational affair and an object of the keenest competition. The táluka in which the best results have been obtained is Gadag where with the cordial support of the Mámlatdár Mr. Padbidri, and the example of the Canon Rivington's model society, and the energetic propagandism of Ráo Sáheb Shivaji Ramchandra and his son, the value of co-operation has been thoroughly realized. But it is not only there that success has been achieved, and the societies at Naregal under Mr. D. Kale, Hulkoti under Mr. Lingangowda, Annigeri under Mr. M. K. Inamati, Jantli under Mr. Patavale, and Harlápur under Mr. Bashettappa may be cited as examples of really useful and efficient institutions.
31. The Konkan.-Progress in the Konkan has been very poor. The total number of societies has risen from 13 to 25 , but all of them are un a very minute scile, and working capital has only risen from Rs. 11,618 to Rs. 18,428. Local rates of interest are low; the cultivating classes are not very intelligent and own little property; mutual liability is regarded with distrust. Societies are never likely to be very successful unless the Khots follow the example of Shrimant Vinayakrao Tendulkar of Kokaban and put themselves at the head of the movement. A scheme to start a union for the Ratnágiri District, mooted by Mr. Sonalkar and the Auditor, Konkan Division, was abandoned as premature on the grounds that societies are still too few and poor to maintain a Union and that the difficulty of communications makes efficient supervision almost impossible. Kánara has no great progress to record, although Ráo Sáheh Pundlikrao Pandit has organized two or three promising new societies aboved gháts. There is little doubt that the Hariks and spice-growers will find societies very useful when they become more familiar with their working. In the meantime Mr. Dasappa's society at Hulekul is the only one which is adequately financing its members.
32. Co-operation in Agriculture.-Government have expressed the view that " the co-operative movement will not have its full effect on the arricultural economy of the Presidency unless the purchase of agricultural requirements and the sale of agricultural produce are organized on a co-operative basis." The attempt to give effect to this policy is beset with some formidable obstacles. The middleman, who is competing for his existence against such societies, will not be obliterated without a struggle. Business ability, a competent manager, loyalty to the society, foresight, and attention to detail are required from a committee if it is to make its enterprise a success. Communications and markets must be carefully studied before a society is launched. The flotation of such schemes requires more time and trouble than honorary organizers can usually spare and must therefore at the present stage be carried out chiefly by direct official effort. Proposals have been submitted to Government for placing Mr. V, H. Gonehalii, Extra Depaty Director of Agriculture, on special duty for 6 months to initiate various types of distributive societies round ahout Bombay. On the whole the progress has been encouraging; but it must be remembered that most of tho societies are quite new and it is difficult to say which types will ultimately stand and which will fail.
33. Co-operative Purchase--Besides the manurestore at Bárámati which is co-operative not in its management but only in the distribution of its profits, there is a well managed manure society at Kelva Máhim in Thána under Ráo Bahádur A. G. Dandekar. In the course of the year it has sold 9,482 maunds of Gujarát gháni-pressed castor cake to its members at a rate of Rs. 16 per khandi as compared with a bazár rate of Rs. 20 per khandi. Its example has incited the neighbouring villages of Agáshi and Vathar Koprad with the help of Mr. Gonehalli to start similar societies. The Mutha Canal Society at Poona, which includes among its directorate Dr. H. II. Mann and two members of the Legislative Council, has supplied the sugarcane growers of Hadapsar and the surrounding villages with castor cake, safflower cake and fish manure of a total value of Rs. 9,006. Its rates have not been materially below market rates because it ordered its supplies late. It has some dificulty about obtaining firm orders in advance from the cultivators, which might perhaps be removed if the consumers were represented on the committee. Its subscribed share capital, Rs. 715, is very small in comparison with its loan and deposit capital. However, it has worked in a prompt and businesslike way and is likely next year to make good use of the experience it has gained. Artificial manure can only be used profitably in cultivating sugarcane and similar expensive crops. Manure purchasing societies therefore are only recommended in garden tracts or in irrigated areas, where agriculturists have acquired some capital and experience. The Mahád Rice Hulling and Polishing Society has ordered an oil engine and some machinery which will facilitate the laborious process of rice-cleaning. The work done by it as well as by a cattle-breeding society which is on the point of registration in the Thána District will be described next year. The Dáregaon Society in the Násik District bought at a public auction the Málegaon Municipal swoepings for supply to its members.
31. Co-operative Distribution.-(1) Dairies.-The most important step under this heading is the organization by Mr. Gonehalli of two co-operative dairies to supply the Bombay market. The Thána Dairy Society is still arranging for the construction of its cattle sheds, but the Jámbul Hanuman Dairy near Kalyán has already started work under the careful management of Patil Vithu Khanduji Pisal and his son. With a share capital of Rs. 1,450 it has bought 12 big buffaloes and a stock of tins and utensils and sends about $1 \frac{1}{2}$ maunds of milk daily into Bombay for sale. It employs an experienced manager and 3 assistants who keep the byres very clean and wilk the buffaloes by the dry method. Its difficulties are:-firstly, it is 3 miles from Badlápur station to which the mill has to be conveyed by hand ; secondly, there are no local trains, and those trains which are available are usually unpunctual ; thirdly, it has proved difficult in view of this unpunctuality to find a dealer in Bombay who will take the milk and allow a fair price for it ; fourthly, though the milk is actually unadulterated consumers are reluctant to pay any higher rate on this account. The society intends to raise another Rs. 3,000 , with half of which it will buy 13 more buffaloes of its own. The remainder will be used in cash advances to agriculturists for the purpose of buying private buffaloes, the milk of which will be sold along with the society's milk. As soon as the society extends its business to this extent it propuses to open a retail shop of its own in Grant Road. Large numbers of Gowlis are moving out of Bombay Island as a result of more strict municipal regulations. Proposals for re-settling these men in Sálsette and along the G. I. P. and B. B. \& O. I. Railmays in groups organized for the joint sale of their milk have been sent to the Municipal Commissioner. The Ahmedabad Municipal. Committee bave appealed to the Registrar for help in a similar scheme. The public of Kárwár have appointed a committee to consider the institution of a co-operative dairy in their town. Schemes for the joint ownership of separators and manufacture of $g h i$ have been received from Kaira and Kánara but are still under consideration.
35. (2) Other types.-An egg and hen selling society, organized by Mr. Bandivadikar among the Mussalmáns of Panvel is within sight. The Gánja Growers' Society of Chichondi Patil, which was started by the initiative and energy of the Excise Inspector Mr. G. O. Gidney, has engaged a dalall to sell the produce of the members at a commission of 2 annas per pala from the warehouse. It also advances loans to members to enable them to export gínja to England where it can be sold very profitably, but in this the plan has met with some rebuffs from the Customs Department. Agricultural stores for buying wholesale and retiiling the common necessaries of agriculturists are in existence at Mándvi in Surat District and at Chandávar in Kánara. The former is proving useful and efficient. New co-operative stores have been organized by Mr. Gunvantrai H. Desai, B.A., at Kim and Sayan on the B. B. \& C. I. Railway. The Totgars of Sirsi have formed a society for the sale of their spices and garden produce, but upto date have only transacted credit business.
36. Seed Societies.-Only 7 societies have been registered with the express purpose of supplying members with improved seed, either by selecting it from the local crops and storing it or by purchasing it from outside. But. none of these has yet proved conspicuously successful. The Belgaum Society bought Italian seed potatoes to the value of Rs. 1,250 and also cabbage and lettuce seed for its members but was cheated about the weight and was unable to sell it below the market rate. Two societies at Betgeri and Dharwár purchased selected Cambodia and Dhárwar-American cotton seed and supplied the needs of their members cheaply. The latter under Mr. Damodar Herlekar intends shortly to engage a godown and to undertake the sale of ginned cotton at a trifling commission. Special attention will be paid next year to the co-operative distribution of improved cotton seed. But before dealing with the question I hope to reeeive permission to visit Akola in order to study the system of distribution which has succeeded so remarkably in Berír. The Cbichondi Pátil Gánja Growers' Society found the stock of gdnja seed last year cornered by daldils who forced the price up to Rs. 5 per seer. The society countered by buying a quantity of seed wholesale at Rs. 2 per seer from the Central Provinces, and this year has secured the entire visible local supply for Rs. 514.
$\downarrow$ 37. Granary Socielies.-The object of granaries is quite distinct from that of seed societies. They aim at obtaining contributions of grain from members directly after the harvest and at advancing this store in kind to members during the following hot weather and rains. The grain is intended chiefly for maintenance but is cften also used as seed of an unselected sort. As a rule all transactions are made in grain, but some societies give borrotwers the option of repaying in cash. Only 7 such societies have yet been registered bat a large increase at the next harvest season is anticipated. Mr. Kulkarni, the Mámlatdár of Sangamner, proposes to start 40 or 50 at a single stroke in his táluka nest jear. The model by-latrs of this type of society, which are extremely simple and number only 17, have been brought to the notice of the Collector of Thána in the belief that they would be adapted for the use of Mr. Orr's grain dep $\delta t s$, and his reply is awaited. The oldest and best granary is at Kodni in the Belgaum District with a capital of Rs. 4,227, of which Rs. 1,454 are held in grain. The other societies are too new to deserve special mention. The Mároli Dhanya Vikanári Society is an interesting departure. Its object is to hold grain over the cheap season immediately after the harvest and to sell it on behalf of the members when prices begin to rise again. The famine stores of grain which were started by some societies in the Surat District have not ; proved popular and twill probably be dissulved. The closely connected question, of the co-operative storage of fodder has again been considered and some by-laws have been drawn up which are beliéved to be practicable. The Gudur Society : in the Bijápur District has started fodder storage, and as $\Delta$ cting Collector Mr. Bharuchà induced some 10 other villages to c.llect a total of about 2 lakhs. of pounds of kadbi. His intention to have these registered as co-operative institutions was frustrated by his reversion. The experiment therefore achieved joint or communal storage, but never amounted to co-operation in the technical sense. r

## C.-Non-agricultural Societies.

38. People's Banks. -This term is used to describe urban societies' with share capital and limited liability which follow generally the Schulze-Delitzach model and grant advances to artisans, merchants and professional men. They aim not so much at instilling a sense of common elfort and mutual help as at the concrete object of granting loans at reasonable rates of interest on sound security. The chief tests of their success are punctuality, businesslike methods and public confidence. If these practical results can be achieved, the moral results may be left to grow up of themselves. Some of these banks approximate to the District Central Bank type but they are excluded from that category on the ground that less than half their working capital is on loan with other societies.
39. Southern Division.-The Southern Division is the home of some of the most successful People's Bauks in the Presidency. The pride of place must be given to the Betgeri Co-operative Credit Society, which under the Rev. Canon Rivington and Mr. Bhavansa Kabadi has increased its membership from 1,001 to 1,167 and its working capital from Rs. $1,17,198$ to Rs. $1,49,534$. It can obtain as much deposit capital as it can use at 6 per cent. The society possesses a cash reserve of Rs, 3,085 as well as a house worth Rs. 2,561 and a piece of land worth Rs. 744 and has distributed a dividend at the rate of $12 \frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Its paid up share capital is Rs. 28,678. The Hubli Society under Mr. K. R. Valvekar and a strong committee shows equally striking progress, Its membership has risen from 700 to 818 and its capital now amounts to Rs. $1,03,831$. The profit on the year was Rs. 6,471 , of which Rs. 3,000 were carried to reserve. The total reserve is now Rs. 8,000 , of which Rs. 5,000 are deposited with the Central Co-operative Bank at 4i per cent. and Rs. 3,000 are to be invested in Government paper. Although the society only pays 5 per cent. on fixed deposits, its credit may be gauged by the fact that Rs. 67, 141 are held on this account, of which Rs. 28,252 come from non-members. The Dhárwár Urban is another society claiming detailed notice. The transfer of the Madras and Southern Marátha Railway head office to Madras in 1908 nearly ruined the society by removing many of its debtors beyond its reach and leaving it with arrears of more than Rs. 7,000 . However, it has carried on
bravely and wiped off nearly all its debts. Thanks to the energy of Mr. B. S. Kamalpur and Mr. K. B. Ankaligi, in the course of the year its assets have risen from Rs. 18,056 to Rs. 59,109. Five hundred and thirty-nine loans amounting in all to Rs. 73,027 were advanced upto March 31st and the profit has justificd the declaration of a dividendiat 12 per cent.
40. The revival which was noticed last year in the Belgaum Pioneer Co-operative Credit Society under Mr. N. S. Lokur, the Honourable Mr. Belvi and others has continued. Its membarship his risen from 388 ts 548 and its assets from Rs. 15,707 to Rs. 43,713. Deposits have increased from Rs. 11,091 to Rs. 31,366 . The by-laws have been reecast and gonl progress has been made in the recovery of old debts outstanding. The reserve fund haz reached Rs. 3,817 . The neighbouring Goḱk Society has a capital of Rs. 14,963 but its membership is excessive and its committee insufficiently active. The smaller society at Nipáni with a capital of Rs. 7,499 is more promising and is managed on thoroughly sound lines. In Kánara two societies on a similar scale-Kárwár with a capital of Rs. 15,956 and Sirsi under Mr. Keshwain with a capital of Rs. 11,174-are progressing excellently. Besides them there are a number of inconsiderable societies for fishermen and artisans dotted along the coast but noue of them, with the exception of the Malvan Maráthás who have a capital of Rs. 7,943, are worth individual mention.
41. The-largest society in the division is the Southern Maritha Oo-operative Credit Society which in the course of the year has wisely reduced its membership from 1,335 to 1,280 , while increasing its working capital from Rs. 2,70,781 to Rs. 2,83,120. Some deterioration has been visible in its management. The committee has done too much business by circular, and are hardly strict enough in their enquiries about loans and in the supervision of the staff. The overdue arrears are returned at Rs. 31,602. However, fundamentally the position of the society is sound. Its share capital amounts to Rs, $1,00,700$ and deposits from members to Rs. 1,49,674. The reserve is Rs. 19,28). The society would be more co-operative if it reduced its lending rate and its dividend, which both stand at present at $12 \frac{1}{2}$ per cent.
42. Central Division.-The leading society in the Poona District is the Cosmos Urban with a capital of Rs. 77,760. The management has been slack and under a most incompetent sečretary the accounts have been allowed to fall into confusion and very heavy arrears have accumulated. A whole-time manager is probably essential. Fortunately thare is a strong party in the society who are determined to place matters on a sounder forting, and an improvement may be expected next year. In Poona, as in Sátára, the smaller limited societies have been formed on a model that is no longer being registered and consist chiefly of Dhors and Chámbhárs. They seem incapable of ever managing their affairs really well. The Sátára Inámdárs' Society, guided by Mr. Chirmule, has issued debenture stock and is doing useful work in advancing loans to the larger landholders. With a capital of Rs. 14,939 it should pay more attention to its accountancy than it does at present. Mr. Devdhar's Vastra Bhandar and Cbatushringi Societies promise well. But the Poona Rupee Bank which was started last year has fallen very far short of the objects of its promoters.
43. The Nagar Central Bank under Mr. G. K. Chitale has owing to the recent bad years and the banking crisis suffered a set-back. Its capital has fallen from Rs. $2,31,114$ to Rs. $2,23,464$ and its overdue arrears though not shown in its balance sheets are considerable. It has now appointed a wholetime manager, who by hard work and with some sternness can no doubt restore the society to the place which it held in public credit 2 years ago. On a smaller scale the Pandharpur Society under Mr. V. S. Jog and Mr. Surnis has raised its capital to Rs. 16,913 and went on excellently, until it had the misfortune to kave its office and part of its records burnt. It resembles in its scope and methods Mr. Halkatti's Bijápur Urban Society which has raised its capital to Rs. 6,343 and is now urgently in need of further funds to meet the demands upon it.
44. In the Northern Deccan Ráo Bahádur Bhangaonkar continues to preside over the Dhulia Bank which has increased its funds from Rs. 12,747 to

Rs. 21,036, but has not yet achieved its object of becoming the financial centre of a group of surrounding rural societies. A society with more vitality is the Shri Godívari Society at Násik, which in one year has collected Ra. 13,059 and under Mr. Takle and Mr. Mandavgane has done much better than was anticipated at the time of registration. The grandiose flotation at Nandurbár, known as the West Khándesh Co-operative Bank, has been accurately described by the Auditor as "an empty pot."
45. Bombay City and the Northern Division.-In the Northern Division the progress of urban co-operation, with the exception of the Central Banking Unions at Broach and Surat, has been negligible. The failure of the Northern Gujarát Society with its revelation of gross incompetencé and mismanagement has probably brought the movement under a cloud for the tíme being. A few new millhands and employés' societies have come into existence and are doing well. The societies in Bombay City consist chiefly of employés or communal groups and are described under those headings. The only society, which completely answers to the type of People's Banks is the Bombay Industrial Trading and Banking Society, which has utterly vanished from its registered address and has not yet been tracked down to its refuge.
46. Communal Societies.-The solidarity of caste feeling and legitimate inter-caste rivalry are most useful assets to co-operation and form effective bonds of union in cases where local homogeneity is unobtainable. In this field the Shamrao Vithal Society, which continues to be guided by Ráo Säheb S. S. Talmaki, Mr. Talgeri and Mr. Kowshik, and confines its membership to Sárasvats, has for some years been a model of good management. Its membership has risen fron 835 to 933 and its working capital from Rs, $1,46,661$ to Rs. $1,80,974$. A feature of the year's work has been the institution of cash credits on approved security for the use of business men. The success of its head office at Bombay has brought into. existence a rival society for Gaud Sárasvats, while its 5 branches in Kánara have roused the Kánara Kshatriyás to organize a similar society for themselves at Haldipur. On the same lines the Ráddis at Dhárwár and the Devrukh Bráhmans at Thána have recently started societies with membership limited to their own communities. Several small but successful societies have taken a religious test as the basis of union. The Jesuit Fathers at Anand have founded a Catholic Society on the model which Father Hoflman has made so successful in Chota Nágpur. In Ahmednagar the Native Christians' Society and the Congregationalists are prospering under the care of the Rev. Dr. Hume and the Rev. S. M. Modak. Mr. Fairbank's Christian Society at Wadala has been crippled by the recent famines and is not doing very well. But Canon Rivington's Society at Hubli which, though managed by Christians, admits others to membership, has acquired a capital of Rs. 8,923 and is increasingly well managed.

## D.-Other forms of Co-operation.

47. Employés and Government Servants' Societies.-In this section some important new organizations have to be recorded. Both the Great Indian Peninsula and Bombay Baroda and Central Railway Companies have now formed credit societies on a limited basis for the benefit of their employes, and in both cases the promotion has been extremely successful. Both societies are controlled by official managing committees with members partly elected and partly ex officio, and in both the whole management is centralized. Loans are approved, accounts kept, and recoveries from the pay-bills made at the head office. The Bombay Baroda and Central India Kailway Society has now 4,906 members with a working capital of Rs. $1,92,585$ as compared with 3,264 members and Rs. $2,00,865$ working capital possessed by the Great Indian Peninsula Society. On very similar lines a society has been started by Mr. Sams, I. C. S., late Post Master-General, for the employés of his department. It has only just been registered but promises to prove quite as popular as either of the lailway Societies. The Central Telegraph Office Society under Mr. Talbot and the No. 1 Military Accounts Society, Poona, also belong to this group. Their success is due to strict management, cautious lending, punctual
recovery and above all to the personal interest taken in them by the heads of the departments concerned. Mr. Kemp is engaged in forming a similar socicty among the staff of the Small Causes Court, Bombay. The remaining 4 Government servants' societies are restricted not to special departments but to particular districts. Three of them have been badly managed, and at the end of the year that at Bagalkot was cancelled. The Jalgaon Society on the other hand has done very well. Under Mr. L. R. Bhalerao and Mr. M. R. Deshpande its capital has risen from Rs. 11,136 to Rs. 18,215. In the course of the year the society has re-cast its by-laws, increased its share capital, and taken steps to open a co-operative provision store for its members. Proposals fur the formation of one or two societies in the Police Department have been received but have been. referred to the Inspector-General for approval and are still under his consideration.
48. Millhands' and Labourerg' Societies.-The condition of the lower urban industrial classes in this Presidency seems likely, if remedial measures are not adopted in time, to become a source of disquietude both to Government and to employers. With the spread of education industrial unrest is inevitable and indeed not unjustifiable. As the authors of the Great State say." of all impossible social dreams the belief in tranquillised and submissive and virtuous labour is the wildest. Men will do any vivid and disastrous thing rather than stand. it." I have visited some of the slums of Ahmedabad and Bombay, and am confident that the time has come when Government should give these classes a lead in organizing themselves on the sound and proved lines of thrift and self-help. It is far better that they should see in Government a helper and protector rather than in some obscure way the cause of their hard fate. At present barely the fringe of the subject has been touched, and it is difficult to see horr to start a larger movement. In some cases the initiative has come from the employers themselves, who have thereby established a real claim on the loyalty and respect of their hands. Ráo Sáheb A. U, Malji by means of his Broach Industrial Millhands' Society not only makes cheap loans available to his employés but also provides them with a tea-shop, a grocery store and a small hotel. The society founded by Mr. Driver and Ráo Súhab Shivamurti Kambargimath at the Gokák mills receives savings bank deposits from all the millhands at very favourable rates, and lends them out to borrowers cautiously and sensibly. Mr. Chitguppi's Society in the Southern Marátha Mills at Hubli and a rather apathetic society in Sir Vithaldas Thackersey's Western India Mills belong to the same type. Some municipalities have organized very similar societies, based on a little necessary compulsion, for their sweepers and other low-caste employés. The Nadiad Thákorji Maháráj Suciety run by Mr. Valibaksh Patel and Mr. Chitale's Muncipal Society at Ahmednagar are doing useful work. In particular Mr. Chirmule's Safái Kháta Society at Sátára, consisting wholly of Bhangis who have foresworn drink and taken to wearing clean clothes, and who regularly deposit savings of 8 annas a month per head in the society and are genuinely proud of their institution, may be cited as the exemplar of this class.
49. On the other hand it is often the case that employers fail to recognize their responsibilities and to take as much interest as they ought in the welfare of thejr hands. A remedy has to be found without their help. Into this. breach Mr. G. K. Devdhar of the Servants of India Society has stepped with his scheme for redemption societies which he outlined at the last Provincial Conference. Mr. Devdhar has not. only enunciated a plan but put it very admirably into effect. The members of his societies are carefully selected after detailed personal enquiry from groups of millhands united by caste and by comnion employment, and bind themselves to take up debentures in the societies by regular monthly deposits out of their pay. Capital is also sought at 9 per cent. from outside. The funds are devoted to paying off the debts of members in turn by advances at 18 per cent., recoverable in a number of small instalinents. There is perhaps nothing very novel in the scheme but Mr. Devdhar's power of inspiring men with his own enthusiasm has achieved remarkable results. Typical societies are the Meghval Dheds (with a
capital exceeding Rs. 10,000), the Somvanshiya, and the Tardev mill-hands, in all of which the keenness and moral regeneration of the members are even more noticeable than the prugress of debt redemption.
50. Weavers' Societics.-The hand-loom weaving industry is the chief handicraft of the Presidency and maintains no less than 3 lákhs of weavers. It is often urged that the industry is bound to disappear from India, as it has already disappeared from Europe, and that it would be a mistaken kindness to oppose the inevitable processes of economic law. But it is at least questionable whether this forecast is well-grounded. The hand-loom weavers' art is finer, more artistic, and more living than that of the mills. Patriotic Indians ought to recognise before it is too late the truth and justice of Coomaraswamy's rewark "the community cannot afford to dispense with the intellectual and imaginative forces in life which go with the existence of skilled craftsmen and small workshops". The survival of village industries has not only a moral value to the country as a whole; it is also the means of preserving a large class of craftsmen from sinking to the level of coolies and mill-hands. There is a clear economic gain when so many thousand artisans are enabled to remain in their tative villages, exercising an art in which they can take an honourable pride, instead of being driven into the ranks of a city proletariat. Government have recognised this and have spared no effort to prevent the extinction of the industry. The village weaver undoubtedly may survive even the stress of factory competition. But it is not enough that his work should be sound and artistic. It must also be reasonably cheap and this can only be assured by combination and co-operation among the weavers themselves. Two main lines of attack have therefore been laid down. Firstly, the supply of raw material (yarn, silk, dye, etc.) and the sale of manufactured gonds must be economically organised. Secondly, improved machinery, suitable to the weavers' needs, must be discovered and introduced.
51. The first object is being attained by the formation of special co-operative societies for weavers, of which the number has risen from 19 to 20 , and the working capital from Rs. 55,600 to Rs. 1,06,490. These societies start by granting cash loans to weavers for necesssary trade or domestic purposes and by undertaking the joint purchase of yarn at wholesale prices. To facilitate this branch of their business a central yarn broker has been appointed in Bombay. Advances are made in the form of yarn and the price is recovered as soon as the cloth is sold. Twelve societies have now opened such yarn stores and in some places, $e, g$, Sangamner, Pathardi and Sholápur, have rented imposing shop-buildings for the purpose. But the scheme is not without its difficulties. Most weavers are in debt to their sávkárs and are not allowed by them to use the society's yarn until these debts have been paid off. This has paralysed the societies at Belgaum and Gajendragadh. The capital must be sufficient to provide for marriages and other non-productive but unavoidable expenses. The stock of yarn must never be allowed to run out for, the sávkars will certainly seize the occasion of refusing to supply its members. Yarn dealers may attempt to seduce the members by selling yarn temporarily at a loss. The societies at Pathardi under Mr. D. M. Deshmukh and Borsad under Mr. Kalyan Narotam are now in the throes of a rate-cutting war with the local sávkárs. . Kankavli under Mr. L. B. Kadulkar and Mr. Harne has just succeeded in completely ousting the two chief dealers of the village. Perhaps the greatest difficulty of all is the seasonal character of the cloth market at most centres. When the demand is slack it has been the practice for sâkárs to buyit cloth at a low, price from weavers and to store it until the next marriage season sets in. To meet this obstacle societies must have sufficient funds to enable them to accept manufactured cloth on deposit in the off season and to advance against it loans of yarn or cash enough to keep the weavers employed. Some 10 societies are doing this and at Hubli it is the chief feature of the society's business. The last stage is the opening of a regular shop in the bazar at which the members' cloth is sold to the public. The best example of this may be seen at Dhárwár where every single weaver has joined the society and under the guidance of Mr. V. M. Herlekar and Mr, Basranappa have raised a capital of Rs. 16,500. Their store has now yot into its hands the whole business of yarn-purchase (lbs. 36,810 last year) and cloth-sale.
52. On the technical side Government have furnished this Department with the means of carrying on an active campaign. Two weaving assistants have been employed in demonstrating the advantages of the fly-shuttle loom. During the year demonstrations have been held at Hubli, Belgaum, Taminkatti, Appin-Betgeri, Ranibennur, Borsad, Ahmedabad, Parola, Erandol and Pathardi. Four of them were fairly successful but elsewhere progress has been poor, and at some centres no fly-shuttle looms at all were bought in spite of the fact that most of the demonstrators (and particularly Mr. Kudabaksh at Erandol) were exceptionally competent weavers. The backwardness and poverty of the weaving classes are a great hindrance. The fly-shuttle looms are not suited to all local centres. The tipe taken in learning the new motion and the cost of the slay have deterred many learners. The Weaving Assistants themselves have hardly succeeded in gaining the confidence of the weavers in the way that they ought to do if tangible results are to be looked for. It is nuure encouraging to be able to report that there has been a considerable growth in the number of fly-shuttle looms at two or three of the centres exploited last year. In other directions the Weaving Assistants have materially helped weavers by advising on the best markets for purchasing yarn and on improved dyeing and warping methods.
53. The number of weaving schools under the control of the Registrar has been increased from 5 to 7 by the opening of new schools at Hubli and Ranibennur. These schools which are in the charge of Mr. S. V. Telang aim at giving a general elementary technical education but in practice do not yet do much besides training pupils to use the fly-shuttle looms and teaching a little reading and writing. Malegaon and Sangamner schools are proving very successful and have been praised by Mr. Pomfret at his annual inspection. At the former the number of applications for admission far exceeds the accommodation available. Thanks are due to Mr. Parasrami at Sangamner, to Mr. Valvekar and Mr. Wagle at Hubli, where the Municipality have provided an excellent school-house rent-free and to Mr. Yadgeri at Ranibennur for their continued help and interest in these schools. At the Dharangaon and Dharwar schools attendance was so bad that they had to be closed temporarily and have now been reopened with new head masters, and are reported to bo doing better. Next year it is hoped to add a course in dyeing to the curriculum of a few of these schools in order to combat the growing evil of cheap aniline dyes. Improved warping mills are being tried at four schools.

## IV.-Reserfe Fund and V.-Resources.

54. I have nothing to add to the remarks made in section II.

## VI.-Disputes and Iutigation.

85. -It is extremely rare for any dispute to arise between a society and any of its members about the amount due or the terms of a loun. Nevertheless in cases of default, though the claim is undisputed, the society has to go to the expense and trouble of filing a suit in the Civil Court aguinst the defaulter. As far as I know, no such suit has ever failed, but in granting decrees most Sub-Judges have allowed no interest at all on the decretal amount from the date of filing the suit up to the date of the decree, and interest at 6 or 7 per cent. only upto the date of recovery. Many Sub-Judges also have allowed estended periods for repayment. Such decrees' seriously injure societies working with capital borrowed at $6 \frac{1}{4}$ per cent. To obviate this difficulty Government have accepted a scheme for compulsory arbitration, under which arbitrators will pass summary orders on undisputed claims and forward them to the nearest Civil Court for execution. Civil suits are very rare in village societies but are growing more frequent among societies in urban areas, and in some cases the costs in excess of the taxed amount swallow up a large part of the annual profits. A cheaper and director method of recovery will prove a great boon $\sim$ So long as the actual recovery has to be made through the staff of the Civil Courts, it may be assumed that it will not be so effective and expeditious as to tempt societies into careless lending. Eight of the nine members of the committee of the Kasegaon Co.operative Society were in jail during a greater part of the year on a charge
of abetting murder. Three criminal complaints of misaspropriation have been filed against the secretaries of certain societies in the Sátára district and the Broach district.

## VII.-A didt and Insfection.

56. The work of audit is increasing in both volume and complexity, and it is possible that the standard of 100 societies per auditor accepted by Government may need revision. Village societies give very little trouble if their accounts are properly written up, since their transactions are never very numerous, but in cases where the accounts have been allowed to fall into confusion, they cost a great deal of time and labour. All societies were audited during the year except about a score in the Nagar and Sholapur districts, omitted by the Auditor, Central Division. Some of the big urban societies require a disproportionate amount of time and a high degree of actuarial skill for their thorough audit, and will in future be examined by professional account. ants, when the rule providing for the levy of audit fees is finally approved. Steps are being taken to secure that as many as possible of the staff shall receive certificates in accountancy from the committee recently set up by Government. The printed forms of audit memo. introduced last year have worked well, and ensured that no important point has been overlooked. On the whole the audit now made is satisfactory but it is extremely difficult for the auditor to judge how far all advances are sate and well-secured in view of the wide use made of personal credit. Unless the overdue arrears are very considerable, auditors hesitate to express an opinion on this very crucial point. It may be added that the hasty.inspections of the Registrar hardly constitute a sufficient check on the work of the auditors themselves. An innovation of the year is the adoption of a system of classifying societies according to the quality of their management:-A very good, B very fair, C poor, and $\mathbf{U}$ bad. From January lst to March 31st, 1914, 105 societies were audited, of which 23 were classified as $\mathrm{A}, 52$ as $\mathrm{B}, 21$ as C , and 9 as D .
57. Societies have on the whole received more inspection than last year. The most valuable visits are those of such district officers as take a genuine sympathetic interest in the movement. It would be difficult to exaggerate the benefit which rural societies have derived from the encouragement and help of such officers as Mr. R. O. Brown and Mr. Mackie in Belgaum, Mr. Maconochie in Dhárwár, Mr. Mead in Ahmednagar, Mr. Master in Surat, and Mr. Hiremath in West Khándesh. The Director of Agriculture has ordered his staff to inspect a certain number of societies every quarter with the object of cementing more closely the connection between agricultural and co-operative work. The result has been a little disappointing. These officers, instead of stimulating societies to improve their management, sometimes content themselves with answering the string of questions printed in the inspection memo. and recording the inspection in their diary. Several honorary organisers have taken their inspecting duties very seriously and have done much to re-establish tottering or sluggish societies.

## VIII.-Aots, Roles, and By-laws.

58. Additional rules under the Co-operative Societies Act relating to arbitration, limitation of dividends, audit charges and copying fees have been published by Govenment for criticism. In the course of the year model by-laws for Stores' Societies, Manure Supplying Societies and Grain Banks have been issued with explanatory leaflets. 'The Co-operative Societies' Manual, which was drawn'up last year, was delayed for a considerable time in the Government Central Press owing to pressure of other work, but was finally issued soon after the close of the year. Leaflets relating to cattle insurance, employees' societies, and milk societies are under preparation.

## IX.-Miscellaneous.

59. Conferences.-The Provincial Co-operative Conference was held at Poona in September and was opened by His Excellency the Governor, A
separate report upon it has been submitted to Government. No Divisional Conferences were held, as it was feared that they were becoming hackneyed and tending too much to follow conventional lines. Repeated discussion of questions already rather threadbare may become wearisome even to ardent coroperators. The experiment was made therefore of holding smaller district conferences of an informal kind to consider questions of special local interest. At Surat under the presidency of Mr. C. N. Seddon, I.C.S., and at Ahmedabad under the presidency of Mr. J. P. Lnkhia and the Reverend G. P. Taylor, D.D., useful conferences were assembled to consider the formation of Unions. At Mandvi the appointment of group secretaries was discussed in a gathering presided over by the Registrar. An interesting departure was made at Belgaum where a large district conference under the presidency of the Honourable Mr. W. D. Sheppard, C.I.E., I.C.S., was organised by Ráo Š́heb R. G. Naik and a few friends unofficially without any direct help from this Department, and resulted in a lively and fruitful debate. Divisional Conferences, which are valuable propagandist institutions, will be resumed next year. It may be noted here that on-coperative subjects formed an important item in the agenda of the Mahrâtta Educational Cunference held at Násik and the Raddy Conference at Navalvady, both of which were attended by representatives of this Department.
60. Relations of the Agricultural and Co-operative Department.-The importance of correlating the activities of the two departments working under the Director in accordance with the instructions of Government has not been lost sight of. Credit business is not, it is true, directly concerned with agriculture, but, since cheap capital is the first condition of all agricultural improvement, orders have been issued by the Director that agricultural district officers should frequently visit and advise rural credit societies. Agricultural publications are distributed through the ayency of Co-operative societies and co-operative leaflets applied to the agricultural staff. Officers of the two departments attend each other's conferences. Representatives of the Co-operative Department were present at most of the agricultural demonstrations held during the year and delivered addresses. Some credit societies in Broach, Dhárwár and Sátíra districts have been induced to purclase improved iron ploughs, which they hire out to their members at four annas a day. Others have bought chaff-cutters. Most receive copies of the agricultural magazine. There is no doubt that credit societies may become a useful channel for introducing certain agricultural improvements, provided that money is not diverted to such objects so long as it is required for the even more pressing needs of cheapening credit and financing the farmers. It is in the field of agricultural organization that the close connection between the two departments is most capable of bearing fruit. Cattle Insurance Societies, Dairy Sucieties, Manure Societies, and so forth can only be formed on sound lines with the co-operation of agricultural officers. As an example of the way in which the departments can assist each other I would point to the Gadag Seed. Society managed by Mr. Itgi, Superintendent of the Government Farm, and Canon Rivington. This Society obtained 500 maunds of Cambodia and Dhárwár American cotton seed partly from the Government Farm and partly from fields in Mulgund selected by Mr. Itgi, which it sold for cash to its members. The Society will take to selling seed on credit this year provided that Mr. Itgi can find sufficient seed good enough to be worth its purchasing. As soon as the Agricultural Department is prepared to distribute improved seed on a large scale, Co-operative Societies will certainly be found to be the most convenient agencies for distribation. Other forms of cooperation in agriculture the credit for which is largely dus to agricultural officers, have already been described.
iv 61. Co-operative Housing.-The idea of establishing Co-partnership $n$ Housing Socicties in some of the large towns of the Presidency originated in a very able and complete paper laid before the Provincial Co-operative Conference in September by Råo Šáheb S. S. Talmaki. That paper was considered by a committee under the chairmanship of Mr. B. W. Kissan, I.C.S., and on its recommendation the Conference resolved that in growing towns it was urgently necessary to combat rising rents by the method of co-partnership and,
scoondly, that a Coooperative Housing Association should bo formed to collect and disseminate intormation about Co-operative Housing and to organize societies. A provisional committee was appointed consisting of the Honourable Mr. J. P. Orr, O.S.I., I. C. S., Chairman, Sir Vithaldas D. Thakersey, the Honourable Mr. Lallubhai Samaldas, C.I.E., Río Síheb S. S. Talmaki, Mr. N. M. Joshi (Servants of India), Mr. P. V. Ramunni, Mr. B. W. Kissan, I.C.S., Mr. R. II. A. Delves, and Mr. R. P. Masani. This Committee has obtained from England a supply of the latest books and leaflets on co-partnership and has held several public meetings in Bombay in order to arouse public interest in its propaganda. As a result of their activities a Co-operative IIousing Association was formed on March 17th consisting of 36 leading citizens with the Honourable Mr. P. D. Pattani, C.I.E., as President. Sub-Committees were appointed for the purpose of enquiring into the housing conditions of the poorer classes of people belonging to different communities in Bombay and have started work. Public lectures have been delivered on different aspects of the problem, e.g. "Popular Types of Housing Societies" (Ráo Sáheb Talmaki), "Co-operative Credit Unions of Denmark" (Professor O. V. Muller) and "The Small Bungalow" (Mr. F. G. B. Hawkins). During the year no co-partnership housing society has actually been formed. But draft model by-laws have been drawn up and the Kánara Saraswat community is preparing to inaugurate a society in the near future.

## X.-Attitude of the Pbblic.

62. The progress of the Co-operative movement is regarded by the public throughout the Presidency with sympatby and attention. The aims and objects of Government in promoting it are occasionally misrepresented but hardly ever misuaderstood. Where rural societies have proved successful, I have often noticed among the ryots a strong sense of gratitude to Government for the benefits which they derive from them, and it is noteworthy that several quite small and remote societies spontaneously organised corporate celebrations on the birthdays of H. M. The King and H. E. The Viceroy. The attitude of the educated classes is friendly and encouraging. Newspapers, both English and vernaculars, usually find room for co-operative news of interest and commend the movement to their readers. Commerce and Co-operation, the unofficial organ of co-operators in this Presidency, is slowly gaining in popularity. At Educational Conferences, Caste Conferences and Agricultural Gatherings resolutions are constantly passed recommending the estended adoption of co-operative methóds. The agricaltural journal, Shethi and Shetkari has a co-operative section edited in Mahrathi by Mr. K. S. . Gore, Auditor of Co-operative Societies, North Central Division, and in Kánarese by Mr. K. B. Bhadrapur, M.A., Auditor, Southern Division. A very significant sign of the profound effect which co-operative ideas are having on the people at large came to my notice in Belgaum. A schoolboy named Vasuder at MugutKhan Hubli persuaded a number of his school-fellows, in imitation of the village co-operative society, to subscribe one rupee each and jointly to buy their books, papers, slates, pencils, etc., wholesale direct from Belgaum. They got them so much more cheaply than in the village that with the help of the schoolmaster they have now set up a little store of stationery and keep their accounts neatly and clearly. Ráo Sáheb R. G. Naik brought the facts to the notice of the Deputy Educational Inspector, through whose influence there are now more than 70 such miniature societies in the district with a capital of Rs. 10 to Rs. 30 each. It would be difficult to devise a more admirable way of inculcating among schoolboys a practical knowledge of the use of co-operation.
63. In the course of my report I have endeavoured to acknowledge the belp which has been received from cur most active supporters, but with the growing number of societies the names of many sincere workers have inevitably been omitted. I wish to thank them all heartily and to assure them that without their labours the Co-operative Department would have been unable to cope with the continued development of the movement. In all agricultural matters the energy and the knowledge of the Assistant Registrar have been of
the greatest use. My district staff of auditors, Special Mámlatdars, and Inspectors have travelled continuously and worked hard and efficiently. Great credit is due to them for the activity they have shown in collecting and consolidating the Annual Returns during the hot weather. My office staff under Mr. Chaganrai Munshi have laboured loyally and well earned an acknowledgment of their good work.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
R. B. EWBANK,

Registrar, Co-operative Societies,
Bombay Presidency.

STATEMENT I-A.

* 64-7

STATEMENT
Number and Conslatution of


I-A.
Sccieties-Central Sicieties.


## STATEMENT I-B.

Number and Constitution of Socielies-Agricultural Societies.

statement i-d.
Number and Constitution of Societies-Non-Agricultural Societies.


N 64-8
STATEMEXT
Receipts and Disjursement



## II-A.

-Central Societies.

meato.




briculiural Societies.




II.C.

Non-Agricultural Societies.



III-A.
Central Societies. .

| Llablities. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Cost of management } \\ & \text { due. } \end{aligned}$ |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { B } \\ \text { B } \end{gathered}$ |  |
| 15 | 18 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| Re. D. D. | Re. a. p. | Re. a. Po | Re. as p. | Re. | Rs, a. p. | Rs. a p. | Rs. a. p. | Hs. a. p. | Re, a. p. | Kı. a. p. |
| $\begin{array}{rrr} 4,04,304 & 6 & 7 \\ 10,512 & 2 & 10 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{rrr}27,458 & 13 & 0 \\ 2,980 & 9 & 8\end{array}$ |  | $\begin{array}{rrrr}6,51,770 & 0 & 0 \\ 62,617 & 13 & 10\end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 3,38,13 \mathrm{~J} \\ & 39,00 \mathrm{u} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{rrr} 28,629 & 8 & 5 \\ 2,472 & 12 & 7 \end{array}$ | $17870$ | $\left\lvert\, \begin{array}{cc}18,0: 2 & 8 \\ 0\end{array}\right.$ | 2,700 1,883 000 | $\begin{array}{r}16,20,005 \\ 1,08,034 \\ \hline 13\end{array}$ | $\left\lvert\, \begin{aligned} & +21,9775 \\ & +2,06113 \end{aligned}\right.$ |
| 20,700 $\leqslant 8$ | ....** | $\cdots \cdot$ | 02,383 111 | 21,970 | $2,126 \mathrm{z}$ B | $32 \leq 0$ | $\cdots$ | 1,217 1111 | 1,24,136 281 | +2,801 34 |
| 6,97,012 141 | 20,379 68 | .. | 7,68,771 811 | 8,82,800 | 81,228 78 | 210110 | 18,088 8 0 | 5,2001111 | 17,73,180 3 \% 7 | 27,450 B 2 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 106 . .0 \\ & 18,05013 \quad 0 \end{aligned}$ |  | 0280 |  | $\begin{array}{r} 1,022 \\ 10,449 \end{array}$ | 184017 | $\begin{array}{rrr}97 & 8 & 0 \\ 7 & 1 & 8\end{array}$ |  | $\begin{array}{rrr}1 & 5 & 0 \\ 1.036 & 13 & 6\end{array}$ | 1,12013 62,949 11 | $\begin{array}{r} -100 \\ +2.626 \\ +27 \end{array}$ |
| 18,050 180 | ..."4 |  | 20,200 $12 \quad \theta$ | 11.471 | 1,540 17 | 10563 | 4742 | 1,038 8 s | 53,484 98 | 2,525 13 |
| 16,000 00 | -"mom | sen | .as.0. | 3,950 | 16116 | 3500 | 008 | ...." | 20,158 22 | -152 7'6 |
| 6,71,663 111 | 20,979 6 | 91201 | 7,87,041 5 8 | 4,08,221 | 32,920 18 - | 35113 | 10,029 13 s | 6,238 162 | 18,40,746 18 b | +20,833 110 |

paid to interim dividend.


III-B.
Agricullural Societies.

STATEIT
Balante


III-C.
Non-Agricultural Societies.


INSTITUTE
Abstrret for the information of the International


INSTITUTE
Abstract for the information of the Internationab


## STATEMENT IV-A.

Sgricultural Institute at Rome-Centràl Societies.

|  |  |  | $\overline{\bar{o}}$ Most nsual rate <br> of interest |  |  | Loana due |  |  |  | Loans from Government. | Reserve Fund. | Femarks. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { gi } \\ & \text { H. } \\ & \text { H. } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 20 |
| "* | $\cdots$ | $\left\|\begin{array}{rrr}\text { Rs. } & \text { a. } & \text { p. } \\ 14,007 & 12 & 4 \\ 1,807 & 4 & 10\end{array}\right\| 6$ | 6 $6 i \pm$ to 71 | $\begin{aligned} & 4 \frac{2}{3} \\ & 5 \end{aligned}$ | 7 to $\begin{array}{r}\text { 7\% } \\ 7\end{array}$ | $\left\lvert\, \begin{array}{ccc} \text { Rs. } & \text { B. p. } \\ \text {..4 } \\ 94,819 & 8 & 10 \end{array}\right.$ | $\left\|\begin{array}{rrr} \begin{array}{r} \mathrm{I}_{6} \\ \text { a. } \end{array} & \mathrm{p} . \\ 13,73,878 & 10 & 3 \\ 1,30,217 & 6 & 2 \end{array}\right\|$ | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{s}} \\ & 8,98,130 \\ & 65,119 \end{aligned}$ | $\left\|\begin{array}{rrr} \text { Rs, } & \text { an } & \text { p. } \\ 6,51,770 & 0 & 0 \\ 1,155,271 & 5 & 8 \end{array}\right\|$ | - |  |  |
| - ${ }^{\prime}$ | $\cdots$ | 183143 | $\cdots$ | 5 | 61 | '.. | 11,500 00 | 4,972 | -*... | $\cdots$ | 159 |  |

STATEMENT IV-B.
Agricultural Institute at Rome—Agricultural Societies.


STATEMENT
Profit and Loss Account-

V.A.

Central Sucieties.

| Los8. |  |  |  |  |  |  | Net proft or low. | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Itom } \\ & \text { No. } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Interost paid. | Interest due. | Salaries and contin. genoies. | Deprecise tion of stock. | Bad debts written ofr. | Other Items. | 'Sotal. |  |  |
| 0 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 18 | 14 | - 26 | 16 | 1 |
| Re. B. P. | Ra. . ${ }^{\text {a }}$. | Rs. s. p. | Rs. 8. p. |  | Els. A. p. | Bn. a. pa | Ra. A. D. |  |
| $\begin{array}{rll} 34,844 & 6 & 11 \\ 1,150 & 1 & 4 \\ 1,650 & 6 & 0 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ccc} 25,885 & 15 & 11 \\ 2,168 & 0 & 8 \\ 2,125 & 7 & 7 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{rrrr} 0,165 & 1 & 10 \\ 025 & 8 & 2 \\ 415 & 18 & 11 \end{array}$ | 495 280 | *0000 | $\begin{array}{rlll} 22,871 & 7 & 6 \\ 117 & 14 & 8 \\ 1 & 15 & 4 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{rlll} 83,011 & 18 & 10 \\ 4,655 & 11 & 5 \\ 4,193 & 10 & 10 \end{array}$ | $\left.\begin{array}{ccc} \bullet+28,030 & 13 & 7 \\ +2,051 & 12 & 2 \\ +2,821 & 5 & 4 \end{array}\right]$ | 1 2 1 |
| 87,845 18 | 80,423 78 | 10,504 711 | 404129 | *0000 | 12,791 58 | 191,859 31 | +33,603 13 9 |  |
| *2080 $488$ | $2.5281$ | $\begin{array}{lll}124 & 9 & 6 \\ 279 & 6 & 0\end{array}$ | -0.04 | $\cdots$ | 280 | $\begin{array}{rrrr}124 & 0 & 6 \\ 1,814 & 2 & 6\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r}-100 \\ +2,6208 \\ \hline\end{array}$ | ${ }_{6}$ |
| 128 | 1,528 1 | 40400 | 0000 | 1000 | 280 | J,038 180 | 2,625 23 \% |  |
| ***.0 | 16116 | 181189 | 100.4 | **** | 50106 | 40380 | -158 78 | 6 |
| 97,649 811 | 38,112 $10 \quad 7$ | $11,100 \leqslant 8$ | 494120 | -."** | 18,84 711 | 01,201 710 | +96,877 30 |  |

STATEMENT
Profit and Loss
Agricultural

V.B.

Account.
Societics.

|  |  |  | Loss. |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Intcrest pai3. | Interest due. | Salaries and contingencies. | Depreciation of stock. | Bad debts written off. | Other items. | Total. | Net profit + or luss - . | $\begin{aligned} & 1 t_{t \cdot 12} \\ & \text { No. } \end{aligned}$ |
| 9 | 10 |  | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| Ra. a. p. | Rs. 8. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. 8. p. | Rs. a. P. | If. A. p, |  |
| 1,751 40 | 2,200 $10: 9$ | 77105 | 500 | .....". | 1.73 | $4,729 \quad 6 \quad 5$ | +3,405 11 01 | 1 |
| 5,454 411 | 3,381 110 | : 262118 | 1400 | ..... | $21: 60$ | $\begin{array}{llll}9,833 & 8 & 5\end{array}$ | +5,713 711 | 2 |
| 2,228 60 | 2,354 29 | 915.79 | 039 | ....', | 1000 | 5,503 43 | +3,727 810 | 8 |
| 116132 | 206126 | 18864 | ..... | .....* | .....* | $600 \quad 0$ | $+1,08037$ | 4 |
| 4,244311 | 13,069 5 8 | 1,306 211 | 1000 | -...as | $\begin{array}{llll}58 & 9 & 7\end{array}$ | 18,683 61 | $+9.023000$ | 5 |
| 604148 | 150149 | 182138 | .....0 | *...** | 185 | 95031 | +1,103 110 | G |
| 14,399 148 | 21,453.0 3 | 4,334 $10 \quad 4$ | 2939 | ...... | 92153 | 40,309 12 B | +24,093 10 5 |  |
| 3,27768 | 4,840 110 | 93689 | 3040 | . 0. | 12120 | 9,196 15 3 | +6,100 118 | 7 |
| 716147 | 15411 | 20817 | 5116 | -1.0.0 | 200 | 94507 | +1,019 0 b | 8 |
| 5221510 | $\begin{array}{llll}365 & 9 & 1\end{array}$ | 111.3 .. 5 | ...... | ...." | 010 | 909134 | + 710114 | 9 |
| 1,485 72 | $2,08610 \quad 2$ | 480102 | 7.80 | ...*. | 817 | 4,068 5 1 | +1,771 38 | 10 |
| 27,684 114 | 43,548810 | 5,03464 | $\begin{array}{lll}116 & 1 & 1\end{array}$ | ..... | 0 : 0 | 76,383 14 7 | +16,700 1311 | 11 |
| 8,382 98 | $3,862 \quad 210$ | 80148 | 3110 | ...... | $\begin{array}{llll}158 & 6 & 7\end{array}$ | 7,20828 | +3,201 ¢ 11 | 12 |
| 1,544 1511 | 60315 - 0 | , 307150 | 2693 | ....'• |  | 2,483 7 11 | $+3,07684$ | 13 |
| 37,615 1 2 | $55,422 \quad 8$ | 7,880-0 8 | 1891210 | ...... | 18182 | 1,01,288 116 | +32,829 7 $10{ }^{0}$ |  |
| 1,070 $10 \quad 6$ | 1,538 142 | : 61411 : 0 | - 4933 |  | 886 | 3,281 15 5 | +2,435 15 | 14 |
| 1,673 1410 | 5,314 119 | 83976 | $39^{\text {¢ }} 93$ | 076 | 180 | 7,869 0 10 | +5,209 88 | 15 |
| 6,150 153 | 17,488 5 5 $3 \frac{1}{2}$ | $\text { 3,342 } 1211 \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2}}$ | 5722 | .... | 95154 | 27,135 30 | $+13,00154$ | 16 |
| 49913 | $\begin{array}{llll}140 & 5 & 5\end{array}$ | 147111 |  | ..0... | . | 787130 | + 424381 | 17 |
| 4394 | 146107 | 72710 |  | ...... | .....* | 262119 | + 83106 | 18 |
| 48402 | 22248 | 19516 | 12120 | ...... | ..."• | 014410 | + 409106 | 10 |
| 8,922 154 | 24,850 9 911 | 5,212 6101 | 158108 | 076 | 1051510 | 40,251 I. 7 | +22,163 7113 |  |
| .$^{61,93715 \quad 2}$ | 1,01,725 $14 \quad 31$ | 17,427 1 104 | 377113 | 076 | 35078 | 1,81,849 984 | +79,001 10 21 |  |

[^1]STATEMENT
Propit and
Non-Agricultural

v-c.
Loss.
Societies.

| Loss |  |  |  |  |  |  | Net pront or loss. | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Ilem } \\ & \text { No. } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Interest paid. | Interest due. | Salaries and ;ontingeacies. | Depreclatim of stock. | BH <br> Debte writticn off. | Other Itens. | Total. |  |  |
| 0 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 10 | 1 |
| Re. s. p. | Rs, a. p. | Ra, $\mathrm{a}_{5} \mathrm{p}$. | ds. a, p. | Resa. a. | Rs. s. p. | Rs. 日. p. | Re, a. p. |  |
| 2.537130 | 5,358 211 | 6,416 88 | 10119 | 30150 | 5,004 138 | 10,58414 6 | 10,423 75 | 1 |
| 1574 | 521 | 1780 | -1.0.4 | " | $\ldots$ | 3922 | 54704 | 2 |
| 156130 | 61110 | 670.14 0 | 2588 | ${ }^{-1}$ | . 0 | 1,12) 1510 | 2,093159 | 3 |
| ...-4 | 233 ¢ | 5324 | -10*4 | ** | *-." | 29064 | 89132 | 4 |
| 0130 | $\cdots$ | 1600 | 1000 | ... | $\cdots$ | 31150 | 10317 | 5 |
| 2,709 010 | 5,853 1013 | 7,987 156 | 81140 | 36130 | 5,cos 138 | 21,050 810 | 19,611 10 3! |  |
| 9,501131 | $1,623 \quad 7.11$ | 1,703 90 | 81180 | $\cdots$ | 805127 | 13,1317 | 7.815810 | 6 |
| 45312 * |  | 2411510 | 10.4 | * | -30* | 603132 | $8 \% 22$ | 7 |
| 71118 | **** | 13708 | .1.0. | " | $\cdots$ | 8981011 | 75813 9 | 8 |
| 822 I4 8 | *104 | 6716 | 17295 | ** | $\cdots$ | 56297 | 60752 | 0 |
| 2,826 141 | 2,430 13 | 2,483 25 | 38148 | 18568 | 480 | 8,014 120 | 2,497 7 4 | 10 |
| 43380 | 1,733; 08 | 16158 | 640 | $\cdots$ | 7262 | 2,81208 | 836128 | 11 |
| 311148 | 202 \& 9 | 5538 | mo.t. | 586 | 546 | 1,177 143 | 558120 | 13 |
| 14,7:0 It \& | 5,09) 6 S | 8,402 $15 \quad 5$ | 2558 | :60 02 | '387 15 | 30,04) 811 | 13, $168911{ }^{\circ}$ |  |
| 217118 | 3,037 22 | 1,11611 4 | 6161 | ** | 1700 | 4,64) 78 | 2,101 146 | 13 |
| $11-2$ | $303-3$ | 3291311 | 16106 | '0* | ....." | 724 410 | 1,104 10 4 | 14 |
| 4,233 1101 | 14,23199 | 0,540 61 | 27984 | 70130 | 8818 | 20,645 11 71 | 38,433 14 6 | 26 |
| 57011 | 777 O 2 | 484811 | *1... | - | .4.0 | 1,91850 | 1,429 711 | 18 |
| $\cdots$ | 931 | 1300 | ....* | $\cdots$ | **... | 8018 | 6170 | 17 |
| 1,903 311 | 7417 | 954 86 | 8702 |  | - | 2,135 148 | 1,312 8 | 18 |
| 5.321115 | 10,101 8 0 | 0,140 6 1 1 | 38481 | 70139 | 893146 | 6\|38,21! 12101 | 42,521 1411 |  |
| 23,981 $13 \quad 5$ | 31,03381 | $21,937 \in 01$ | 630 It 9 | 368511 | 6,202 ll 8 | 333,205813 | 75,010 3,11 |  |

- In Abnednagar District one Society made a losg last year nhich has beca delu:ted this year.


[^0]:    * $64-2$

[^1]:    *In Ahmednagar District one Society made a loss last year which bas becn deducted the jear.

