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NORTHERN DIVISION.

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I. Number of Estates under Management.

Northern Division.—At the beginning of the year, there were 4 large and 43 small estates under management. Two small estates in Kaira were taken under management, while seven small estates (six in Ahmedabad and one in Kaira) were released from management during the year. The year thus closed with 42 estates under management (4 large and 38 small).

Central Division.—At the beginning of the year there were 7 large and 14 small estates under management. The small estate of Kazi Inaitullakhan of Ahmednagar was taken up and the large estate of Dabhade of Poona and a small estate of Mantri of Satara were released from management during the year. The year thus closed with 20 estates under management (6 large and 14 small), the statistical information regarding which is given in the accompanying three statements.

The estate of the minor Bhimabai, daughter of Phirangojirao Deshmukh of Chikurde in the Satara District, is under the management of the Court of Wards.

Southern Division.—Nine new estates were added and 4 (Anandibai, Astekar and Shant estates in Belgaum and Usmanbeg estate in Kolaba) released. Thus the number of estates rose from 46 to 51.

The new estate in Bijapur (Durga Estate) was taken over under Government Resolution No. 3065 dated 15th November 1921, Revenue Department, but the charge was finally assumed by the Court of Wards on 25th December 1921. The estate is still under investigation. Hence its details are not included in the report.

II. Income.

Northern Division.—The total gross income amounted to Rs. 4,75,498 as against Rs. 2,48,670 in the previous year. The increase is attributed chiefly to the more favourable agricultural season and satisfactory recovery of rent and other dues from cultivators, whereas in the previous year suspensions had to be given on a large scale on account of the unfavourable nature of the season. The decrease in the case of the Baxi Estate is nominal as the previous year's figures were swelled by the recovery of arrears of Moglai Hak and political pension. In Mehlool the decrease is due to the completion of the Gora cutting work and non-receipt of interest on loans.

Central Division.—The gross income amounted to Rs. 2,98,610 as against Rs. 2,20,327 in the previous year. The increase is mainly due to the following causes:—

(a) Addition of income of three small estates in Nasik district for which information was not available last year.

(b) Increase in receipts from rent and repayment of loans advanced from the estates.

(c) Receipt of a dowry of Rs. 6,001 by the Ward of the small estate of Dehu in Poona District at the time of his marriage.