



Report on the Excise
Administration of the
Central Provinces and
Berar for the Calendar
Year 1929

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1930

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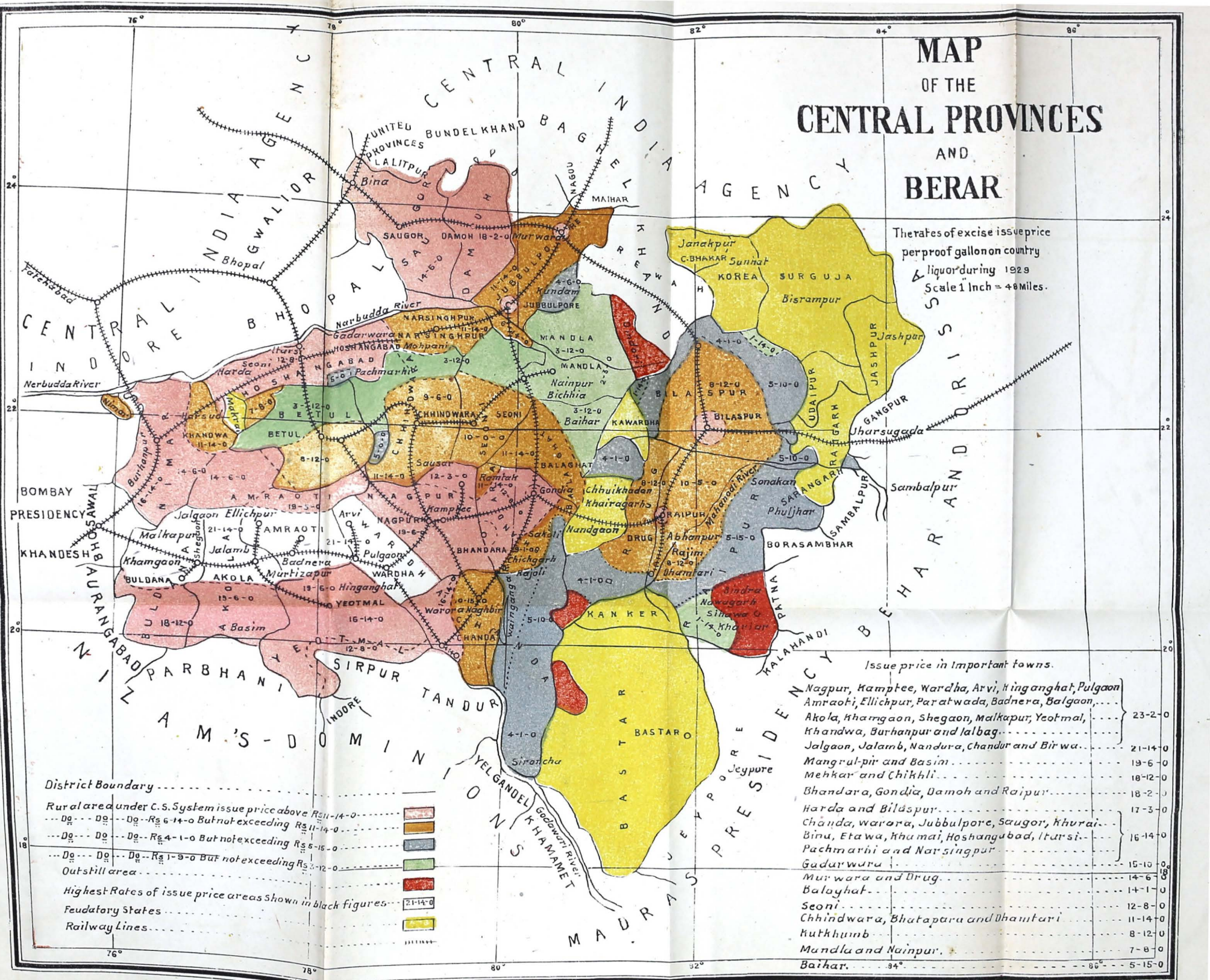
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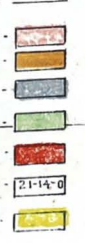
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MAP OF THE CENTRAL PROVINCES AND BERAR

The rates of excise issue price per proof gallon of country liquor during 1929
Scale 1 Inch = 40 Miles.



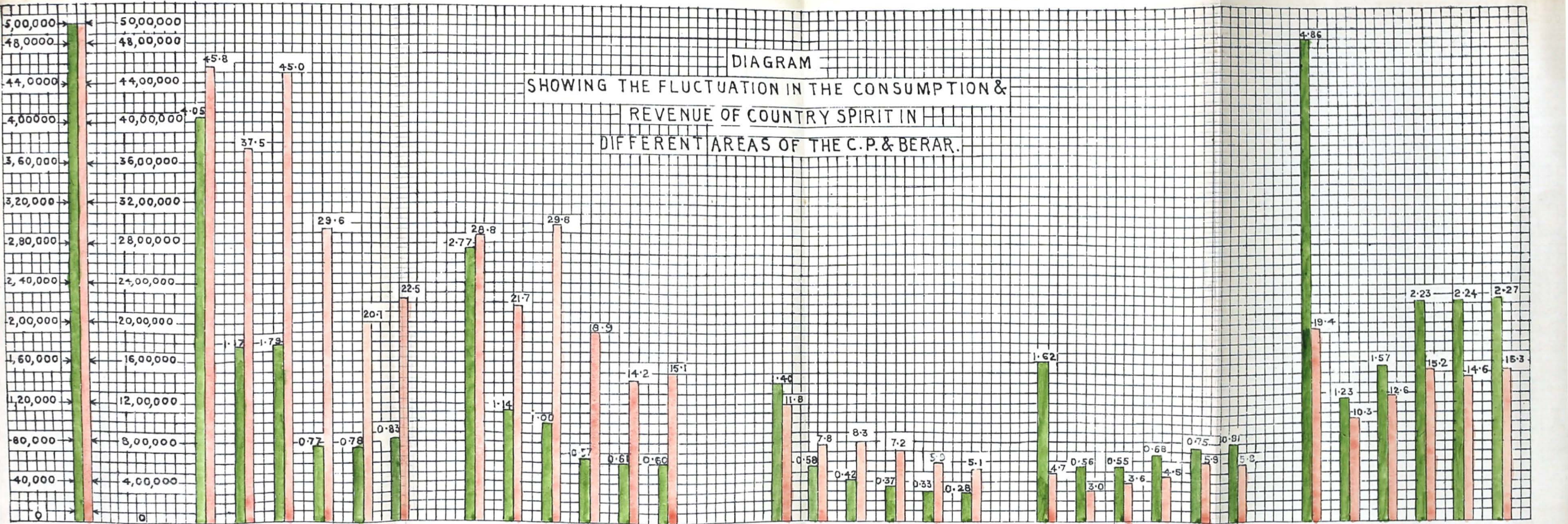
District Boundary
 Rural area under C. S. System issue price above Rs 11-14-0
 Do Do Do Rs 6-14-0 But not exceeding Rs 11-14-0
 Do Do Do Rs 4-1-0 But not exceeding Rs 5-15-0
 Do Do Do Rs 1-9-0 But not exceeding Rs 3-12-0
 Outstill area
 Highest Rates of issue price areas shown in black figures
 Feudatory States
 Railway Lines



Issue price in Important towns.

Nagpur, Kamptee, Wardha, Arvi, Hinganghat, Pulgaon, Amraoti, Ellichpur, Paratwada, Badnera, Balgaon, Akola, Khamgaon, Shegaon, Malkapur, Yeotmal, Khandwa, Burhanpur and Jabalpur	23-2-0
Jalgaon, Jalamb, Nandura, Chandur and Birwa	21-14-0
Mangrul-pir and Basim	19-6-0
Mehkar and Chikhli	18-12-0
Bhandara, Gondia, Damoh and Raipur	18-2-0
Harda and Bilaspur	17-3-0
Chanda, Warora, Jubbulpore, Saugor, Khurai, Bina, Etawa, Khumai, Hoshangabad, Itarsi, Pachmarhi and Narsingpur	16-14-0
Gadarwara	15-10-0
Murwara and Drug	14-6-0
Balaghat	14-1-0
Seoni	12-8-0
Chhindwara, Bhatapara and Dhantari	11-14-0
Kutkumb	8-12-0
Mundla and Nainpur	7-8-0
Baihar	5-15-0

DIAGRAM
SHOWING THE FLUCTUATION IN THE CONSUMPTION &
REVENUE OF COUNTRY SPIRIT IN
DIFFERENT AREAS OF THE C. P. & BERAR.



Consumption Revenue.



1919-20 1922 1924 1926 1928 1929
Berar Districts
(Amraoti, Akola, Buldana & Yeotmal)



1919-20 1922 1924 1926 1928 1929
Other Cotton Districts & Bhandara
(Nagpur, Bhandara, Wardha & Nirmar.)

1919-20 1922 1924 1926 1928 1929
Northern Districts.
(Jubbulpore, Saugor, Damoh, Narsinghpur and Hoshangabad)

1919-20 1922 1924 1926 1928 1929
Chhattisgarh Districts.
(Raipur, Bilaspur & Durg)

1919-20 1922 1924 1926 1928 1929
Plateau Districts.
(Chanda, Betul, Chhindwara, Seoni, Mandla & Balaghat)

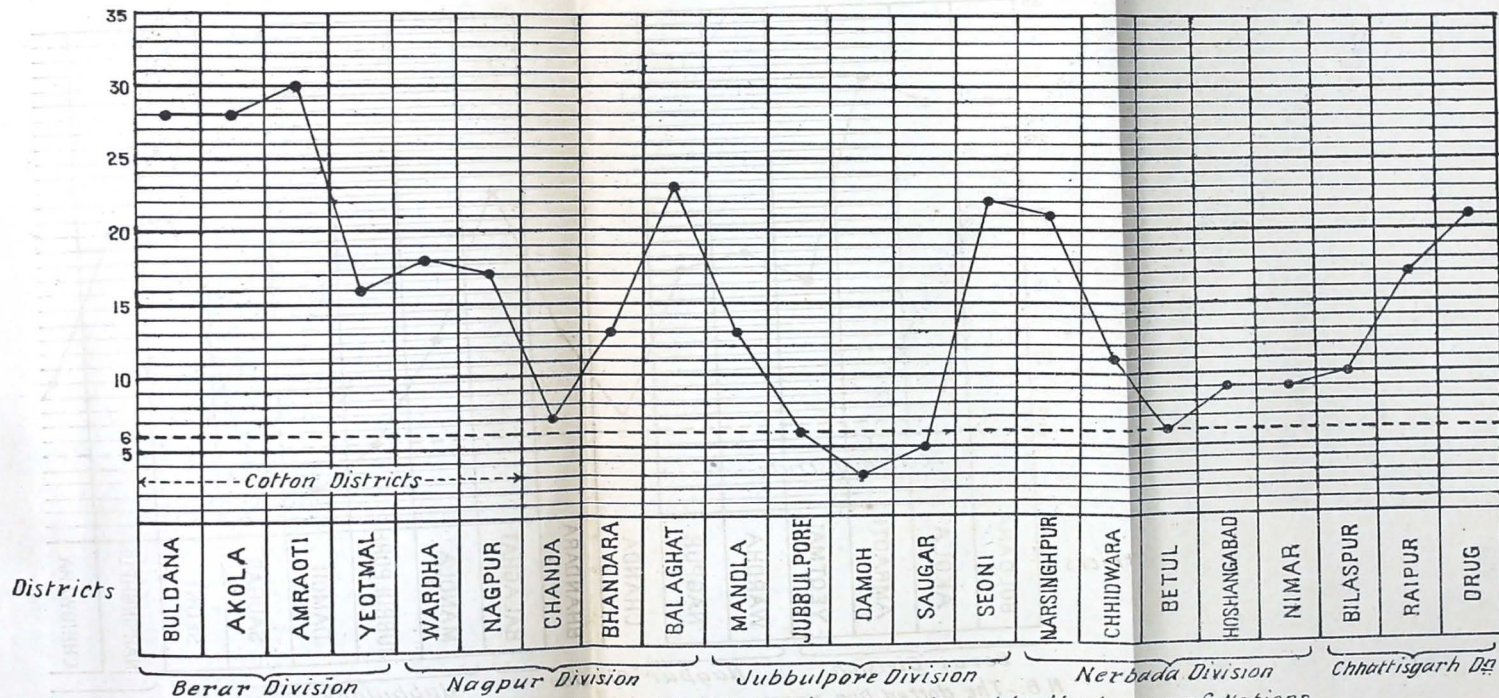
Consumption 
Revenue (c.s.) 

One Small  = 10,000 P. G.
Do  = 100,000 Rs.

N.B. The increase in consumption (Chhattisgarh & Plateau Districts) is partly due to the conversion of some outstill areas into the supply system, the statistics of which were not included in previous figures. A total area of 2769 square miles representing a consumption of probably 29433 P. Gallons has been converted from outstill to supply since 1919-20

Consumption per
10,000 of population
in Seers :-

GRAPH
Showing the consumption of opium in Seers per 10,000 of population
in
The Districts of Central Provinces and Berar during the year 1929.



N.B.:- The dotted line represents the standard incidence (six seers) allowed by the League of Nations.

No. 377-321-XI.
 GOVERNMENT OF THE CENTRAL PROVINCES
 SEPARATE REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Nagpur, the 31st July 1930.

READ—

Report on the Excise Administration of the Central Provinces and Berar for the calendar year 1929.

READ also—

The District Reports.

RESOLUTION.

The series of bad rabi crops in the northern districts continued in 1929 and, although the cotton crop was above normal, prices ruled low and the economic condition of the agricultural and labouring classes was not as satisfactory as it might be. There was moreover severe depression in the mining industry. A substantial fall in consumption of liquor and in excise revenue might therefore have been expected and would undoubtedly have occurred had it not been for the passing of the Child Marriage Restraint Act which was to come into force from 1st April 1930 which resulted in a much larger number of marriages and consequent demand for liquor. The net result was that the gross excise revenue rose from 122 lakhs in 1928 to 125 lakhs in 1929.

2. The total consumption of country spirit rose from 470,970 to 479,020 proof gallons but out of this 10,433 proof gallons were sold in the area newly brought under the contract supply system at the beginning of the year and, leaving this out of account, there was actually a small fall in consumption. There was also a satisfactory fall in the sales of opium and ganja of 1,455 and 3,201 seers respectively, which indicates that the high price of liquor is not driving people to take drugs in its place.

3. In pursuance of the restrictive policy of Government, 47 shops of country liquor, 16 of tari and 9 of foreign liquor were closed during the year and the issue

price of country spirit was further enhanced in 14 districts. The tari tree-tax was also raised from Rs. 6 to Rs. 7 in 4 out of the 7 districts in which it is in force. The price of both opium and ganja was enhanced by Rs. 5 per seer, and the number of retail vend shops reduced by 23 and 29 respectively. The working hours of opium and hemp drug shops which were from sunrise to 9 p.m. were curtailed to 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. in municipal areas and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. in rural areas.

4. It is to be remembered, however, that as the measures taken by Government become more effective and the disparity between the cost of illicit production and that of the controlled articles becomes wider, the temptation to evade law increases while detection becomes more difficult. Thus cases of illicit distillation rose from 1,455 to 1,676 or nearly four times the figure of 1919-20 and 15 per cent above that of 1928. Offences relating to opium and hemp drugs also rose by 7 per cent to 2,162. The large figure of fines imposed for these offences (Rs. 97,000) shows that the magistracy is alive to the necessity for dealing adequately with excise crime and the rapid increase in crime in spite of punishment indicates that coercion alone will not solve the problem unless it is supported by a strong temperance movement. Government expects the co-operation of all interested in the welfare of the province in promoting a genuine temperance movement and hopes that advantage will be taken of the offer of financial assistance to *bona fide* temperance associations. Government observes with regret that no attempt has yet been made in this direction and no temperance association has been formed although the scheme has been in force for over a year. A temperance movement to be effective must be directed against both licit and illicit liquor as well as drugs and can obviously be best promoted by close co-operation between Government and social workers operating in harmony for the common cause. The advocacy of prohibition or temperance undertaken as a political measure and directed mainly against licit liquor and not against illicit liquor and drugs also, however well intentioned, must fail in its object and any attempts to achieve prohibition by compulsion, whether such compulsion is applied by Government or by public

organizations, are bound to be unsuccessful in the end. The policy followed by Government has undoubtedly made liquor and drugs more expensive and less accessible but much more rapid progress would be made towards the goal of prohibition if social reformers were to direct their energies to a proper organization of the temperance movement especially in the backward tracts of the province.

5. Mr. G. P. Burton was the Excise Commissioner up to the 12th January and Mr. G. C. F. Ramsden held the post from that date till the 20th October 1929 when Mr. C. F. Waterfall succeeded him and remained in charge till the end of the year under review. Government (Ministry of Excise) feels thankful to all these officers for their efficient administration of the department during the year. Government's appreciation is also due to Mr. McClenaghan for his interesting report.

ORDER.—Ordered that a copy of this resolution be submitted to the Government of India, Finance Department (Central Revenues), and that a copy be forwarded to the Excise Commissioner, Central Provinces, for information and guidance; also that it be published in the supplement to the *Central Provinces Gazette*.

By order of the Government
(Ministry of Excise),

A. McDONALD,
Secretary to Government,
Central Provinces.

No. S-302-A.

FROM

H. E. ST. G. McCLENAGHAN, Esq., I.C.S.,
EXCISE COMMISSIONER,
Central Provinces and Berar.

TO

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
SEPARATE REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
Central Provinces.

Pachmarhi, the 22nd April 1930.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit the report on the Excise Administration of these Provinces for the calendar year 1929, together with the prescribed statements and the district reports.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

H. E. McCLENAGHAN,
Excise Commissioner.

[Maximum limit—30 pages.]
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