

LAND REVENUE ADMINISTRATION REPORT,

PART II,

OF THE

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY, INCLUDING SIND,

FOR THE YEAR 1910-1911.

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A.—PRESIDENCY PROPER.

J. SLADEN, Esq., I. C. S., Commissioner, Northern Division.

THE HONOURABLE MR. G. S. CURTIS, I. C. S., Commissioner,
Central Division.

THE HONOURABLE MR. W. D. SHEPPARD, C.I.E., I. C. S.,
Commissioner, Southern Division.

I.—Economic Condition and Prospects of the Division.

1.—Season (including Crops and Water-supply).

Commissioner, Northern Division.

The season of 1910-11 was on the whole favourable though for different reasons in the several districts. The rainfall was below the average in Ahmedabad; seriously so in some parts, but it came conveniently; erratic in Kaira but generally sufficient, heavier than in the previous five years in the Panch Maháls where continuous rain in July and August injured the maize and bájri, good in Broach and Surat, and good too in Thána except for a long break in July, which ruined the "salt" rice, and unseasonably heavy showers at the end of September and October. Rice failed completely in Ahmedabad, except where irrigated from canals and wells. The rain was not heavy enough to fill the tanks. The utility of the Khari Cut and Hathmati system was strikingly marked by the largest revenue yet recorded and that in a year of short rainfall. The rice in south Daskroi was a fair crop. The kharif grain crops were moderate; the rabi wheat was very good where the rain had been enough for sowing. In Kaira the late kharif and rabi crops were very disappointing. In the Panch Maháls the season was the best enjoyed for years, and the outturn in Surat was above normal. The late cotton, which is the principal crop of Broach and Surat and is grown extensively in Kaira and western Ahmedabad and was in a very promising condition, had a severe set-back from frost on the 31st January and 1st February. This was peculiarly capricious in its action, sometimes whole villages suffered to the extent of 75 per cent. and more elsewhere a small part of a field would be affected and the rest untouched. Crops on goradu soil were more injured than those on black soil as a rule. The damage was greatest in the north of the Broach district, where the assessment had to be suspended in several villages. This occurrence was specially disappointing in Ahmedabad as cultivators had been induced by the high prices to sow cotton instead of jowári and bájri. The high prices still realized compensated to a great extent for the damage. The extension of cotton in Hálol mahál and Kálol táluka of the Panch Maháls is noteworthy. One-fourth of the cultivable area of Hálol is now under cotton. Here too the cotton suffered severely. In Surat the cotton crop was exceptionally good. In Thána the light rice which forms a large percentage of the rice crop yielded a fair crop, but rain spoilt some that was lying on the threshing floors and much that was about to be reaped. The heavy rice, which equals in quantity the "salt" rice which failed everywhere, appears to have been an excellent crop. The garden crops of Bassein, Máhim and Dábánu tálukas were above the average, and the outturn on the "warkas" land was very fair. Rabi though insignificant being obtained. The mangoes failed, only one-fourth of the average yield were in blossom, but Mr. Moysey comments severely on the unpruned close set trees with decayed wood which invites disease.

As mentioned before, in Ahmedabad district the rain was not of a character to fill the tanks and these dried earlier than usual. In Kaira they were little better. There was no actual scarcity of water except in the Ahmedabad Bhal and similar tracts in Broach. The special grant given by Government has been utilized in both districts. It is stated that only salt water is found by making ordinary borings and all hopes are now centred on the possibility of sweet water being found in deeper borings such as that made at Viramgám Station. The railway boring there has been successful and a supply, 4,000 gallons per hour, of sweet water is rising from a depth of 325 feet, some feet above the surface of the ground, a supply which can probably be increased by pumping. The water tapped at Dholka is still not beyond the experimental stage. Boring at Broach is at a standstill. It is supposed that difficulties have been met with, which prevent the discovery at Viramgám from being followed up more quickly. The ordinary water-supply elsewhere is sufficient, but the deepening and improving of tanks for village purposes or for irrigational purposes or both is proceeding steadily.

The difficulties of the Mahár and Dhed and other low class population are alluded to in the districts of Thána and Broach. In both districts efforts are being made so far as the limited means allow. In Thána the Local Boards spent Rs. 15,028 during the year on the construction of new wells of which four were provided for the use of Mahárs. "Jumper" experiments in Ahmedabad, Kaira and Broach met with a large measure of success. This is specially noticeable in Borsad táluka. Two very useful and successful experiments were made in Viramgám táluka where sweet water is difficult to obtain.

Commissioner, Central Division.

The season of 1910-1911 was more favourable than any known for many years past. The rainfall was timely and ample. It was sufficient in Poona, exceptionally good in Ahmednagar and East Khándesh, and well above the average throughout the districts of West Khándesh (except Nawápur), Násik, Sátára and Sholápur (except SÁNGOLA). The outturn of kharif crops (both cotton and cereals) was above the average in West Khándesh; in East Khándesh it was somewhat affected by excessive moisture. In other districts jowári and bájri were good: cotton was damaged by heavy rain. Any shortness in the latter crop, however, was more than made up by the extraordinary high prices which the cultivators obtained for it: for three months of the year the level of prices approximated to those of the American war period. The area under this crop again showed considerable rise, the figures for Poona, Násik and Ahmednagar for the last three years being as follows:—

	1908-09.	1909-10.	1910-11.
	Acre.	Acre.	Acre.
Poona	532	15,855	25,363
Ahmednagar	36,409	170,881	2,14,127
Násik	40,666	62,433	99,599

As regards the rábi, the moisture left in the soil by the plentiful rain of October gave excellent crops of wheat and gram. These were, it was thought, at one time damaged by a severe frost early in February, but the harm done was eventually found to be exaggerated, as it was merely irrigated crops which suffered. The water-supply was abundant throughout the year. I may again refer under this heading to the question of annewari, with which I dealt under the head "Land Revenue" in my last year's report. Once more there seems to me serious reason to complain of the erroneous ideas, which almost all officers hold regarding the standard of a normal crop. As I have already said, the year was an extraordinarily good one: there was, I believe, a unanimity of opinion among cultivators in the drier parts of the Deccan that they had not

had such crops for 25 years : but notwithstanding this there are but two officers in the whole Division, Ráo Sáheb Palshikar and Mr. K. V. Joshi, who admit by their annewari that the harvest in their charge was above average. The question is so serious and its correct solution is of such vital importance to the interest of the Presidency from a financial point of view that I am tempted to dwell on it at some length and give details of the estimate arrived at by various officers. In Poona, for instance, it will be remembered that the kharif crops were superb : and the only circumstances which the Collector can detail as having caused injury are excessive moisture in Khed and slight damage from grasshoppers in Junnar and Sirur. Yet his anna valuation of bájri and jowári is nine annas or 25 per cent. below normal. The Collector of West Khándesh reports that "On the whole the season was a very favourable one, both kharif and rabi crops were *much above* the average. The cotton crop was again very good". And yet his own valuation for early kharif is 12 annas, late kharif 11 annas, rabi 11 annas. In Poona again the Deputy Collector, W. D., reports the kharif to have been excellent : and yet values it as 8 to 12 annas or below normal. The Deputy Collector, E. D., Nagar, admits that the ryot had not seen such crops for a generation : but his valuation for the three tálukas in his charge is 6·8 and 10 annas for kharif and 8·5 and 8 annas for rabi. The Assistant Collector, W. D., in the same district states that kharif crops in Akola and Sangamner were *very good* ; but in his classification he puts only 41 villages out of 157 in Akola and 21 villages out of 155 in Sangamner as having had crops above normal. In Sátára one Sub-divisional Officer remarks that "both kharif and rabi crops flourished excellently and the year was considered exceptionally good when contrasted with the past". But his annewari is 10 to 12 annas for staple crops, and 8 to 10 annas for minor crops, in other words, the harvest was below normal. I could quote further instances but have given enough to show how universal is the mistaken notion of what constitutes a normal crop. Of its effects on the financial interests of Government I shall have more to say in paragraph 3.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

The rainy season commenced rather late in the greater part of the Division, but thereafter the rainfall was general and copious until about the close of the first week of July. Then there was a long break which did some harm in the rice tracts by retarding transplanting operations. Rain, however, again fell in the last week of July and continued during August and September, and though in places it was excessive and caused injury to the standing crops, delayed rabi sowings and induced the growth of weeds, the harm done was more than compensated by the general improvement of the year's prospects. Heavy showers in October and November proved most beneficial to the standing crops in the three Karnátic districts though not much needed in the Konkan. The season on the whole was a very good one.

Insect Pests.

The result of the operations undertaken in accordance with the orders contained in Government Resolution No. 1839, dated 28th February 1910, for the destruction of the hoppers which have infested the rice fields near the town of Belgaum for many years past has been already reported to Government and the resumption of the operations during 1911-1912 was sanctioned in Government Resolution No. 3527, dated 6th April 1911. The operations during the year under report which resulted in the destruction of 74 lákhs of hoppers, are reported to have enabled the rayats to harvest an eight-anna crop as against an anticipated crop of only four annas. Hoppers also appeared in other parts of the Belgaum district and in the districts of Bijápúr and Dhárwár, but in the first two districts the pest was not serious. In Dhárwár, however, the insects caused damage on a considerable scale and in places the affected area had to be freshly sown with cotton. The extra cost which the rayats thereby incurred was fortunately recouped in consequence of the high prices realised for the cotton. This pest is still engaging the attention of the District Officers and the Agricultural Department and the operations seem likely to be increasingly successful. The cotton crop was slightly damaged by rats in parts of Ron, Navalgund and Gadag.

Wild pigs and other animals destroying crops.

During the year under report 274 pigs were shot in Belgaum and 47 in Kolába. In Dhárwár the Ohik-Nargund hill, which gave shelter to these animals, was fenced round by the people with barbed wire paid for by the aid of a takávi loan and the animals which were driven away from the hill, when the work was in progress, are believed to have permanently deserted the neighbourhood. The operations for the destruction of blue bulls (Rohis) in Kolába by the formation of parties of local "Shikáris" and the grant of special permission to follow and shoot in reserved forest resulted in the killing of 72 of these animals. Wild elephants caused some damage to crops in parts of Kánara, but the loss is reported to be insignificant in comparison with that caused by wild pig.

Water-supply.

Owing to the heavy rainfall of the year water-supply was generally sufficient in all districts, and it was either unnecessary or impossible to undertake jumper or gelignite experiments owing to the high level of the sub-soil water.

Shortage of potable water during the hot weather in the denuded tracts adjoining the Sahyádris and the Khárápat areas on the coast in the Kolába district is a standing complaint. The Uran water-supply scheme, which can now be adequately financed, and is being worked out by the Public Works Department, and the schemes which the Collector is contemplating for the supply of water to the town of Mahád and the Alibág Khárápat tract will, when carried out, minimise this complaint.

Extracts.

NORTHERN DIVISION.

W. O. Alcock, Esq., Assistant Collector, Ahmedabad.

The water level in the soil has fallen very markedly in the past 10 years. For example, a careful Pársi landlord at Changodar brought to my notice that the level of the water in the wells has fallen from 20 feet to 35 feet below the surface.

CENTRAL DIVISION.

V. A. Gupte, Esq., Deputy Collector, Ahmednagar.

No account of the season of the year would be complete without some detailed reference to the frost which swept over the country on the night of the 1st February 1911. For two days before, the weather was quite unsettled and a severely chill northerly breeze was blowing, but no one expected such a severe frost. In fact such a frost had never occurred within the memory of the oldest man alive. Cooling appears to have commenced some time after midnight and occurred over the whole of the sub-division. Its intensity was greater in irrigated lands and in lands near rivers and streams. As the morning dawned, the effects of the frost became apparent: one could hear everywhere the cries of the poor cultivators and their women for the loss of their crop. As the day advanced, the effects became more apparent and the damage appeared more serious. In some garden lands water, kept in earthen jars, was found to have thickened like ice. Tender trees, like plaintains, were entirely destroyed and had to be removed. Late sown jowári and gram, which were then tender, suffered a good deal. The mango trees also suffered and their leaves were scorched. Even the leaves of such hardy trees as Babul and 'Arvad presented a scorched appearance. No fatal cases occurred amongst men or cattle.

2.—Cattle and Fodder.

Commissioner, Northern Division.

The impressions formed last year that the effects of the famine on the cattle of the division were fast disappearing have been further confirmed. In the Panch Maháls the Collector writes: "On account of abundant grass and grazing, the number of cattle is ever on the increase. No doubt the agriculturists keep more cattle than necessary and this may partly account for their bad breed and condition." Improvement in the quality of the local stock was noticeable among the cattle brought to the Show held at Viramgám in the Ahmedabad district. In Kaira the flourishing condition of the cream trade

has given a strong stimulus to the keeping of milch cattle. In Broach the numbers are small and in Surat barely sufficient for requirements. In Thán notwithstanding the abundance of the fodder supply the cattle are inferior in quality.

Rinderpest made its appearance in almost all districts of the Division though in a less virulent form than in the preceding year. Cases of black quarter, foot and mouth disease and hæmorrhagia septicæmia were reported almost everywhere, but the total mortality from all causes was less than in the previous year.

Surra was responsible for considerable mortality among horses in the districts of Ahmedabad, Surat and Thána. Some inoculations were performed and wherever timely intimation was given the Veterinary Department rendered effective aid in combating the disease. The system introduced in the Thána district of intimating an outbreak of disease as soon as it occurs through service post cards issued to the patels is reported to be working well, but it is stated that one result of the system has been to make the talátis and Mámlatdárs neglectful of ascertaining and reporting cases of cattle disease themselves.

Fodder.

The supply of fodder was on the whole sufficient and in some places abundant, but the growing tendency to replace fodder crops by non-fodder crops, especially cotton, has to some extent reduced the supply which in former years served for some time as provision against a short rainfall. Owing to the inflated prices obtained in Bombay a great deal of grass was exported from Kaira and Thána. In Broach the supply is always inadequate and is supplemented by importing from Kaira and Surat.

The orders *re* grazing in Government Resolution No. 8952, dated the 15th September 1909, were carried out in the Division, and two Collectors have noted the appreciation accorded to them.

Commissioner, Central Division.

Cattle disease, chiefly rinderpest and foot and mouth, appeared more or less in all the districts but did little damage. The Veterinary Assistants are reported to have given useful assistance in checking it, but it is not clear whether inoculations with preventive serum were performed. Insufficiency of cattle for agricultural operations is reported to exist in parts of the eastern division of the Poona district, and in Mádha, Pandharpur and Málsiras talukas of the Sholápur district. Efforts are being made in places to improve the breed by the purchase of stud bulls. In West Khándesh three more Khilari bulls were purchased in the year under report from local funds in addition to the one purchased last year, and in the western division of Poona a similar step was taken. In Mádha taluka of the Sholápur district five villages agreed to buy a stud bull on the joint bond system, and in the southern division of Ahmednagar similar arrangements were resorted to in ten cases. The condition of cattle was on the whole satisfactory owing to an adequate supply of fodder and water in the whole division, and there was a considerable increase in their number. It is to be regretted that the current season again threatens to turn the tide in the backward direction.

The subject of fodder is one that perhaps deserves more than passing notice. As I have already noticed there was again a considerable increase in the area under cotton during the year; and the same was the case with the area under oil-seeds. To take an instance, Mr. Mountford remarks that the area in Sátára sown with foreign groundnut has doubled in five years. As a means of increasing the ryot's wealth, the substitution of fibre and oil-seeds for cereals is perhaps a matter for congratulation, but it has disadvantages in reducing the amount of fodder available, and therefore intensifying distress, should the rain be late or the outturn of fodder crops at all below the normal. There was a remarkable example of this last July. Although the previous season had been

an excellent one, and though the stock of fodder ought to have been sufficient for at least eighteen months, the ryots of East Khándesh petitioned the Collector stating that their cattle were dying and the Collector thereupon threw the forest open and allowed them to take anjan leaves without restriction. It seems to me that a concession of this sort is nothing more than pandering to the avarice of the people. The ryots of East Khándesh are perhaps the wealthiest in India; they have a magnificent soil and a certain rainfall, and they can and ought to grow fodder crops sufficient to ensure their having in reserve a stock to carry them over a possible bad year. Instead of this in their greed for money they had sown so much cotton that three weeks' delay in the advent of the rain reduced them to absolute distress. It seems to me that the greatest caution will be necessary in the future in reducing the area of pasture and in allowing grazing in forests. The area of true forest now is so small that the strictest conservancy is necessary, and concessions incompatible with this should only be given when it is absolutely necessary. Nothing is more demoralising than to let ryots think that they can reduce the area of fodder crops to the lowest margin of safety, and that on the slightest threatening of shortage the forests will be thrown open to them.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

The price of agricultural cattle continued high. The stock was, however, sufficient except perhaps in the coast tracts of Kánara where some lands are reported to have been ploughed by manual labour. The supply of fodder was sufficient, but its price was high. There is a growing tendency on the part of the ryots to grow the better paying non-food crops such as cotton, tobacco, chillies, etc., in preference to fodder crops. Owing to ignorance and also want of enterprise no use is made of much of the hay which is available in the Mállád.

Cattle diseases prevailed to a more or less extent in all districts. A Veterinary Dispensary was opened at Bágalkot in the Bijápúr district during the year. These institutions are slowly but surely gaining popularity. A large number of cattle were treated during the year. The Commissioner agrees with Mr. Kabraji that it is possible to increase the utility of the department by making the graduates tour regularly in the tálukas instead of merely visiting villages when epidemics occur.

Extracts.

NORTHERN DIVISION.

S. M. Bharucha, Esq., Deputy Collector, Ahmedabad.

The cattle show held at Viramgám in the preceding year was repeated at Bhojwa on 1st and 2nd February 1911. It was the opinion of the judges that the disastrous effects of the last famine on the Kankreji breed had almost disappeared and the cattle were fast improving in quality.

E. L. Moysey, Esq., Assistant Collector, Thána.

It is, of course, highly probable that the greater number of cases of cattle disease are not reported, but the Veterinary Assistants are now in much better touch with the owners of animals than was formerly the case. This is owing to the introduction by Mr. Rieu in 1909 of a system whereby the pátils of villages send them direct an early intimation of the outbreak of a disease. There are two Veterinary Assistants in the district situated in strategic centres on the two Railway lines which traverse it—one at Pálghar on the B. B. & C. I. Railway, which serves Bassein, Dáhánu and Umbergaon, and the other at Kalyán on the G. I. P. Railway, which serves Sálsette. The pátils of all villages are supplied with ready written service post cards addressed to the nearest Veterinary Assistant announcing that cattle disease has broken out in such and such a village and these they post, when necessary, without signing them or specifying the disease, unless they happen to be literate. On receiving such a post card it is the Veterinary Assistant's duty to proceed with the least possible delay to the village affected and to give advice and treatment. The Veterinary Assistants generally appear to get to the scene of an outbreak within a reasonable time and, though they sometimes get a false call, both of them speak well of the system. The great obstacle in the way of checking cattle disease is the lack of means of isolation, and there is not sufficient co-operation among the people to enable them to overcome it.

CENTRAL DIVISION.

V. A. Gupte, Esq., Deputy Collector, Ahmednagar.

The deficiency of plough bullocks still continues to be felt. My experience is that it is not due to the difficulty of obtaining a sufficient number, but rather to the improvidence and thoughtlessness of the cultivator. This year, as in the last year, large herds of bullocks were brought from Málwa for sale, and several cultivators purchased them, mostly at credit prices, which are 50 per cent. more than cash prices. When the owners came to demand the money, the cultivator was still unable to pay it, and had to dispose of at whatever prices he could, not only the bullocks he had purchased but also some of his own. The cultivator will not understand the disadvantage of purchasing on credit. It is cases like these which show the necessity of stopping all credit dealings of the cultivator. Several of them who had obtained *tágáí* loans before, have not paid them off yet, and could not apply for more loans for purchasing animals. Even those who have paid off such loans, seem disinclined to obtain further loans on account of the stringent measures employed to recover them. This year, however, I am issuing orders giving wide publicity to the fact that applications for loans for purchasing bullocks will be considered and disposed of promptly, if sufficient security is offered.

The 'Pols' (stud bulls) already purchased are not much used. Three more animals were sold by the villagers as they had become violent. This is due to these animals having good food and no work. People will not yet realize that with a little regular labour, these animals can be made more useful. The progeny of these animals has been good, and some of the calves will make good stud bulls, if so used. Ten more 'Pols' were purchased during the year. These are all "Mhasvad Pols."

Joseph Rodgers, Esq., Deputy Collector, Poona.

In some parts of my division the want of cattle for agricultural operations is still felt. *Tagáí* has been advanced to those who applied for purchase of bullocks. But bullocks are nowadays very dear and the stock requires replenishing. Until there is a sufficient supply of bulls in the market for sale and the prices reasonable, this state of things will continue. Cultivators hire bullocks from their neighbours and thus manage to plough their lands. To improve the breed of cattle, four stud bulls from the Mhaswad fair were purchased during the year for Rs. 605. They are kept in charge of the *pátíls* of villages who are willing to take care of and feed them gratuitously. These bulls were purchased from the subscription realised from the villagers supplemented by a grant from the *Táluka* Local Boards. The bulls are the property of the *Táluka* Local Board. Thirty-three cows were covered. As the bulls were purchased late in the season I am not able to give any information as to the condition of the breed as no cows have yet calved. The villagers of all villages bring their cows to be covered and upto now the bulls have been reported to be working satisfactorily and the scheme is looked upon with favour by the *rayats*.

3.—Land Revenue—Recoveries, contumacy, &c.

Commissioner, Northern Division.

The *jamábandi* settlement of all the *tálukas* in the Division, except the *Jhálad Mahál* in the *Panch Maháls*, *Wágra táluka* in *Broach*, and *Dáhanu* and *Máhim* and *Bassein tálukas* of the *Thána* district, was effected within the prescribed date. The delay in these cases has been explained satisfactorily by the Collectors. The following statement gives the details of land revenue of the year:—

Arrears at the beginning of the year—

				Rs.
1.	(a) Authorized	...	...	4,42,315
	(b) Unauthorized	...	...	4,14,721
			Total	8,57,036
2.	Current demand of the year	...	...	1,02,11,117
			Total demand	1,10,68,153
3.	Suspensions	...	...	1,37,528
4.	Remissions	...	...	7,80,537
5.	Collections	...	...	98,42,596
6.	Arrears (unauthorized at the end of the year)—			
	(a) of current year's demand	...	...	1,22,899
	(b) of previous years	...	...	1,84,593

The land revenue demand which shows an increase of Rs. 14,572 over last year's figures was collected without difficulty everywhere, though some firmness was needed in *Viramgám* and *Olpád*. Record results in collections were achieved in the *Surat* district where out of the total demand of Rs. 24,11,443,

which is very little short of the demand in Kaira, the heaviest in the Division, only Rs. 75 remained to be recovered at the close of the year. In spite of the damage done by the February frost the collections in Broach were satisfactory. Of the amount of about Rs. 50,000 suspended on account of frost about 30 per cent. was paid up by the occupants of their own accord. While great attention has been paid everywhere to recovery of arrears and punctuality in regard to the current year, the improvement is particularly noticeable in the Kaira district where arrears have been reduced from Rs. 3,86,000 to Rs. 74,000 in round numbers.

The remissions were confined mainly to Ahmedabad, Kaira and Broach where they are respectively 30, 50 and 13 per cent. of the total granted during the year. The reasons for the remissions have been fully explained in the district reports; they are to a great extent "automatic" under the rules. As to Mr. Chuckerbutty's remark that suspended arrears more than three years' old "were ordered to be remitted except in the case of the sávkárs in all three tálukas" it is presumed that he is referring to sávkár superior holders who did not pass a written discharge to their tenants. The remark is liable to misinterpretation as it stands.

The large suspensions in Thána amounting to Rs. 62,376 were wholly confined to the Sálsette táluka where the recovery of non-agricultural assessment was postponed on the defaulters giving security to pay on the final decision of Bai Cooverbai's case.

Coercive processes were seldom needed, but negligence in punctual payment of Government dues is as usual reported from Thána in the case of absentee landlords in Bombay.

The unauthorised arrears amounted to—

			Current year. Rs.	Previous years. Rs.
In Ahmedabad	...	...	41,995	98,616
Kaira	...	...	31,083	43,215
Thána	...	...	40,191	40,948

and in the two former districts some more explanation is desirable than has been offered.

Commissioner, Central Division.

The jamábandi settlement was effected in time in the West Khándesh and Násik districts. The prescribed period was somewhat exceeded in one táluka of Ahmednagar, five of East Khándesh, three of Sátara and one of Sholápur; but the greatest delay occurred in the Poona district, where the settlement was not completed till the 18th May and 24th July in Junnar and Haveli tálukas. The delay in the former case is attributed to the census work and the introduction of the new village forms, and in the latter to census and the indifference of certain village officers, who, the Collector reports, have been punished for their neglect.

The year opened with a balance uncollected of 38½ lákhs, of which 31 were authorized and 7½ unauthorized. This added to the current demand Rs. 126¾ lákhs made the total amount outstanding at the beginning of the year 164¾ lákhs. The net result at the end of the year is that the unauthorized*

*The Rs. 1,02,171 shown as outstanding on July 31st has been mostly collected except in Ahmednagar.

arrears and current demand have all been collected: of the authorized arrears one-third have been collected, one-third remitted, and one-third suspended. The reported results for the different districts are tabulated below for comparison:—

Name of District.	Past arrears.	Current demand.	Total demand.	Suspensions.	Remissions.	Collections.	Unauthorised arrears.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Ahmednagar	12,22,381	16,55,699	28,78,080	3,17,236	5,21,655	20,15,787	35,531
East Khándesh	497	28,26,025	28,26,522	...	315	28,26,155	52
West Khándesh	3,15,307	78,05,303	21,20,810	86,363	21,556	20,07,475	5,216
Násik	5,27,650	17,58,763	22,86,413	1,32,879	1,69,734	19,82,948	862
Poona	9,55,873	13,92,625	23,48,298	3,37,977	1,10,017	18,62,189	38,115
Sátara	1,65,606	19,51,874	21,17,480	18,044	23,159	20,64,007	12,270
Sholápur	6,51,116	12,40,206	19,01,322	1,54,145	1,76,381	15,00,661	10,185
Total	38,48,180	1,26,83,495	1,64,78,675	10,46,644	10,22,817	1,43,19,122	1,02,171

Taking first of all the amount set down for collection, it is satisfactory to note that for the first time for some years it was practically recovered in full. The number of cases in which coercion was found necessary was rather larger than usual. But there is no doubt that a lesson was necessary. Cultivators had been allowed to drift into supposing that if they only postponed payment long enough, their assessment would be remitted; revenue officers (among whom I expressly include Assistant and Deputy Collectors) had been suffered to suppose that failure to recover the revenue due in their charges was sufficiently explained by imputations of incompetence against a kulkarni or allegation of contumacy on the part of the people. During the year under report there has been a marked improvement. It has been now, I hope, brought home to revenue officers that the powers vested in them by law are meant to be used; and as a result, to the people generally that delay and recalcitrancy will bring their own punishment. In saying this I must not be thought to disparage the really good work done during the year in some districts. The task of restoring discipline and order was a particularly hard one in Sátára; and both Mr. Mountford and his Assistants are to be congratulated on having performed a difficult piece of work successfully and well. In Sholápur Mr. Hatch and his Deputy Ráo Bahádur Anjangaonkar had a great deal of contumacy to contend against; the figures show that it has been successfully overcome. In Poona Mr. Rodgers for the second year in succession showed very good results and Mr. Gupte in Ahmednagar and Mr. Jolly in Násik did equally well. Among Mámlatdárs, Mr. Jagde (Khed), Mr. Gaikwad (Karmála), Mr. G. M. Bhalerao (Mán), Mr. Patwardhan (Koregaon), Mr. Indolikar (Násik) effected a large reduction in the arrears in their tálukas. But the figures in column 5 of the revenue statement given above prompt further question. Was the proportion of revenue set down for collection adequate? Were any amounts treated as suspensions, which might, with a more proper appreciation of the excellence of the harvest, have been recovered during the year? In considering the answer to this question it is first necessary to note that, as far as these reports are concerned, there are no materials at all. No Collector nor Sub-divisional Officer has stated how the final demand for the year was fixed; attention is entirely concentrated on stating how that demand was realized, regardless of whether it was or was not properly assessed to start with. It would seem that the enormous importance of securing the proper performance of this duty has not been brought home to us. Secondly, it is impossible not to wonder whether the erroneous ideas on the annewari to which reference is made in paragraph 1 above have not prejudicially affected the Collectors' estimates, that is, have led them to suspend revenue that ought to have been set down for recovery. For instance, the valuation of early kharif in West Khándesh was (it has been seen) set down at 11 annas; with the result that Rs. 86,363 out of authorized arrears Rs. 3,00,733 was again suspended. It is known from paragraph 27 of the Comptroller General's report that solid gold valued at 74 lákhs of rupees was imported into this district during the year under report; and that after Government demands had been met, 50 lákhs of rupees worth of the precious metal (say £3,50,000) stayed there. Is not the conclusion irresistible that the anna valuation was too low; that it should have been raised to the 12 annas which would have justified the levy of twice the assessment and that the suspension of Rs. 86,363 (which, it may be noted, will now have to be remitted during the current year) was not entirely unnecessary? A similar query suggests itself for Poona. In the district out of 7 lákhs of authorized arrears while one lakh was remitted, and three and a half were suspended, two and a half only were collected: that is to say, only 18 per cent. more than the ordinary. Having regard to the extraordinary excellence of the harvest it is difficult to avoid the conclusion that the demand was fixed too low. Finally it is noticeable that though several reports contain references to the unsatisfactory nature of Mámlatdárs' valuations very few officers were out in camp in time to check them, at least, as far as the kharif was concerned. Over the greater part of the Deccan the kharif crops are harvested before the end of October and to get any sort of idea of their value a Revenue officer ought to start his tour on October 1st. It may be thought hard to curtail the Revenue Officer's stay at head-quarters, but it seems unquestionably necessary.

As a compensation Revenue officers might be permitted to stay at headquarters during May, provided that their revenue is collected.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

The first revision settlement was introduced in the Kárwár táluka of the Kánara district in the year under report. It resulted in an increase of Rs. 4,600 in the assessment. Survey settlement was also introduced into the village of Gaumkhadi in the Rájápur táluka of the Ratnágiri district.

The settlement of the land revenue demand for the year was delayed beyond the prescribed date (*i. e.*, 15th March) in two tálukas in Belgaum, one in Bijápur, three in Dhárwár, two in Kánara, one in Kolába and seven in Ratnágiri. The reasons for the delay were the introduction of the new forms of village accounts, census work, exigencies of touring, revision of survey rates, etc.

From the figures supplied by the Collectors, the details of which are given in the annexed table, it appears that the authorised and unauthorised arrears which at the beginning of the year amounted to Rs. 6,97,273 and Rs. 1,97,679 respectively were reduced at its close to Rs. 1,39,129 and Rs. 40,925. This result was due to the favourable character of the season which enabled the collection of Rs. 96,62,712 against the year's demand of Rs. 90,88,015.

The authorised arrears include about Rs. 41,000 due from the Khoti villages under attachment in Ratnágiri which are recovered if the Khots resume management or written off if the villages lapse to Government.

The amount of land revenue remitted during the year was Rs. 1,40,201. Most of the remissions were due to automatic remissions of time-expired suspensions.

In five villages in the Ron táluka of the Dhárwár district the instalments of land revenue payment were changed from kharif to rabi since the area under rabi crops was more than half the total in four villages and a little less than half in one and the people complained of their inability to pay their dues on the dates of the kharif instalments.

Statement showing demand, collections and outstandings of land revenue in the districts of the Southern Division for the year 1910-1911.

Serial No.	Items.	Belgaum.	Bijápur.	Dhárwár.	Kánara.	Kolába.	Ratnágiri.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Arrears at the beginning of the year—	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
	(a) Authorised ...	82,472	2,58,413	3,10,695	...	699	44,904	6,97,273
	(b) Unauthorised ...	21,090	97,266	70,427	2,780	187	5,929	1,97,679
2	Current demand of the year	16,01,586	14,37,664	28,09,316	9,98,861	13,30,288	9,10,800	90,88,015
	Total demand ...	17,05,148	17,93,343	31,90,438	10,01,141	13,31,174	9,61,723	99,82,967
3	Suspensions	12,464	32,531	52,425	...	38	41,671	1,39,129
4	Remissions	6,818	5,696	1,08,882	5,331	1,024	10,850	1,40,201
5	Collections	16,82,883	17,46,649	30,07,673	9,89,800	13,23,570	9,07,627	96,62,712
6	Arrears (unauthorised) at the end of the year—							
	(a) of current year's demand ...	828	2,465	8,398	5,353	511	901	18,451
	(b) of previous arrears ...	2,155	6,002	13,065	157	431	664	22,474
	Total arrears ...	2,983	8,467	21,458	5,510	942	1,565	40,925

Extracts.

CENTRAL DIVISION.

L. J. Mountfold, Esq., Collector, Sátára.

The land revenue is recovered fairly easily, but several tálukas are given to contumacy and in many cases payment is often tendered only after notices of forfeiture have issued.

Contumacy is fed by concessions in the past. One particular táluka (Mán) has been very liberally dealt with over pásthal remissions. Consequently there is every desire to withhold payment in the fond hope that remissions would be continued this year. Arrears of past years have been allowed to accumulate, although if our annewari settlement is not to be stultified, we should collect—omitting of course special hard cases—every pie which is due for collection under our very liberal annewari rules. The same remark applies to our tagái settlement. Having once fixed a fair demand, it is only fair to those cultivators who are willing and ready to pay and they are the vast majority and only fair to Government, to see that every one pays up his dues promptly. The contumacious habit is found mostly with Kulkarnis, Pátils and Deshpandes, and special attention has been paid to these gentry. It is satisfactory to note that our year's collections have reached a record and the lesson that Government dues must be paid is being learnt with great advantage for the future of all concerned. I have found cases where a rayat has for a dozen years past steadily failed to pay assessment. Non-payment has grown like a habit in some cases and in such cases forfeiture is most richly deserved.

There were 24 arrests in all. In 19 cases the dues were paid as soon as the defaulters reached the kacheri, 5 persons were detained for periods ranging from 12 hours to 4 days. Forfeitures took place in 571 cases, *i. e.*, 4 per cent., a very low incidence indeed looking to the heavy accumulation of arrears year by year.

Details of accumulation in the Jáoli táluka are instructive. On 1st August 1908 arrears of current and past years were Rs. 40,580; on 1st August 1909 Rs. 30,446; on 1st August 1910, Rs. 28,243. This year Rs. 4,900 (of which some has been since collected) while all the current land revenue has been paid in. The average of the current land revenue arrears in that táluka alone for the previous three years is Rs. 10,080. In Khánápur the unauthorised arrears on 1st August 1910 were over Rs. 30,000; practically all these arrears have been wiped off at the time of writing.

Before leaving the subject of collections I would add that the new forms enable us to see at once who is responsible for a particular portion of a survey number and their value is incalculable when it comes to making collections. In many cases our arrears had mounted up because the land had left the khatedar's possession. The real kabzedar was in no hurry to pay and notices served on the khatedar affected him not, while forfeitures were not resorted to in accordance with our previous policy, to avoid hardship which, however, is no longer in question, now that suspensions of land revenue are given (year by year) if the condition of the crop warrants them.

4.—*Tagái.*

Commissioner, Northern Division.

There was no great demand for takávi. For the outstanding balance at the close of the year which appears to be unduly large, Ahmedabad and Kaira were respectively responsible to the extent of Rs. 1,08,556 and 92,672, representing a percentage of 47 and 40 respectively of the whole. In the Kaira district some, probably a large portion, of the outstanding arrears is made up of amounts which will ultimately be written off as irrecoverable. Two Áwal Kárkuns on special duty made enquiries into old debts in Kapadvanj and Thásra during the year. In Ahmedabad the amount is large and may include some old accounts not yet settled up since the enquiry; and it is not clear whether the "balance outstanding" includes the amounts regarding which the Collector says the instalments were postponed although no concession was given in respect to land revenue. The Government orders are that generally the collection of assessment and takávi should go together; and it is understood to be their policy that takávi collection should not ordinarily be postponed, if land revenue is recovered. It is important that borrowers should learn to consider that a loan from Government must be punctually repaid and cannot be treated as a debt to be repaid at the borrower's convenience. It is noticed in more than one report that subordinate revenue officers and borrowers both regard takávi in a more proper light since the special enquiries for clearing off arrears were taken up.

In Surat on account of a good season the instalments were increased to $1\frac{1}{4}$ or $1\frac{1}{2}$ times the normal and about Rs. 10,000 more than were expected were recovered.

Very few cases of misapplication of takávi loans were detected. These were in the Ahmedabad, Kaira and Thána districts and the amounts advanced were recovered in full.

The inspection of works appears to have received the attention of the Sub-divisional Officers in most districts but not everywhere.

The advances, collections and outstandings are shown below :—

(1) Amounts advanced during the year—	Rs.
(i) under the Land Improvement Loans Act ...	27,482
(ii) under the Agriculturists' Loans Act ...	2,41,076
	<hr/>
Total ...	2,63,558
	<hr/>
(2) Demand put down for collection during the year ...	10,08,308
(3) Amount collected ...	7,77,549*
(4) Remissions and suspensions ...	4,100
(5) Balance outstanding ...	2,28,276
(6) Total outstanding debt (principal) at the close of the year ...	20,08,637

* Includes Rs. 1,619 on account of over-collections and future payments.

Commissioner, Central Division.

A statement showing details of tagái advances and recoveries for each district is given below :—

District.	Amount advanced.			Amount for Collection.	Collection.	Unautho- rized balance.	Total debt out- standing.
	Under the Land Improvement Loans Act.	Under the Agri- culturists' Loans Act.	Total advances.				
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Ahmednagar ...	37,935	68,679	1,06,614	7,43,018	6,23,850	1,20,710	17,14,971
East Khándesh ...	17,530	36,676	54,206	1,67,948	1,73,408	1,337	2,29,201
West Khándesh ...	2,075	29,263	31,338	1,81,013	1,72,140	8,873	2,41,180
Násik ...	4,755	20,736	25,491	1,84,634	1,88,910	2,870	2,58,086
Poona ...	27,070	3,35,193	3,62,263	6,00,713	5,95,012	23,974	12,42,315
Sátára ...	15,640	15,178	30,818	2,33,924	2,13,211	12,877	5,77,925
Sholápur ...	18,004	25,450	43,454	3,05,239	3,11,279	5,796	5,96,485
Total ...	1,23,009	5,31,175	6,54,184	24,16,534	22,77,810	1,76,437	48,91,063

Note.—The sum of columns 6 and 7 is not equal to column 5 because column 6 includes payments made by borrowers in advance which were not included in column 5.

The total amount advanced during the year was Rs. 6,54,184 against Rs 8,85,724 in 1909-10. Excluding Rs. 2,50,000 advanced in Poona for financing the Bárámáti Land Bank experiment this makes the total for the division Rs. 4 lákhs roughly. It is satisfactory to notice that the amount is less than in the previous year; and officers generally are becoming more cautious than they were: but there are not wanting instances in which advances were made, the propriety of which seems open to question. One Sub-divisional Officer, for instance, in East Khándesh remarks that there is little demand for tagái and what is given is more often than not misappropriated: that people want it chiefly for paying wages to field labourers, and yet he advanced

Rs. 46,841 in his charge, while the other two Sub-divisional Officers were content with Rs. 9,000 between them. The total collections of the year were 22½ lakhs out of a demand of 24 lakhs: allowing for half a lakh of voluntary payment in advance the unauthorized balance at the end of the year was Rs. 1½ lakhs, of which 1¼ lakhs belonged to Ahmednagar. The total debt outstanding was reduced from the huge figure of 60 lakhs at the beginning of the year to 49 lakhs at the end.

Taking the figures by districts it will be seen that the balances exceed Rs. 10,000 in three districts only, *viz.*, Sátára (Rs. 12,877), Poona (Rs. 23,974) and Nagar (Rs. 1,20,710). The arrears in Sátára consist mainly of sums advanced in many cases as far back as 1896-97 to hill-men in Jáoli and Khandála Petha. No serious effort seems to have been made to collect it until the year under report: and it is not surprising that it was not all recovered. In Poona the balance has been reduced a good deal since the close of the year. It is only in Nagar that arrears are really bad. In this district no less than Rs. 69,935 were outstanding in one charge including Rs. 30,000 in the Nagar táluka. The excuse assigned that the land revenue collections in Nagar táluka were almost twice that of an ordinary year constitutes no reason why ryots should be excused from discharging their obligations. The inspection of works, it is satisfactory to note, received a good deal more attention than in the past, with the result that a fair number of cases of misappropriations were detected and the offenders checked. The new forms of tagái accounts are generally well spoken of.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

From the annexed statement it will be seen that Rs. 64,414 were advanced under the Land Improvement Loans Act and Rs. 1,15,436 under the Agriculturists' Loans Act during the year under report. The corresponding figures for the preceding year were Rs. 92,542 and Rs. 1,46,232, respectively. The three Karnátik districts and the district of Kánara are responsible for the decrease. Kolába and Ratnágiri, on the other hand, show an increase. The transactions in those districts are nevertheless small. The decrease in the demand for takávi loans which was also observed in the previous year is attributed to the same causes, *viz.*, the favourable character of the season and the present minuter scrutiny of applications for loans.

Loans for the purchase of cattle continued to be made on the joint bond system in the Belgaum táluka including the Chandgad mahál. Mr. Brendon states that the cultivators benefited from these loans and made no default in repayment, but regrets that a number of the cattle purchased with the aid of these loans died of disease.

The greater part of the amount disbursed in the Bijápur district was advanced to Chapparbands and Harinshikaris under the direction of Mr. Starte.

Mr. Shannon, Sub-divisional Officer, Southern Division, Bijápur, refers to some large loans taken by cultivators in the Bágalkot táluka for the purchase of oil engines to pump water from the Ghatáprabha River for irrigation purposes. The undertakings are yet in an experimental stage.

The amount put down for collection during the year amounted to Rs. 8,58,891, of which all but Rs. 30,547, the outstanding balance at the close of the year, and a small amount written off as irrecoverable or remitted, was recovered. The year's collections also included about Rs. 54,000 which were due in future years but were either voluntarily repaid or summarily recovered as a penalty for misapplication. The total outstanding debt was reduced during the year by Rs. 6,98,438 which represents the excess of the year's collections over the amount of the fresh loans advanced during the year. It stood at the close of the year at Rs. 20,50,747, of which Rs. 19,12,977 was due in the three Karnátik districts and Rs. 1,37,770 in the three Konkan districts.

Statement of advances, demand, recoveries and balances on account of Takávi for the year 1910-1911, in the districts of the Southern Division.

		Belgaum.	Bijápúr.	Dhárvár.	Kánara.	Kolába.	Ratnágiri.	Divisional Total.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1	Amount advanced during the year— (a) under Act XIX of 1883. (b) under Act XII of 1884.	7,385 11,045	12,324 5,135	35,655 55,083	2,850 15,060	4,000 24,987	2,200 4,126	64,414 1,15,436	
2	Demand put down for collection during the year.	2,14,623	3,18,096	2,48,061	46,377	22,133	9,601	8,58,891	
3	Amount collected ..	2,35,620	3,23,217	2,43,131	42,277	19,847	9,196	8,78,238	
4	Balance outstanding ...	8,283	11,278	5,845	2,747	2,273	121	30,547	
5	Total outstanding debt (principal) at the close of the year.	4,87,022	7,76,645	6,49,310*	73,940	44,354	10,476	20,50,747	

* The outstanding debt at the close of the year 1909-10 must have been more than this amount since during the year under report Rs. 60,000 were newly advanced, while as much as Rs. 2,43,000 was recovered. But the outstanding debt at the close of 1909-10 as shown by the Collector was only Rs. 2,37,387, which was evidently a mistake.

5.—Trade and Industries.

Commissioner, Northern Division.

The depression in the spinning and weaving industry continued, due to high prices of cotton and slack demand for the manufactured articles. It is only within the last few weeks a decided improvement in both directions has been observed. While very few companies made any profit, very few also were compelled to go into liquidation. The cream trade in Kaira is flourishing and it is satisfactory to find that two Municipalities have taken action to keep the factories sanitary. The opening of several new industries, mostly small concerns, is mentioned in the reports but capital in the hands of agriculturists seems to be shy of investment. Manganese mining in the Panch Maháls has been hampered by the difficulty of obtaining sufficient local labour. The fish industry in Máhim is extending, brick factories between Bhiwndi and Kalyán are thriving and the dock construction in Bombay has given a stimulus to the chunam trade in Máhim taluka. The rice and timber trades were also prosperous. Enormous profits were made by grass merchants who had any stocks to dispose of after May, when prices rose from Rs. 6 per 1,000 lbs. to Rs. 25 and Rs. 30.

Mr. Rothfeld refers to the stimulus given to local trade by the advent of the Bombay Steam Navigation Company to the mouth of the Narbada River three years ago which still continues. Great improvement was effected by the opening of a new bunder near Dhollera in place of Whittle Bunder which has been silted up and has been practically abandoned. But as the new bunder, like the old one, depends for its existence on the thorough flushing of the River Bhadar, fears are expressed that recent orders passed by Government regarding one of the channels of the Bhadar will be disastrous.

Railway enterprise is represented by the commencement of construction of the Nadiád-Kapadwanj line, the sanctioning of a line from Godhra to Lunáwáda and the opening of the branch from Champáneer Road to Shivrájpur: this however is technically a tramway. Two new lines promoted by the Baroda Durbar in the north and south of the Surat district will be beneficial to the adjoining British territory. The prospects of a branch line from Dáhnú eastwards into the forests of Thána and the Jawhár State, which seems likely to be very useful, are being discussed.

The old question of the extension of the Ahmedabad-Dholka line to Dhollera, Dhandhuka and Ránpur was to the front again, and the decision to resurvey the alignment seems to portend its return to the pigeon hole from which it emerged after 21 years. It is most unfortunate that the disagreement between the interested parties should postpone again this important undertaking.

The extension of the Nadiád-Kapadwanj Railway to a point nearly due north in a small State of the Mahi Kántha Agency, which is mooted, is likely to be injurious to Modása which, the Assistant Collector reports, "has a flourishing trade in the export of ghee and mhowra to Bombay, Karáchi and Hyderabad, Sind.

Commissioner, Central Division.

Owing to a fairly good cotton crop in Khándesh and Násik, gins and presses had a moderately good year. Seven new ginning factories were opened in Ahmednagar and Sholápur but owing to scarcity of material had some difficulty in obtaining sufficient work. Owing to the very high prices of new cotton, spinning and weaving mills in Poona, Sholápur, Jalgaon and Amalner were hard pressed to make a profit, and they experienced in addition great difficulty in obtaining sufficient labour. Hand loom weavers seem to have suffered less from these causes: and they were able to sell most of what they produced at very good prices. The silk weavers at Yeola had a most prosperous year owing to brisk demand from Berar and Khándesh. Of other staple products trade in oil-seeds was brisk in West Khándesh and Sholápur and there was a large export of groundnut from the latter district and Sátára.

Turning to industries properly so-called, there is not very much to say. The Karád Match factory to which reference was made last year has not prospered as much as was expected: and the sisal and aloe fibre works in the Poona district have been abandoned, owing, the Collector states, to the lack of demand for the finished articles. On the other hand the umbrella, button and cutlery factories in Poona had a fairly good year: while the glass factory at Talegaon and the carpet factory at Kune prospered. A notable feature of the year was the starting of five flour mills worked by mechanical power in Sholápur.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

The internal trade of the three above-ghát districts continued to flourish. Cotton enjoyed a boom owing to high prices and cotton-trading centres, like Athni and Bail-Hongal in Belgaum, Gadag and Hubli in Dhárwár and Bágalkot in Bijápur, were continuously and profitably busy. The price paid for cotton purchased for the Gokák Falls Mills is reported to have been 31 lákhs of rupees. Kánara maintained its usual trade in timber, betel-nut and garden produce. The trade of Ratnágiri and of the southern portion of Kolába is naturally small and will not increase without improved means of communication with the rest of the Presidency.

The establishment of new factories and the opening of additional gins in the districts of Belgaum, Bijápur and Dhárwár indicate a growth in industrial development. The match factory at Belgaum showed hopeful signs of expansion, but the Bill prohibiting the manufacture and importation of white phosphorus matches, if passed into law, will seriously affect its business. The Collector of Bijápur reports that the closure of forests to sheep and goats has been the cause of a general depression in the blanket-weaving industry in his district. His Assistant Mr. Shannon states that a proposal is on foot which may remedy the evil to some degree but he has not mentioned what it is. Mr. Brown is being requested to report what this proposal is, to enquire into the subject thoroughly and to report the result to the Commissioner. The mango canning industry started by Messrs. Basrur Brothers of Honávar still continues but shows no signs of expansion.

The tables published from time to time by Government showing the low prices prevailing in the European market for manganese ore indicate that the feverish activity once displayed in Belgaum and Kánara to obtain and work

manganese concessions is not likely to revive. The concessions already granted to mining companies have either lapsed to Government by effluxion of time or are being surrendered by the concessionaries. The Gold Field of Gadag, which was once expected to rival the Kolár Gold Field in Mysore, has now proved to be a total failure. The determination of the several Kabulayátkatti gold mining leases has been sanctioned by Government and the companies have wound up their business. The Ratnágiri School of Industry has continued to do good work and its pupils have no difficulty in obtaining remunerative employment.

Rice factories in the Kolába district are said to be prospering.

The result of ericulture newly introduced in Kánara on a small scale will be watched with interest as, if it be found successful, the industry has great possibilities before it.

Extracts.

NORTHERN DIVISION.

F. G. H. Anderson, Esq., Collector, Surat.

One noticeable feature is that it is reported that an experimenter at Khanbhái in Chikhli taluka has discovered a method of distilling charcoal which sounds like the Coalite discoveries. He produces various by-products of gas and tars, and is actually using his gas to light a town. If this discovery is proved to be a commercial success it ought to be welcomed by the Forest Department who now can find little or no use for their waste timber and loppings, all of which could go into this new industry.

A very noteworthy feature of the year was the rapid formation of a co-operative association among the well-to-do cotton-growers of the Navsári-Jalálpur tract to establish their own ginning factories and thereby break down the monopoly of the Gin Owners' Trust. Although the rayats were late in starting, and therefore lost money, at the same time they entirely broke the Trust against which they were contending; and if they continue their enterprise they are sure to recoup themselves handsomely for their losses. In every district where I have served in which there was any cotton ginning industry, it is the practice for a group of gins to form an association under which several of the ginning factories shut down and the remainder gin the rayats' cotton at exorbitant rates fixed by the association and at the same time form a Trust for buying their cotton at rates also fixed by the association and often much below the proper market rates. Out of the big profits thus earned the gin owners who close their gins are just as handsomely paid as those who work them. It is a very significant sign of the times to find that rayats of Jalálpur had the sense and enterprise and cohesion promptly to open a ginning factory of their own and thereby smash the Trust.

SOUTHERN DIVISION.

V. K. Namjoshi, Esq., Deputy Collector, Dhárwár.

Ginning factories worked by oil and steam engines appear to be springing up like mushrooms, about 10 such factories having come into existence in the year under report alone. The total number of these factories now stands at about 80.

6.—Prices.

Commissioner, Northern Division.

The prices of food grains remained steady till near the end of the year, and were invariably above the five years' average. There were insignificant differences with respect to last year's prices.

The high price of cotton which is governed by the American market has already been alluded to. The price of good cattle continues to be very high.

Commissioner, Central Division.

There was not much variation in the prices of the principal food stuffs in the Ahmednagar and West Khándesh districts. In the other districts prices were easier than in the preceding year, the natural result of a good season; but even so they were on the whole slightly above what has hitherto been regarded

as normal. For this, the contraction in the area under cereals and the greater spending power of the people were no doubt responsible. Fuel again went up: and it is evident that its supply is going to be one of the problems of the future. In Khándesh cotton touched at one time Rs. 275 a khandi, the ordinary prices being Rs. 125 to Rs. 150: oil-seeds also fetched high prices owing to foreign demand.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

The prices of the staple food grains were a little lower than in the preceding year in all the districts of the Division except Kolába and Ratnágiri, where they showed no appreciable change. In spite of this fall, which was due to the satisfactory nature of the season, prices were considerably above the normal.

7.—*Labour and Wages.*

Commissioner, Northern Division.

The wages of both skilled and unskilled labour maintained a high level throughout the year and it is generally said that there is a shortage of agricultural labour. In Kaira and Broach there appears to be a tendency for families who have hitherto been wage-earners to develop into peasant-proprietors. Mr. Rothfeld, who has discussed the position at some length, writes that "labour is short only for those who will not pay the higher wage demanded", and though he is referring particularly to the talukas south of the Narbada it seems probable that the remark is generally applicable. It is doubtful whether there is any general rise in the standard of comfort, though Mr. Anderson alludes to it; but the competition of mills, railway contractors and other employers of labour has demonstrated that better wages can be obtained than were formerly paid for hire. There does not seem to be an improvement in the quality of labour done commensurate with the rise in wages. The rate of unskilled labour ranges from 4 to 6 annas per day and that of skilled from 12 annas to a rupee. In Sálsette owing to its proximity to Bombay the rates are as high as 8 annas for unskilled and Rs. 1-4-0 a day for skilled labour.

Commissioner, Central Division.

I have little to add under this head to the remarks in my last report. Wages both for skilled and unskilled labour continued to be extraordinarily high during the year, especially near large towns and in the Ahmednagar and Násik districts where large irrigation works were under construction.

It is quite evident that given anything like a normal season the supply of labour in future years is going to be a very serious problem. It is not merely the rise in the rate of wages, though of course that promises to be serious and to constitute a disturbing factor in estimates of the cost of public improvements. But it is the fact that over a large part of this division, I might say of this presidency, labour cannot be obtained at all in any quantity in a normal year and it is doubtful whether our account system is sufficiently elastic to admit of allowance being made for this. As matters stand (we have seen an instance in the current year), the occurrence of a bad season brings with it a shortage of revenue, which at once results in smaller expenditure on works of public utility; consequently at the time when labour is procurable the Public Works programme is out down. True economy demands that so far from reducing grants, we should increase them, at all events in the case of all works such as roads, where the provision of unskilled labour is an important item.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

In the Konkan districts conditions under this head remained almost stationary. In the three Karnátik districts wages showed a tendency to rise without any corresponding increase of efficiency. This is attributed to decrease of population owing to plague, the opening of cotton presses and ginning factories, the growth of other industries in towns, and the rise in the prices of food grains. The abnormal rise in wages which occurs during the harvesting season is only temporary and due to a simultaneous demand for labour.

Extracts.

NORTHERN DIVISION.

O. Rothfeld, Esquire, Collector, Broach.

Owing to frequent complaints from investing and rich cultivators of the deficiency of labour and the increase in wages, I had the matter investigated and fully discussed and considered at a conference of district officers. The conclusions which I now summarize were come to almost unanimously.

This district is economically divided into two zones by the Narbadda. To the north the conditions differ from those usual in Gujarát in the main only by modifications due to the fact that the staple crop is cotton; in other words, that each peasant-cultivator can till a larger holding than he can till for cereals, and that less labour is required per acre. With a few exceptions, therefore, the land is in the hands of prosperous peasant-proprietors, each with a holding somewhat above the normal Gujarát size and assessment, and with perhaps less than the usual incidents of mortgage or isolated sale. It also follows that the landless labouring class is in that region very much smaller in number than usual. As a matter of fact, since the famine of 1899 this class has mostly succeeded in acquiring some land. Any deficiency in labour is met by seasonal immigration, mainly from Kaira. Economic conditions are, therefore, healthy and eminently prosperous. If, therefore, there be a genuine shortage of labour, the cause must be sought in some special condition, not inconsistent with economic health. As a matter of fact this special condition is the rise in the standard of comfort. Although the population is greater than it was twenty years ago and though the area under cultivation is somewhat less, yet the number of hands available for field labour is considerably diminished, because a higher standard of comfort tends to keep the wives and younger children of comfortable cultivators—an increasing class—from field labour. In itself this is, however, a good thing; and it is unanimously conceded that this shortage of labour has not yet interfered with the quality of cultivation, while the area under cultivation has again steadily increased since 1903. In the northern portion of the district, therefore, the shortage of labour is not enough to be detrimental, but is only so much as is incidental to a generally extended prosperity.

South of the Narbadda conditions are to quite a marked extent different. Very considerably larger holdings and even estates are held by persons of a "gentleman farmer" class, who are genuine enough cultivators, but who do not themselves touch plough or drill with their hands. These are mainly Bráhmíns, Pársis or Mussulmáns. The labouring class on the other hand is mainly semi-servile, attached to the soil by an elaborate system of advance-payments and contracts, Bhils, who are divided from the rest of the community by race, habit and religion and who for generations have been regarded only as material for exploitation. The labour question here resolves itself into a simple conflict between the land-owners who wish to preserve the Bhils in a state of subjection and servitude and the labourers who wish to free themselves from hopeless exploitation. Missionary effort and the facilities for other employment offered by the mills, the Railways and even the nearness of Bombay have supplied the labouring class with weapons by which they can cut their economic-fetters; on the other hand, the land-owners fight with the help of numerous devices of false or fraudulent documents. Here again the famine of 1899 assisted the labouring class by enabling them to provide themselves with lands out of forfeited or abandoned holdings. But in this division of the district it is absurd to speak of a shortage of labour. Labour is in itself sufficient for field labour. All that has really happened is that it demands higher wages and better conditions. Labour is short only for those who will not pay those wages, or for those who, like District Boards, require a peculiarly hard type of labour. The competition of mills and other forms of industry have enabled the labourer to refuse really inadequate wages, although even now wages are still too low in relation to the general rise in prices. The final solution will apparently be the gradual sale of portions of the larger holdings in small allotments to numbers of the labouring class or their provision as tenants on fair rents instead of their employment as labourers on insufficient wages. The tendency is one which in my opinion makes ultimately for increased efficiency.

CENTRAL DIVISION.

A. H. A. Simcox, Esquire, Collector, East Khándesh.

In the hot weather it was difficult to secure labour. The high prices of cotton had brought a great deal of money into the district and every one was so occupied in spending it on weddings, fairs, etc., that they had no time to work.

8.—*Emigration and Immigration.*

Commissioner, Northern Division.

Of emigration and immigration of a permanent nature there has been practically none.

There is still so-called emigration from Broach and Surat, the latter district especially, to South Africa, China, Rangoon, etc., and the imposition of restrictions in South Africa is not stated to have made any difference. The travellers return after some years with ample means and settle down on their land.

There are the usual seasonal movements of labour which it is unnecessary to detail as there is nothing novel to mention.

Commissioner, Central Division.

Temporary emigration to Bombay and other industrial centres took place as usual in the fair season. No immigration was noticeable except the return of the labourers in harvesting season to their native or adjoining villages where work was available.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

Some 68 persons from the Mahád and Mángaon talukas and the Khálápur petha of the Kolába district and a good many Mahomedans from the northern talukas of the Ratnágiri district went to South Africa during the year. About 40 persons returned from there to Kolába and some must have returned to Ratnágiri. The money brought home by the emigrants or sent by them to their families at home is usually invested in landed property.

The periodical visits of labourers from Kolába and Ratnágiri to Bombay and other industrial centres and from Goa and southern Kánara to the spice gardens of the above-ghát talukas of the Kánara district are annual occurrences. About a thousand Mapillas from South Kánara visited Kumta and Honávar for about a couple of months to catch and cure fish. They gave no trouble. Mr. Haigh states that some Goa fishermen made an attempt to fish in British waters off the coast of Kánara near Belekeri but left the fishing ground under instructions from the Customs authorities.

Extracts.

NORTHERN DIVISION.

F. G. H. Anderson, Esquire, Collector, Surat.

The most noticeable feature of the year has been the large and sudden increase of applicants, in the position of modest cultivators and artisans, for certificates of identity to go to America for the vaguest of purposes usually expressed as "to learn some art". There seems to be a sudden wave of desire to emigrate to the United States without counting the cost or the prospects owing to a widespread impression that America is such a rich country that you have only to get there for your fortune to be assured. I am afraid, however, there is still the objection of the American people to the admission of Asiatics to be reckoned with, and if this emigration continues no doubt this feeling will soon express itself. I have not yet seen any reason to connect this new desire to go to America with the closing of Natal.

9.—Public Health.

Commissioner, Northern Division.

There was one district in the Division distinguished by immunity from both cholera and plague, Broach, which is described by the Deputy Sanitary Commissioner as the dirtiest also. There were some cases of small-pox among Bohras of a village in the Ankleshwar taluka who refused to have their children vaccinated. This disinclination has been observed in other villages of the taluka. Plague, cholera and small-pox occurred in every district; Kaira, Surat and to a less extent Thána suffered from plague, Nadiád town in Kaira chiefly from cholera. In Ahmedabad city there was a serious epidemic of small-pox. Godhra, where an epidemic of plague was anticipated, had only 12 cases. The Municipality was prepared to deal with it and the locality attacked was immediately vacated. From the Surat district alone is any real success with inoculation reported. There were 2,572 inoculations performed by special Assistant Surgeons in the district and over 1,000 in Dharampur. The Collector of Kaira has arranged that special precautionary measures should be taken in Nadiád before the regular cholera season; and the protection of the great pilgrim centre of Dákor has also received his attention.

Moderate success followed the appointment of special medical officers in the worst malarial areas. The experiment is to be repeated. Distribution of quinine through other sources besides the post office was tried in the Surat and Thána districts. School-masters were employed as the agency with very good results in the Surat district and zamindárs are to be employed in Thána. Regarded generally, malaria was less prevalent throughout the north of Gujarát. Public health in the Surat district is reported to have been conspicuously worse and the heavy rains of September-October caused an abnormal incidence of fever in the interior of Thána district which lasted till March.

Commissioner, Central Division.

Public health was generally satisfactory in the division. Plague appeared in parts of all the districts. The epidemic prevailed in a more or less severe form in Ráver (East Khándesh), Sinnar and Málegaon (Násik), Khatáv and Mán (Sátára) and a few villages of the Sholápur district. Elsewhere the visitation was mild and Poona city was almost entirely free from it as in the preceding year. The destruction of rats was carried out systematically in parts of Sátára. In Sátára itself some 15,000 rats were killed and, whether owing to this cause or not, the epidemic of plague was a mild one. Mr. Dixit remarks that owing to rat-trapping Kásegaon in the same district, which used to be a hot bed of plague, escaped altogether. Inoculation was favourably received in the Sátára district, and is undoubtedly growing in popularity.

Cholera is reported to have visited all districts except West Khándesh and Sátára, but the mortality was very low. Small-pox too did but little damage, but there is no doubt that the people think so lightly of it that a number of cases are not reported. Now that pure glycerinated lymph is available, the expediency of making vaccination in Municipal towns compulsory should be considered. A law which made primary vaccination compulsory would arouse no material opposition.

Travelling medical subordinates worked in the malarial tracts of Poona, Ahmednagar and West Khándesh districts and are said to have rendered good service to people. Personally I fail to see their utility. They are never long enough in any village to treat serious cases efficiently, and in reality they do little more than distribute quinine.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

Plague carried off 4,699 persons in the Belgaum district. Bijápur, which had remained singularly immune from plague for some years past, was again invaded, the total number of cases being 89 and deaths 0. The mortality from plague in Dhárwár and Kolába was 10,150 and 900 respectively. Excepting some three villages of the Haliyál táluka, Kánara continued free from the ravages of this disease. The greater part of Ratnágiri too did not suffer. Inoculation was not resorted to by the people to any appreciable extent, and it is only gradually becoming popular. Evacuation is the only really popular device for evading the disease. Rat campaigns were carried on by the Municipalities of Belgaum, Alibág, Pen and Panvel. The importance of the destruction of rats has not yet been fully realised by the people. It is hoped that the instructions lately issued by Government in their General Department Notification No. 6726, dated 16th November 1911, for destroying rats as a plague preventive measure will produce good results.

Cholera appeared in all the districts except Kánara. It was worst in the Bijápur district where 1,185 persons were carried off by the disease. Precautions were taken in time to arrest its spread. Small-pox broke out in all the districts of the Southern Division, but the number of deaths in the three above-ghát districts was insignificant. It prevailed in every part of Kánara except Mundgod and Siddápur, and in Kárwár táluka it was severe and caused 347 deaths. As desired in Government Memorandum No. 4758 of 7th August last, General Department, the Collector of Kánara has been requested to advise the Kárwár Municipality to improve the registration of births and to afford every help to the vaccinator. If that body fails to adopt these measures, it will be necessary to introduce compulsory vaccination within the Municipal area.

In parts of Belgaum and Kánara malaria has long been a serious danger to the public health. Anti-malarial measures were carried out in the districts of Belgaum, Dhárwár and Kánara and it has been considered desirable to continue the experiments during the current year. The considerable increase in the sale of quinine packets is an indication of a growing appreciation of the merits of this remedy. A new dispensary is shortly to be built at Ankola where the need of one has long been felt, the necessary funds being obtained from a generous donation of Rs. 4,000 made by Khán Sáheb Dadabhai Ratanji Balsarwala of Kárwár.

The establishment of a Leper Asylum at Belgaum was sanctioned during the year and the property known as "Reho-both" was purchased for Rs. 5,000. The working of the institution is expected to be in full swing during the current year.

Sanitary matters cannot yet be said to attract sufficient popular attention and the action of the Collector of Kolába in forming sanitary associations in his district deserves encouragement. For want of sufficient interest on the part of the villagers, 29 Sanitary Committees in the Bijápur district had to be closed during the year under report.

Extracts.

NORTHERN DIVISION.

A. M. Green, Esquire, Assistant Collector, Surat.

People are quite ready to evacuate at the sight of a dead rat, but evacuation is never complete in the bigger villages and towns, and people insist on going in every day for needs of their business, etc. inoculation is becoming by slow degrees more popular. At Khergám many injections were made, while the people of Umersádi, a village three miles from Párdi, petitioned me to send them an inoculator as soon as Párdi was attacked and while there was no plague in their own village. They were inoculated in creditable numbers and have recently again asked for an inoculator.

10.—Education.

Commissioner, Northern Division.

As was to be expected after the additional grants given by Government the number of primary schools has been increased everywhere. Owing to local reasons fewer children attended the schools in the Panch Maháls though there were 15 more schools open. Out of the 35 schools closed in the Broach district last year 14 were re-opened. In the Ahmedabad and Kaira districts, especially in the latter, there is a constant stream of applications for more schools. In Ahmedabad district, the Collector writes, among the agricultural classes the Patidár is not far behind the Bráhmín and Bania in appreciating cheaper education, but the Kolis and other backward classes still require official stimulus. Mr. Master mentions, however, that there are several private schools for Kolis in Daskroi, Parántij and Modása. More trained teachers and better school buildings are much needed in every district. Mr. Anderson refers to these subjects at some length in his report. The bad attendance of the children of agriculturists has been the subject of many reports, and the subject is now engaging the attention of Government. The Káliparaj school at Godsamba in Mándvi táluca is achieving wonderful results. In the Thána district there are several "wild tribes" schools. A hostel will be ready soon at Mokháda and it will be interesting to see whether it will be as successful as the one at Godsamba. Two Bhil boys from the school at Dohad in the Panch Maháls have gone to the training college. No doubt the best method of educating these forest and jungle tribes is to give them teachers of their own class.

There is an increasing demand for secondary education. The several schools in Ahmedabad are well attended, at Borsad in Kaira district a High School was built out of funds subscribed for a memorial to His Majesty the late King. A similar movement is on foot in Kaira and Mátar in the same district.

Of special schools the Ranchodlal Chhotalal Technical Institute in Ahmedabad has been progressing rapidly, too rapidly the Collector thinks. The second year's instruction is now nearing completion. The Tálukdári School at Dhandhuka deserves mention. Government have recently given it the District Bungalow as a nucleus for a hostel on which Rs. 27,000, subscribed by Tálukdárs in memory of the late King, are being spent; Mr. Painter describes it as "the most successful educational, as opposed to instructional, institution in the district: here boys of good family are taught to be gentlemen first and scholars afterwards". There is another institution of the same kind on a smaller scale at A'nand in Kaira which is to be moved to Nadiád.

Little mention is made in the district reports of girls' schools. They are found in towns only. Female education is advancing slowly. The Gujarát College in Ahmedabad has now reached a higher level, in numbers, efficiency and discipline than it has ever attained before.

Commissioner, Central Division.

New schools were opened in the Ahmednagar, West Khándesh, Násik, Poona and Sholápúr districts. In the Sholápúr district there is now one school for every two villages, and Mr. Hatch remarks that time has come to stop the opening of new schools and to turn our efforts to the better housing and better teaching of our existing schools. Mr. Baker similarly remarks on the general demand for new schools but quotes Mr. MacMillan as saying that this demand is accompanied by a general failure to take advantage of those facilities which exist. He urges that the popularity of schools varies according to the character and attainments of the master, that the chief essential of successful education is to have good masters: and that these cannot be procured on Rs. 10 per mensem.

In these views I entirely concur. Our past policy has tended to sacrifice quality to quantity in our rural schools and the result has been that the teaching given has too often been lifeless and unattractive, and the school has not secured any real grip on the people. And now a new enemy to education has arisen in the shape of the rise in the value of childrens' labour. As Mr. Mountford remarks, "The rise in the scale of wages militates against education, and the number of exemptions, if Mr. Gokhale's Education Bill becomes law, on account of domestic or agricultural necessity would leave education in the same state as exists at present". The true policy for the future should be to contract the sphere of Government effort, to keep the number of Government schools within such limit that they shall be really well-staffed and attractive and to trust to aided indigenous schools for the rest.

Incidentally it is interesting to note that attempts were made in Poona to induce the ryots to send their children to night schools during the busy season. But they were not very successful, possibly Mr. Swifte thinks, because the masters dislike making changes in the ordinary school curriculum during the field months immediately preceding the annual inspection. Mr. Swifte thinks that the masters might be informed that changes of the sort involving short attendance will be taken into consideration at the general inspection.

Of the backward classes the Bhils in West Khándesh and the Kolis in the Poona district continue to show keen interest in education. Five new schools for Bhils were opened in West Khándesh and two Bhil boys came out successful at the vernacular final examination during the year. One of these is pursuing still higher studies and the other has secured a teacher's post in a Bhil school. Mr. Swifte suggests that Urdu primary schools should be encouraged only in places where the Mahomedans are numerous and influential and that energy is dissipated in trying to teach Mahomedans two languages—Urdu and Maráthi—the latter of which is far more useful. I entirely concur in this opinion.

The Industrial School at Pandharpur is reported to be progressing satisfactorily. A new Municipal building has been erected for it at a cost of over Rs. 12,000 and new classes in the different arts have been opened. I have grave doubts as to the utility of technical education in a place like Pandharpur, where

the industrial atmosphere is totally lacking and I think that the money would have been better spent in improving the accommodation provided for the primary schools in this town.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

The demands for primary education continue to increase and new schools were opened in all the districts with a corresponding increase in the number of pupils, though in Dhárwár the progress of education was to some extent retarded owing to the prevalence of plague. Female education has continued to receive attention; but the want of a trained female teachers' staff is being felt everywhere and in Bijápur and Belgaum particularly. The income pertaining to the educational section of all the Local Bodies in the Southern Division is practically stationary, while the expenditure which they have to incur on primary education is steadily increasing. Thus the Local Bodies cannot finance their educational needs without seriously encroaching on the funds intended for other equally important objects or without obtaining liberal educational grants from Government.

The new curriculum for rural schools sanctioned in Government Resolution, Educational Department, No. 2049, dated 19th June 1911, is said to be appreciated and its results will be watched with interest. The tendency of mere primary education to unsettle the minds of agriculturists' children and turn them from their hereditary callings towards Government service as a means of livelihood is again remarked on.

The education of the depressed classes has also received a fair share of attention in all the districts. The total number of pupils of the aboriginal criminal tribes in Bijápur increased from 59 to 153 including 12 girls. If this progress continues for some years more, Mr. Starte's efforts to wean the aboriginal tribes of Bijápur from their criminal habits should be materially accelerated. In the Ratnágiri district the Mahárs appear to appreciate the benefits of elementary education. This may be due, as observed by Mr. Hardy, to the better prospects of employment that it affords them. The Kolába District Board has granted concessions in the case of depressed class boys, girls and Katkari children. Other District Local Boards might advantageously take similar steps for promoting the education of depressed classes in their districts.

Extracts.

CENTRAL DIVISION.

Joseph Rodgers, Esquire, Deputy Collector, Poona.

Village schools were inspected by me and all classes of the people were represented in all schools, except the Mahárs and other depressed classes for which no sufficient provision has yet been made. The agriculturists are eager to see their children educated, even if they have to sacrifice their agricultural occupation. The Mahárs and Chambhárs in some of the schools are as intelligent as the Bráhmíns and the Maráthas. But the distinction made in schools tends to mar their enthusiasm to learn. They have to sit separately from the other boys in the school. The Bráhmín master will not touch their books or slates for fear of being polluted and this feeling of want of fellowship naturally damps the spirit in such children, however eager and earnest they may be to learn. The Marátha boys are as competent as the Bráhmín boys. But the Bráhmín masters play a great part in dispensing proper education to all children alike. In some schools I found that the Bráhmín boys were far superior to non-Bráhmíns and on enquiry why the non-Bráhmíns were so deficient, I could not elicit any other reply from the masters but that these boys will not learn. The Koli Boarding schools at Ambegaon and Ghoda are well patronised and several Koli boys have passed the Vernacular 7th Standard Examination and have been employed as teachers in the Koli schools where they exercise a most salutary influence. The Koli Boarding schools are ably managed by the Head Masters. They were kept very clean and the boarders looked very healthy and content. In some Koli villages private schools have been opened by the Kolis themselves; they pay the masters in kind. The number of boys in these schools is very few and so no grant-in-aid schools can be started. In one village in Junnar táluca, there was a private Marátha school with nearly 40 boys and the school master was the pátil's brother. This school was immediately enlisted as a grant-in-aid school. Unless the villagers are keen in seeing that their children will attend the school, I am not in favour of opening more schools. I have noticed that villagers applied for a school and

when it was opened, no more than half a dozen boys attended it and it had to be closed as quickly as it was opened. The reason was that there was friction among the villagers and hence the object of education was lost. In some schools the masters are too young and in others too old to be useful. They are not able to control the boys and the school is similar to a fish market. In two schools I was obliged to stop my inspection because the boys were so noisy and the masters could not control them. The Mission schools were also inspected and were found to be doing good work. The Mahomedan schools require better management. Some of the present masters are too old and decrepit; and others do not pay sufficient attention to discipline. The boys are irregular and the time of the masters is wasted. I am of opinion that such schools should be closed. Of course there is a dearth of Mahomedan masters but so long as there are masters available and schools opened, the discipline should be rigidly maintained, without which education is practically of no avail. In some villages there are night schools for the education of Kunbi children who are unable to attend the schools in the day time on account of their agricultural occupation. These schools are working satisfactorily.

A. F. L. Brayne, Esquire, Assistant Collector, Sátára.

I found throughout my tour a widespread demand for schools in all villages of any size as yet unprovided with educational facilities: on the other hand the desire for education does not appear strong enough to overcome the repugnance felt to sending children to school in villages which may lie quite close to their own. This contrasts unfavourably with the zeal for education in European countries where children often walk long distances daily to school. I have often pointed out to applicants that there was a good school within a mile of their doors, but the excuse advanced is the existence of some small nullah which is probably dry for ten months in the year.

Again the shortness of labour and the high wages are not without their effect on the educational progress of a people mainly agricultural. The head of the family finds it vastly more profitable to employ the children who ought to be at school than to search in a scanty labour market for the means to carry on his operations. Then during the slack season, when it might be hoped that the children would be free to receive the benefits of education, a considerable body of persons leave their villages for the centres of labour and the children have to be detained at home to herd cattle, etc.

G. W. Hatch, Esquire, Collector, Sholápur.

Within the last two years there has been an addition of 55 Local Board schools, bringing the total number upto 278. Municipal schools are now 40 in number and aided schools 60 giving a grand total of 378 public schools. This gives one school to every two villages in the district. Pupils numbered 19,504 or 2·5 per cent. of the population. Plague interfered with the schools to a considerable extent during the last three months of the year, no less than 55 schools being closed on its account on 31st March 1911. The Deputy Inspector of Education is of opinion that the time has now come to call a halt in the opening of new schools. In this opinion I concur. Our aim now should be better housing, and better teaching. Out of 269 Local Board primary schools only 95 are accommodated in buildings designed for the purpose. A large proportion of the buildings are absolutely unsuited for holding schools. Only one new school building was erected by the District Board in the year under report, but several more have recently been taken in hand. Unfortunately the standard plans approved by the Public Works Department for village schools are of such an expensive type that the provision of new school-houses must be a very slow process. As regards the teaching staff it is satisfactory to note that there was an addition during the year of 7 in the number of trained teachers. Trained male teachers at present form only 28 per cent. of the whole male teaching staff; so there is still a vast deal of room for improvement.

SOUTHERN DIVISION.

V. K. Namjoshi, Esquire, Deputy Collector, Dhárwár.

The Betgeri weaving school started under the control of the Registrar of Co-operative Credit Societies is becoming increasingly popular. The number of boys has increased from 14 to 22. Ten boys are taking the first year's course; and the rest the second year's. In the first year's course, boys learn to weave coarser cloth and in the second year they learn finer weaving such as sáris with silk borders. The teachers are professional weavers with sufficient primary education, the Head Master knowing a little of English also.

R. M. Maxwell, Esquire, Assistant Collector, Kánara.

The comparative indifference of the cultivating classes is due not so much to unreasoning prejudice as to genuine inability to dispense with their children's services, combined perhaps with a not ill-founded fear that the time spent at school may unfit them for agricultural pursuits. The justification for such a fear lies in the existing tendency to regard a *modicum* of education as disqualifying the possessor for manual work and giving

him a sort of claim against Government to be provided with some clerical employment, as exemplified in the frequency of applications representing the writer as "fit for nothing but Government service" owing to the education which is alleged to have prevented him from learning the trade appropriate to his caste. During the year under report this deplorable attitude has been encountered in the case of several Haviks, who should have been good cultivators, and even in that of one Sonár, and I believe that in a very large proportion of cases where studies are prolonged beyond the 4th standard the ulterior motive is similar. The cause no doubt lies in a general failure to count literacy among the needs of ordinary life, for which the educational *curriculum* itself must be held partly responsible: but so far as concerns the agricultural classes further criticism of the latter is rendered superfluous by the reforms to be introduced under Government Resolution, Educational Department, No. 2049 of 19th June last, and the future of "rural" schools in this sub-division seems decidedly more promising.

11.—Public feeling and the Press.

Commissioner, Northern Division.

Mr. Anderson reports from Surat that the general tone has been much better than even in the previous year. My own opinion is that while there are men everywhere who hold extreme views on political subjects, more perhaps than one imagines, the feeling throughout Gujarát is decidedly loyal and there are very few who would care to give utterance to seditious sentiments.

"The feeling is one of comparative contentment," "the general attitude of the people is quite loyal and contented," the mass of the people "looks upon Government with reverence and respect," are statements taken from the reports which are fairly representative of the feeling of the whole Division.

Of the attitude towards morality and crime, however, Mr. Rothfeld draws an ugly picture; and one hopes that it may be to some extent exaggerated, though his description of the toleration of crime in Broach corresponds closely with the state of affairs which is known to exist in the neighbouring district of Kaira. The absence of indignation, and the apathy towards crime which is manifested in the unwillingness to give information or afford active assistance towards its detection is everywhere noticeable. People have still to be educated to a public spirit which demands the suppression of lawlessness.

Commissioner, Central Division.

As regards public feeling the year has been one of tranquillity. The tone of the Native Press has been mild. Inflammatory writing has been conspicuous by its absence. The improvement is permanent or temporary, whether it is merely due to a passing wave of enthusiasm aroused by the Imperial visit cannot be said with certainty: but there is no question that it is very marked.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

The full effect of the measures taken by Government for the suppression of sedition in all its outward forms was noticeable during the year under report and resulted in an almost total absence of any disloyal manifestations. The year has passed from a political point of view with the utmost quietness and the Coronation in England of Their Imperial Majesties was everywhere celebrated with expressions of enthusiastic loyalty.

The general mass of the people continue loyal and have no serious grievances against Government.

12.—Summary of Material Prosperity and Prospects.

Commissioner, Northern Division.

In every report is found evidence of material prosperity among all but the lowest and most improvident classes. From Broach southwards it is growing steadily in districts which are scarcely subject to severe variations of agricultural condition. Even in the Jambusar neighbourhood the Deputy Collector writes—"the damage done by the frost had no appreciable effect on the material

prosperity of the sub-division." In Surat, it is stated, increase in prosperity and business activity is everywhere noticeable both in the upper and lower classes: new buildings are rising everywhere and new luxuries becoming common. Thána has enjoyed the fourth of a series of good seasons. In Godhra, the Collector writes—"signs of progress are not wanting. The tanneries are rising in importance and new flour mills springing up." The success which has attended the introduction of cotton into the south-west of the district has attracted many Pátidárs and well-to-do agriculturists. Ahmedabad and Kaira have both shared in the gain from the high prices of cotton; while there has been no advance, there has been no set-back: the mill industry which has a dominating influence has been exceedingly depressed. Mr. Painter sums up the year as a moderate one for the agriculturist, a poor one for the manufacturer and an uneventful one for the trader.

Mr. Chuckerbutty's views are depressed by his experience of the criminality of the district—"The material prosperity and prospects of the people have long been hampered by the singular power for evil which the Pátidárs possess and exercise." "Improvement can only be hoped for by the education of public opinion in such a manner as to put a powerful check on local tyranny and criminal intimidation."

Wages have been high and continue high in spite of the failure of the rains; scarcity of agricultural labour was a common complaint in most parts of the Division. The prices of food were not excessive: except for the mill industry everything points to the past year having been one of decided comfort and advantage to rich and poor alike. It was evident before the year closed that there was trouble ahead in the north of Gujarát. The kharif sowings had failed and a fodder famine seemed probable. The rain failed in August and September too and almost all fodder has to be imported. The patience and aptitude to meet the present adverse conditions which even the poorest have shown is very remarkable.

Commissioner, Central Division.

The year was unquestionably one of extraordinary prosperity, certainly the best known for the past 25 years, even in the cotton producing tracts where the crop was not above average the high prices gave the ryots large profits. I extract the following from the Comptroller General's Report (paragraph 4):—

"In the case of cotton the maximum and minimum prices in Bombay during the year were 7·63 and 5·86 annas per lb. as compared with 5·33 and 4·41 a couple of years ago. The quantity exported was somewhat below that of 1909-10 but the value 35 crores was easily a record. In oil seeds, not only was there a shortage in other countries, which raised prices in Europe beyond precedent, but India itself had large crops. Consequently 31,000 cwts. were exported to the value of 25 crores and both quantity and value are by far the largest on record."

Bearing in mind the fact that the two Khándeshes, Násik, Sholápur are large producers of cotton, while Sholápur and Sátára had record crops of oil seeds, it is easy to see what large sums of money must have poured into the division.

Later on in the same report another significant extract may be taken:—

"Some stress has been laid on the large amount of revenue paid in Bombay in gold, and in Khándesh it was reported that while between December 1910 and March 1911 sovereigns to the value of 74 lákhs were taken out for payment, no less than 24 $\frac{3}{4}$ lákhs were received back in the revenue months—January to March. The Collector of West Khándesh, however, offers an explanation. The Indian Specie Bank, he says, found that they had not obtained a sufficient number of supply bills and had to bring money from Bombay. To save cost of transport they brought in sovereigns which were passed out through the traders into the hands of cotton owners. They were accepted but not appreciated, and the cultivators took the earliest opportunity of getting rid of them."

We are not concerned here with the Comptroller's arguments but with simple facts. These are that £500,000 was taken into Khándesh from outside in golden sovereigns and that after revenue was paid £350,000 stayed there, and this in addition to large remittances by supply bills and by rupees. It would be hard to find more convincing figures of the extraordinary good fortune that an American "corner" may bring to a cotton district. After a really good season like this it would be interesting to know whether the ryot has really utilized his good fortune to some purpose, whether he has made efforts to reduce the burden of his debt or wasted his profits on liquor, wristlet watches and gramophones? It is much to be regretted that not one report makes any reference to this subject. Of course this would have been natural enough five years ago. But with the Record of Rights now in existence for five years, with the new account forms in force in part at any rate of each district, it should have been possible to give some figures on the subject. The primary question is simple enough. Has the area in the possession of agriculturists increased at the expense of that held by non-agriculturists? It is to be hoped that district officers will bestir themselves in future to answer this.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

The season was on the whole good throughout the Division and especially so in the three Deccan districts. The high prices obtaining for raw cotton restored many of the rayats to a comparative state of affluence and enabled many of them to lay by something for a rainy day. A brisk trade in cotton caused wages in many places to rise and wages for field labour also ruled high. The increase in the price of field produce, however, more than compensated for this expense. In many places purchase of gold and ornaments by ordinary rayats is reported to have taken place. Mortality from plague is reported to have been a special reason for increase in the cost of labour.

Industrial centres like Athni, Bail-Hongal, Gokák, Hubli, Gadag and Bágalkot continue to develop and rise in importance; while Nipáni is looking forward to a boom consequent on the extension to it of railway facilities. Gadag also is anxiously awaiting a railway connection *via* Wázi with the Nizám's dominions and anticipates a large increase of trade in consequence.

New railway lines are also wanted in the Bágalkot and Hungund tálukas of the Bijápur district and in the tálukas lying between Hubli, Saundatti and Belgaum.

A slight set-back is noticeable in the Above-Ghát tálukas of Kánara, partly due to the unhealthiness of the climate and partly to the neglect by the Haviks of their traditional occupation of betel-nut gardening.

In the Belgaum district Mahárs, Mángs and Dhors are reported to have vastly improved their social condition. It is gratifying to learn that their standard of living has risen and that they aspire to religious observances similar to those of higher class Hindus. In the Kolába district the Thákurs appear to have improved and taken to steady cultivation, but the case of Kátkaris still leaves much to be desired.

The Khoti tenure existing in the Ratnágiri and Kolába districts necessarily tends to a straitened relationship between landlords and tenants in those districts. The settlement of cash commutation of rent is expected to improve matters. Bombay also continues to provide a ready and profitable market for the labour of these classes.

The questions referred to by Mr. Brander of constructing a network of roads and piers in the Ratnágiri district are under reference to the Superintending Engineer, Southern Division, and the Commissioner of Customs respectively and will be disposed of in due course.

It is satisfactory to find that the several Cattle Shows and Agricultural demonstrations held in all the districts of this Division except Bijápur are being appreciated by the people, and the rayats are gradually discovering the benefits to be derived from improved and scientific methods of cultivation. The Tahal

demonstrations and the measures adopted for the preservation of tree-growth in the Kolába district appear to be bearing good fruit and the relations between the cultivators and the Forest Department are reported to be governed by a feeling of common interest.

Some Collectors and their Assistants or Deputies refer to the benefits that would arise from the standardization of weights and measures. This subject has already engaged the attention of Government.

Extracts.

Northern Division.

N. M. Joshi, Esquire, Deputy Collector, Broach.

There is a marked improvement in the style of living of an average agriculturist. Substantial new houses are being built. There is an increasing demand for land and labour. The average agriculturist has got his gold and silver ornaments back. There is a general belief in the money-lending class that in the course of time the average agriculturist will be able to incur his marriage and funeral expenses from his own savings. There are instances in which agriculturists have joined in partnership with cotton and cloth merchants. In some cases cotton merchants are seen borrowing money from well-to-do Pátidárs during the cotton season.

F. G. H. Anderson, Esquire, Collector, Surat.

There is no doubt that there is everywhere an increase in material prosperity and business activity. This is noticeable both in the upper and lower classes. New buildings are rising everywhere and new luxuries are becoming common. Unfortunately in many parts there is still far too little to attract the people away from drink when they have money to spare; but I am glad to notice everywhere that all forms of tea, soda water and other refreshment purveyors seem to prosper exceedingly.

It is extraordinary with what frequency one is receiving applications and complaints on two subjects: about education, and about sanitation. In towns there is no doubt that people are becoming awake to the desirability of more cleanly surroundings, and I hope this feeling will soon make some impression on the Municipalities. Even in the villages one sometimes meets with such complaints; but the village population seem most intensely concerned about education. All this augurs well for continued progress.

Central Division.

A. H. A. Simcox, Esquire, Collector, East Khándesh.

I am glad to note that the Rewa Kunbis are making efforts to improve themselves by reviving the old Panchayat system, forbidding drink and paying off their debts.

V. A. Gupte, Esquire, Deputy Collector, Ahmednagar.

The Kabuli and the Panjabi trader is taking the place of the Marvadi. The former is more dangerous because he is physically more strong and does not care to go to law to realize his demands. He is now to be seen even in remote villages and his dealings with the cultivator have to be carefully watched in the interest of the latter.

L. J. Mountford, Esquire, Collector, Sátára.

The chief fault of the Deccani cultivator is indifferent ploughing, attributable to two causes, lack of cattle and inefficient implements. The deficiency of cattle is difficult to supply, but such as we have, stand all the better chance of existence owing to the improved grazing facilities afforded by throwing open a large area of forest land under the generous policy of Government and owing to the assistance afforded by our Veterinary Graduates whereby the ravages of cattle disease are considerably diminished.

But while we cannot double the number of plough cattle, we can very easily double the efficiency of the plough, and a given day's work with the Ransome plough will give a result that would require more than two days' work with the wooden plough. Consequently every effort is being made to foster and encourage the use of the iron plough. Lands are often left unploughed for many years, the surface being merely harrowed, and the effect of a large increase in iron ploughs upon the productivity of the soil and the actual outturn would be very great.

With a view to getting at the people, Táluka Agricultural Associations are always of great use and they are now being inaugurated in this district. Improvements, however,

need to be demonstrated and a Demonstration Farm will be started, if possible, where the actual results of our theories can be seen and understood by all. The Director of Agriculture informs me that there is some difficulty in providing the necessary *personnel*. Experiments in the Wálwa táluka are proceeding successfully under the Agricultural Department, but as I have not yet seen them I cannot speak as to their effect on the district.

As an instance of what can be done by improved methods it is interesting to consider the enormous rise in area of groundnut seed, due to the introduction of the foreign variety. In 1905-06 there were 87,398 acres under groundnut; in 1908-09, 61,683 and in 1910-11, 74,470.

There is no doubt that the cultivator is not averse to learning new methods. In July last Sir Vithaldas Thackersey visited the Wálwa táluka and was able in the short space of two days to start three Co-operative Societies and to lay the foundation of four more with the assistance of Mr. V. B. Naik, the Mámlatdár. One society was joined even by the *sávkars* of the village. Such a state of affairs would have been impossible ten years ago. In the same way a District Agricultural Society was organised in July last and contains many keen and active members.

Our difficulty is that the ryot moves slowly and to reach him we must place our hope in the Táluka Agricultural Associations and in Co-operative Credit Societies for providing him with capital. His mind is undoubtedly expanding. The Veterinary Graduate is listened to and his methods are adopted more willingly: inoculation is becoming more popular as a means of avoiding plague, improved methods of agriculture such as iron ploughs and foreign groundnut seed are being tried and there is every sign that education is gradually working its way among the masses.

Southern Division.

G. C. Shannon, Esquire, Assistant Collector, Bijápúr.

At least two tálukas have done extremely well and the third (Hungund) has little reason for complaint. There is more money to spare everywhere. I take as an evidence of this the readiness with which villages would raise a sum equal to 2 or 3 times their Local Fund Cess as a School Building Fund. Apart from this there was great activity in house building. This desire for more accommodation coupled with a desire for cleaner and more sanitary surroundings often led to requests for an extension of the village site.

B. A. Brendon, Esquire, Collector, Belgaum.

Cultivators invested their profits to a large extent in gold. In Athni on one day gold to the value of nearly Rs. 40,000 was purchased from the local dealers and in Gokák the sales of gold during the year are said to have amounted to 5 lákhs of rupees.

P. B. Haigh, Esquire, Collector, Kánara.

In the forest tracts above-gháts, the landlord and tenant system shows signs in some parts of breaking down, tenants being so hard to find that landlords are relinquishing their land. This may result in time in the formation of a class of independent cultivators, but the process must necessarily be very slow.

II.—Inspection.

1.—General Inspection.

Commissioner, Northern Division.

Changes of *personnel* among Collectors occurred in all districts except Kaira. Ahmedabad, Broach and Surat changed hands once each; Panch Maháls changed twice; while Thána suffered most in this respect, having changed hands four times. The transfers in Ahmedabad, Broach and Surat were made comparatively early in the year. Changes as usual occurred among Sub-divisional Officers, and only five sub-divisions remained in the hands of one and the same officer throughout the year. The changes have, however, not seriously affected the tours of the officers concerned, nor have they resulted in inefficiency of administration. The tours of the Collectors of Ahmedabad and Broach were adequate though they fell short of four complete months' absence from headquarters by a few days for the reasons explained by them. Among Sub-divisional Officers the tours of the officers in charge of the Dohad Sub-division in the Panch Maháls and Chorási Sub-division in Surat were inadequate. In the former Mr. Plunkett, who was in charge from the beginning of the year till the

middle of February, appears to have spent his time almost entirely between Dohad and Godhra, and no real touring was done till after the beginning of March. He was no doubt employed for 22 days in auditing the jamábandi accounts and suffered from chronic ill-health. His successor Mr. Koreishi, who remained in charge till 9th June, spent only 43 days away from Dohad and Godhra.

In Surat Mr. Henderson, who remained in charge of the Chorási Sub-division till 4th January, toured for 22 days only and was relieved by Mr. Trivedi who remained in charge in addition to his own duties as City Magistrate till 16th February. Mr. Taleyarkhan who was then put in charge had 104 touring days and was out for 79 days. It is noticed that the Assistant Collector Mr. Green spent 49 days at Tithal and Bulsár between November 1st and May 15th.

The accounts of all the Huzúr Treasuries in the Division except Thána were inspected by the Collectors. In Thána the same omission was repeated, and the Collector's attention has again been drawn to the orders in paragraph 5 of Government letter No. 3113, dated the 25th March 1911. The Collectors of Ahmedabad and Thána inspected all the Mámíatdárs' and Mahálkaris' offices in their districts. But four Táluka or Mahál offices in Kaira, one in the Panch Maháls, two in Broach and three in Surat remained unexamined by the Collectors. A fair number of villages received the attention of the Collectors.

The Sub-Divisional Officers' inspections of the kacheris in their charge were adequate. Mr. Hartshorne in Kaira closely examined only one kacheri in his charge though each of his four Treasuries was examined twice. This has been satisfactorily explained. The other three kacheris were examined by the Collector and Commissioner. A fair amount of ordinary inspection was done everywhere except in Dohad.

The usual inspection of Sub-Registrars' offices, schools, dispensaries, liquor shops, etc., was carried out by Sub-divisional Officers.

The Commissioner inspected all the Collectors' offices and all the Huzúr Account offices in the Division and examined six Táluka kacheris without discovering any serious irregularities.

Commissioner, Central Division.

Changes in the *personnel* of Collectors were particularly few. In four out of the seven districts the Collectors were unchanged throughout the year: and in two out of the remaining three the out-going Collectors remained in charge till quite the end of the season. On the other hand changes in Sub-divisional Officers were unusually numerous, only four officers, Messrs. MacMillan and Gupte (Ahmednagar), Joshi (West Khándesh), Rodgers (Poona) who have submitted reports having been in charge throughout the year. With one exception sufficiently accounted for by unavoidable difficulties of a private nature, Collectors' tours were generally adequate and the amount of inspection performed sufficient.

As regards Sub-divisional Officers' tour generally I have already noted in paragraph 1 (3) above the defect common to almost all, *viz.*, that they did not begin early enough to allow of a proper examination of kharif crops. During the month of the year when the kharif crops are standing and when it is really important that higher officers should get out and check the Mámíatdár's valuation hardly one did so. To this remark exception must be made in favour of Ahmednagar where, under orders from Mr. McNeill, Mr. MacMillan and the other Pránt officers went rapidly round their charges in October. It must be admitted that the restriction of the period spent at head-quarters may operate as a hardship, but when the correct appraisalment of the crops is a matter of such enormous importance, the private convenience of officers must, it is feared, give way to higher considerations.

Generally speaking the reports submitted show that the amount of inspection performed was adequate and the standard of 20 villages per mensem was generally maintained. In one or two cases the number visited was excessive,

the Sub-divisional Officer, W. D., Poona, for instance, showing as many as 8, 9 and 14 villages visited in one day. I cannot help feeling some anxiety as to whether the examination of boundary mark repairs is receiving as much attention as it should. In the eastern division of Poona it was examined in only one village: and in Haveli the Assistant Collector notes that boundary marks were not repaired until the end of May and up to the end of May not much work was done. With the Circle Inspectors busy with other work, repairs by means of a special staff seem the only effective system, as Mr. Sladen remarked of the Northern Division last year, and it is to be hoped that this expedient will be more generally tried in the Central Division this year. No tagái works at all were examined in the eastern or southern division of East Khándesh, and the amount of inspection of this nature performed in the western division of West Khándesh, in Haveli and in the eastern division of Poona was inadequate.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

Huzir Account office.—The accounts of all the Huzúr Treasuries in the Division were examined by the Collectors. No serious irregularities were discovered.

General Inspection.—All the Táluka and Mahál offices except the following were inspected by the Collectors:—

Office.	District.
Ron táluka	Dhárwár.
Siddápur táluka	Kánara.
Mandangad Petha	Ratnágiri.

The Sub-divisional Officers inspected all the Táluka and Mahál offices in their respective charges.

Though Mr. Kabraji spent as many as 173 days on tour, he was unable to visit more than 63 villages owing to indisposition in January and February 1911. With this exception the number of villages visited by Collectors and the number of days spent by them on tour were adequate.

The number of days spent in camps by the Sub-divisional Officers appears to be inadequate in the following cases:—

Charge.	Number of days.
C. D., Bijápur	138
S. D., Kolába	144
N. D., Ratnágiri	88
C. D., do.	108

The small amount of touring is due in the case of N. D., Ratnágiri, to the fact that the Huzúr Deputy Collector held the charge in addition to his own duties for two months during the touring season and in the other cases apparently to the fact that the head-quarter towns being situated within the charges, the Sub-divisional Officers concerned had to spend more days at head-quarters than other Sub-divisional Officers.

In a few cases the amount of inspection done by Sub-divisional Officers is insufficient in certain details, such as the inspection of schools, liquor and opium shops and tagái works, and the examination of the rayats' receipts, the record-of-rights, birth and death registers, etc. The Collectors have noticed such cases in their remarks on the sub-divisional reports. In some cases statistics of the inspection done have not been supplied by the Sub-divisional Officers on the ground that a record of the same has not been kept. In spite of these facts the inspection performed by these officers may be considered on the whole to be adequate and the administration by them of their several charges efficient.

All the Huzúr Account offices and five Mámlatdárs' offices were examined by this office; besides, a number of tálukas were visited where regular inspection of the offices was not done. The irregularities and the defects in the system of working noticed during the inspection of the Táluka offices were brought to the notice of the officers concerned.

2.—*Destruction, Indexing and Sorting of Records.*

Commissioner, Northern Division.

As the indexing and sorting of English records in the Sub-divisional and Táluka offices was hopelessly in arrears, Government were pleased to make a lump provision of Rs. 20,000 in the Budget Estimate for 1910-1911 for the entertainment of a special establishment for dealing with them. Work is progressing and in Kaira has already been finished.

Commissioner, Central Division.

It appears from the orders in paragraph 7 of Government letter No. 7919 of August 22nd, 1911, that Collectors are not required to report on the destruction and arranging of records unless there is anything of special interest to record. Consequently two Collectors only referred to the subject. Of these Mr. Mountford writes :—

“Two kárkúns in each kacheri are deputed for a month to work two hours in the morning before office hours daily and the result had been since I passed the orders in May last that 1,919 files have been sorted and 960 files indexed. This system will be continued until the work is complete. The English records up to 1857 are being sorted by the Assistant Collectors and myself on the lines indicated in Government Resolution, General Department, No. 3117, dated 24th May 1911.”

As a result of these orders a great deal of very useful work has been done, especially in Mr. Brayne's charge. In other districts Mr. Garrett (Nasik) devoted a great deal of time to clearing away useless records with very satisfactory results.

As a result of an examination of a number of kacheries I am of opinion that there are large quantities of vernacular records of dates anterior to 1857, which are merely cumbering the record rooms and which could be destroyed with advantage, and that until this has been done applications for the enlargement of record rooms should be sternly resisted. At the same time the classification of English records into A and B papers, requires early revision at the hands of a competent officer : the bulk of the papers now preserved for long periods is much larger than is necessary.

III.—Revenue Establishments, including Village Officers and Land Records Staff.

1.—*Land Revenue Staff.*

Commissioner, Northern Division.

During the year under report one Mámlatdár was dismissed for withholding information in connection with a murder case. He has since been granted a compassionate pension. A Mahálkari in the Ahmedabad district was convicted of bribery when Aval Kárkún in Daskroi. He was, however, acquitted on appeal and has been reinstated on the same pay in another office. In the Kaira district special efforts have been made to give the Collector an efficient staff of Mámlatdárs in view of the measures directed to the suppression of crime. The Collector also has been reforming the staff throughout the district. Changes have been made as seldom as possible elsewhere. Complaints about the difficulty of recruiting suitable men for the subordinate staff come from Ahmedabad, Surat and Thána. The initial wage of Rs. 15 offered is found low and School Final and Matriculated men are not easily obtainable. The reasons have been mentioned in previous reports and need not be repeated ; but it is, I fear, becoming apparent that the fixing of the maximum pay of the Lower Subordinate Service at Rs. 45, subject to exceptions, will make recruitment for that service very difficult. Mr. Anderson hopes to show that he can reduce his staff sufficiently to provide a minimum salary of Rs. 20. Complaints of insufficiency of establishment have been received from time to time, and the

strength has been increased where the stress is the greatest. The Daskroi Sub-divisional office and the Collector's office at Kaira have been recently strengthened, and proposals for strengthening the Hálol Mahálkari's office and the Collector's Account office at Kaira are before Government. The large demands for extra staff in the latter office will receive special attention shortly. Great relief has been given by the Deputy Collector who assists the Assistant Collector in charge Daskroi. Mr. Gandabhai was, among other things, given the control of the City Survey office during the Assistant Collector's absence on tour with excellent results. He detected 668 cases of encroachments in the suburban villages, 50 per cent. of which were on road lands. The large arrears connected with non-agricultural holdings near Ahmedabad have been very much reduced, but much still remains to be done.

The proposals for dividing the Daskroi táluka which were mentioned last year have been submitted to Government. Proposals for constituting the Umbergám mahál a táluka appear to be under consideration, but have not yet reached the Commissioner.

The appointment of two more First Class Honorary Magistrates will afford much needed relief to the City Magistrate, Ahmedabad. The post of Resident Magistrate at Nadiúd was created for six months. The magisterial work in the Kaira district is unusually heavy, and it is likely that this appointment will be needed for some time. The large number of appeals which the District Magistrate, Kaira, had to dispose of must add very seriously to his already heavy duties. The Sub-divisional Magistrates in Kaira, Surat and Thána took up some cases in relief of Táluka Magistrates. The work of the Subordinate Magistrates appears to have received due attention everywhere from Sub-divisional and District Magistrates.

Commissioner, Central Division.

Taking the year as a whole, the work done by the Land Revenue staff has been excellent. With the Imperial Census claiming a large portion of their time during the busiest part of the year, with the introduction of the new forms of account, and consequent revolutionizing of our revenue system, with the collection of arrears of revenue and tagái and the struggle with the contumacy of so many of the landholding classes the Revenue Officers have had a very heavy task, and have on the whole responded well to the calls made upon them. At the same time it is useless to deny that there is room for improvement. Complaints are heard everywhere of the increase in the volume of work, and of the undermanning of offices: and it is impossible to visit any kacheri without finding masses of vernacular correspondence, the disposal of which is unquestionably a heavy burden on the Mámlatdár and his staff. As a result, however, of close examination and of personal supervision of what is supposed to be the heaviest táluka in the division (Haveli) I am satisfied that, while work has increased, the volume is not beyond the powers of the establishment to cope with it, and that the general congestion is mainly due to want of system and intelligent supervision. The root of the trouble is correspondence in vernacular: and is not likely to cease until this is stopped. It will be at once objected that this cannot be done without increasing the number of English-knowing hands on the Mámlatdár's staff. There is force in this. The pay of the lower grade of the Mámlatdár's establishment is too low: and it is to be hoped that the scheme for revision submitted by the Commissioners will be introduced during the current year. But a great deal can be done with the staff as it is. What is wanted is improvement in the quality.

Turning to Magisterial work, I have had occasion to complain in almost every office of the disregard of the orders in Government Resolution, Judicial Department, No. 724, dated 5th February 1909; it is a common experience to find that one-half or even two-thirds of the criminal cases in the 2nd Class and 3rd Class Magistrates' calendar consist of trivial complaints of hurt and insult, that never ought to have come before a Court at all. If work were really as overpowering as Táluka officials make it out to be, it is difficult to believe that they would not have taken advantage of the relief that these orders give them.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

Mr. Desai, District Deputy Collector, N. D., Bijapur, repeats his request for an additional hand for his office. As remarked by the Collector, the question of the permanent retention of a third Sub-divisional Officer in the district is still under consideration.

The work of the Mámíatdárs has been generally favourably reported on with the following exceptions. In the Dhárwár district one Mámíatdár gave trouble, but he has gone on furlough preparatory to retirement. In the Ratnágiri district one Mámíatdár was reduced and another was warned. Mr. Cowan, Assistant Collector, S. D., Belgaum, remarks that the execution of Local Board works is dilatory and unsatisfactory, probably because they require more constant attention than Mámíatdárs can possibly give them. Maháلكaris and Head Kárkúns are reported to have worked well on the whole.

As regards the subordinate staff, Ráo Bahádur R. C. Artal, District Deputy Collector, N. D., Belgaum, suggests that the pay of the last grade of kárkún should be fixed at Rs. 25, while Mr. Mardhekar, District Deputy Collector, Sirsi Division, Kánara, observes that the recent rules dividing the sub-service into lower and upper grades have been considered as prejudicing the already scanty prospects of the existing service and men are always on the look-out for appointments in other departments such as the Forest, A'bkári, etc., and adds that an annual promotion of Rs. 2, so as to reach a maximum of Rs. 100 at end of 30 years' service, somewhat on the lines adopted for the Forest Department, would be a step in the right direction.

Mr. Maxwell, Assistant Collector, Kárwár Division, Kánara, remarks that pay for pay the kárkúns now recruited are less efficient than formerly.

The Collector of Kánara and both of his Sub-divisional Officers refer to the difficulty of inducing Revenue subordinates to serve in the above-Ghát tálukas, and Mr. Maxwell suggests that to remedy the evil it will be necessary either to make service for a stated period above-gháts a condition of promotion anywhere or to introduce a liberal local allowance in the tálukas in question. A somewhat similar proposal made by Mr. Swifte was, however, negatived by Government in their Resolution No. 2776, dated 20th July 1909, Financial Department.

There is a general complaint as to extra burden of work imposed on the tálukas by such items as—

- (1) Shetsanadi re-organization ;
- (2) Introduction of new Village Account Forms ;
- (3) Re-writing the Record-of-Rights and introduction of new forms in connection with them.

Mr. Desai, District Deputy Collector, Bijapur, raises the question of supply of an additional hand to the Mámíatdárs of Indi and Sindgi for doing Local Board work. This question was raised by one of his predecessors in 1907 and negatived by the then Commissioner, Mr. Drew. (Report for 1906-1907.)

Mr. Brendon complains of the difficulty felt in finding English-knowing candidates, while Mr. Haigh remarks that at times it becomes necessary to appoint as probationers persons of inferior abilities. In paragraph 6 of Government Resolution, Revenue Department, No. 8695, dated 15th September 1911, reviewing the Administration Reports of the previous year Government have admitted that the lower Revenue staff is overworked and underpaid and it remains to be seen how far the contemplated improvement in the pay of the Revenue subordinates will improve the prospects of the staff and attract better men.

2.—Land Records Staff.

Commissioner, Northern Division.

Mr. Chimanlal Dalpatram Kavi, probably the best District Inspector in the Division, was transferred to Ahmedabad after completing the survey for

the Godhra City Survey. Mr. Parekhji, who had been supervising the subdivision of survey numbers by plane table under the Collector of Surat, was deputed as Special Land Acquisition Officer for the Nadiád-Kapadvanj Railway. The Collectors generally express satisfaction with the District Inspectors' work. The Assistant District Inspector in Broach, however, had to be retired and severely punished.

Opinions appear to be considerably divided about the Circle Inspectors. From Thána district little is said in their favour except that two have been specially rewarded. The impression seems to be general that they have many duties and do not set about them methodically; and so have a plausible excuse for omissions and inferior work. In some districts the Census is found to have interfered with their regular duties; both in Broach and the Panch Maháls the repairs to boundary marks were postponed altogether and in Thána they were put off and only half done. Some Collectors think the repair of boundary marks should be relegated to a special staff. Mr. Anderson in Surat alludes to nothing but this part of their duties and has brought it to a high state of efficiency. Mr. Alcock, Assistant Collector, Dholka and Sánand, has been commended by the Collector of Ahmedabad for his exceptional pains in this behalf. Undoubtedly the repairs of boundary marks can be regularly and thoroughly done, but considerable driving power is required; probably when Circle Inspectors are relieved of an excess of measurement cases there should be no difficulty in their managing ordinary inspection and boundary marks, but intelligent supervision is very necessary.

The two Circle Inspectors, one temporary and the other permanent, sanctioned last year for clearing off heavy arrears of measurement cases and doing current non-agricultural measurement work in the Daskroi táluka of the Ahmedabad district, have been busily engaged during this year under Mr. Gandbahai.

Commissioner, Central Division.

The District Inspectors of Land Records are reported to have done sufficient work during the year. But with regard to this class of officers the remarks of Mr. R. G. Gordon, Superintendent, Land Records and Registration, Central Division, are interesting :—

“To a Superintendent coming from the Northern Division, it is surprising to find the large number of Circle Inspectors over whom one District Inspector has to keep supervision, *e. g.*—

Name.	Number of Circle Inspectors.			
East Khándesh 50
Násik 42
West Khándesh 35
Ahmednagar 33
Sátára 32
Poona 30
Sholápur 19

In these circumstances it is impossible for a District Inspector to achieve what they all seem to attempt to do now, *viz.*, to test the work of every Circle Inspector in the district during the year. A thorough test of, say, the work of half the number would be far more useful. It should be possible to arrange with Mámlatdárs to divide up the number of Circle Inspectors so that the District Inspector should test the work of one-half and the Mámlatdárs of the other half. Experience shows clearly enough that the Mámlatdárs by no means do their proper share in test of the Land Records work of their Circle Inspectors. One result of attempting to do too much inspection work is that the General Deputy Inspector, who in the Northern Division is and rightly a measurer pure and simple employed on difficult cases, is in the Central Division engaged largely on test work of measurement cases which should properly speaking be done by the District Inspector himself.”

In this I thoroughly agree. Half the trouble with Circle Inspectors is due to the fact that their superiors do not exact work. Few Mámlatdárs insist on their Circle Inspectors returning to head-quarters on any fixed dates or on their reporting themselves when they do. Few even trouble to enquire whether the Circle Inspector's excuses for short work are or are not genuine. It is hardly a matter for surprise that the results are inferior.

District.	Táluka.	
Poona	... { Mulshi Peta in Haveli.	The measurement of sub-divisions of survey numbers was carried out in the tálukas noted in the margin.
	... { Mával.	
Násik	... { Sinnar.	
	... { Dindori.	
Sátára	... Pátan.	
Ahmednagar	... Shrigonda.	
Sholápur	... { Karmála.	
	... { Pandharpur.	
West Khándesh	... Sháháda.	
East Khándesh	... Jalgaon, Bhadgaon Petha in Páchora Táluka.	

Commissioner, Southern Division.

The District Inspectors are all well reported on.

As for the Circle Inspectors, Mr. Brendon says that he gave a minimum pay of Rs. 25 to graduate and Rs. 20 to non-graduate Inspectors and he is satisfied with the work done by the men employed on these conditions. The other reports do not mention what pay was given but they all notice that the Circle Inspectors with a few exceptions did their work fairly well during the year.

Reports about the Circle Inspectors recruited from the Taláthi class are varied. In the Kolába district all new appointments of Circle Inspectors were conferred on competent taláthis; while in the Dhárwár district while one Sub-Divisional Officer (Mr. Namjoshi) thinks that the promoted taláthi would make a far better Circle Inspector than the Revenue Kárkún, another Sub-Divisional Officer (Mr. Dalal) considers that the former has not proved at all satisfactory and must remain far less reliable than the latter.

Boundary Marks.

This work was suspended in Kánara and Ratnágiri on account of the

	Number of villages selected.	Number of villages done.	
Belgaum	125	104	special Census and Record-of-Rights revision work. In the other districts also it was not done according to the fixed* programme.
Bijápur	134	10	
Dhárwár	122	109	
Kolába	187	75	

The imposition of penal rates for repairs done by Circle Inspectors has had a good effect on the rayats. In the Belgaum district about two-thirds of the marks out of repairs are reported to have been put in order by the rayats themselves.

Complaints are rife against the new system of effecting repairs to boundary marks that it puts enormous power in the hands of the Circle Inspectors for mischief and pecculation. It is true that a Circle Inspector can barass rayats by rejecting the work of repair done by them and getting it re-done by his contractor or asserting in collusion with the contractor that such work was actually done by him and not by the rayats. As remarked by Mr. MacGregor, it is, however, difficult to prove whether the apathetic villager or the alleged corrupt Circle Inspector is to blame. With proper supervision on the part of the superior officers, as laid down in rule 11 of the Instructions for the Maintenance and Repair of Boundary Marks, the abuse of the power by the Circle Inspector can, however, be minimised, while no other system will give

better results. Mr. Brendon's observations on this subject are interesting and the Commissioner agrees with him that the present system does not press hard upon land-holders or that they quietly submit to extensive extortion.

Under the existing rules the Collector has power to order the change of dates suggested in Mr. Namjoshi's report regarding the time of notice to be given to the rayats for effecting repairs themselves.

Measurement Cases.

The following table shows the total number of cases received and disposed of during the year in this Division :—

District.	Opening balance.	Fresh cases received.	Total.	Disposed of.	Balance.
Belgaum	214	458	672	519	153
Bijápur	322	255	577	325	252
Dhárwár	196	210	406	236	170
Kánara	201	295	496	169	327
Kolába	73	172	245	120	125
Ratnágiri	257	112	369	333	36

Three special Circle Inspectors were employed under the direct supervision of the District Inspector in Ratnágiri and the balance was therefore materially reduced there. In the Belgaum district six temporary measurers paid at daily rates were employed and the arrears were somewhat reduced by this means. The Superintendent of Land Records and Registration condemns the Belgaum system on the ground that temporary men are less amenable to discipline than permanent hands. The system adopted in the Bijápur district of entrusting all the measurement cases of the whole táluka to one Circle Inspector and relieving him of other work is said to be working well and is being gradually introduced into the other districts also. The chief difficulty lies, however, in finding a sufficient supply of good survey-trained measurers.

3.—Village Officers.

Commissioner, Northern Division.

The following table shows the punishments inflicted on patels and talátis during the year :—

Name of the district.	Patels.			Talátis.		
	Total number.	Number suspended.	Number dismissed.	Total number.	Number suspended.	Number dismissed.
Ahmedabad	578	5	4	243	5	...
Kaira	611	18	9	329	4	...
Panch Maháls	760	1	1	130	...	...
Broach	544	10	...	227	4	...
Surat	784	11	3	408	2	1
Thána	1,685	8	4	317	1	4
Total	4,962	53	21	1,654	16	5

Fining in the case of talátis was resorted to only in the Daskroi táluka of the Ahmedabad district where three talátis were fined for absenting themselves from their villages. The attention of the officer concerned has been drawn to the Government orders forbidding it. Absence from their charge is a common failing of this class of servants.

The number of punishments is normal. The percentage of suspensions and dismissals in the case of patels works out respectively to 1 and .4 per cent., while in the case of talátis it comes to .9 and .3 per cent. In Kaira the dismissals numbered 9, a percentage of 1.5, mainly on account of concealment of crime. There were five cases of embezzlement of Cattle Pound receipts in the Thána district which resulted in the prosecution of 4 patels and 1 taláti. In the Surat district one taláti committed suicide on finding that defalcations were suspected in his village. He had embezzled upwards of Rs. 700 of Government money, and the whole of it was recovered under section 26 of the Land Revenue Code. Thirteen patels were prosecuted, some for embezzlement of Government money and the others for suppressing crimes. Generally speaking special powers under the Village Police Act have been exercised satisfactorily by Police patels.

Rewards in cash and in the shape of shawls, pagrees, shelas and silver anklets were given for approved service to talátis, patels and other inferior servants in all districts except Broach and Thána where lists have been prepared and sanctioned, but presentation is deferred till the cold weather. The increasing difficulty of finding or keeping 'Vethias' or 'pagis' to serve on their present remuneration is alluded to in the Ahmedabad district. Throughout the Division they are a deserving body of servants from whom much is expected for a trifling remuneration.

The recent orders of Government which have further improved the position of talátis by admitting their service in the lowest grade to pension on the superior scale and by extending to them the concession of leave and travelling allowance allowed to superior servants have been received with general satisfaction. Over the greater part of the Division officers expressed themselves pleased with their work.

The enquiry into the status of patels in the Eastern Mahál of the Panch Maháls district has been nearly completed.

Commissioner, Central Division.

The following statement shows the percentage of punishments inflicted on the village officers :—

	Pátils.		Kulkarni.	
	Suspended.	Dismissed.	Suspended.	Dismissed.
Ahmednagar	2.37	.13	4.98	.97
East Khándesh	1.4	.08	3.2	.27
West Khándesh	1.2	...	3.3	.9
Násik	2.0	.5	6.0	.9
Poona	2.3	.4	4.5	1.2
Sátára	1.08	.17	3.55	.52
Sholápur	2.7	.3	4.4	.1

All districts except Sátára show a record of prosecutions of village officers for various offences, misappropriation of Government money being the most prominent. The sifting of responsibility for arrears of revenue due to the introduction of the new forms of account has been the cause of the discovery of a number of shortcomings on the part of kulkarnis. I have not much to add as regards our watandár village system to what I have said in my last report. My experience during the year only confirms my strong conviction that the sooner the Taláti system is gradually introduced and the watandár kulkarnis treated in the same way as the Deshmukhs and Deshpandes the better for our administration.

Rewards for good work were granted to village officers and servants in all districts except East Khándesh. Mr. Simcox reserved the grant of such rewards for a general darbar during the rains.

Survey classes of village accountants were not held during the year in accordance with the orders contained in Government Resolution No. 3328, dated 1st April 1911.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

The following statement shows the punishments inflicted on Village Officers in the Southern Division :—

District.	Kulkarnis including talátis and shanbhogs.				Pátils.			
	Total number.	Number fined.	Number suspended.	Number dismissed.	Total number.	Number fined.	Number suspended.	Number dismissed.
Belgaum	728	..	16	11	1,187	...	18	4
Bijápnr	771	...	35	5	1,269	...	38	5
Dhárwár	876	...	36	3	1,528	...	46	5
Kánara	307	...	8	6	903	...	9	7
Kolába	227	...	3	...	1,774	1	18	7
Ratnágiri	298	...	3	1	1,312	...	14	6
Total	3,207	...	101	26	7,963	1	143	34
1909-10* ... ..	...	22	71	22	...	30	94	21

(* Exclusive of the figures for the III Division, Dhárwár, in which three village officers were dismissed, 28 suspended and 2 were fined.)

It will be seen that a larger number of village officers were punished during the year under report. As regards the punishment of a patil with fine in the Kolába district, the attention of the Collector will be drawn to the orders contained in paragraph 8 of Government Resolution No. 9241, dated 24th September 1909. Out of 18 patils and 12 kulkarnis who were prosecuted for criminal offences, 10 patils and 4 kulkarnis were convicted, 3 patils and 2 kulkarnis were acquitted and 5 patils and 6 kulkarnis were under trial at the end of the year. Difficulty is reported to be felt in getting watandars to serve as kulkarnis in their own watans in the Khánápur taluka of the Belgaum district. Mr. Brown considers the Village Officers' work as on the whole satisfactory. Mr. Shannon, Assistant Collector, Southern Division, Bijápnr, remarks that the district will continue to be corrupt so long as the watan system continues and so long as deputies who receive the potgi or perhaps a small part of it are allowed to be appointed and so long as the village officers are paid as they are now. Mr. Hiremath, District Deputy Collector, Bijápnr, Central Division, says that there was a temporary fall in the extortion and illegal levy of blackmail on the part of the village officers. He further adds that he made an attempt to force the watandars to serve in person as far as possible. Mr. Desai is of opinion that the spread of education and firm but sympathetic treatment will go a long way towards improving the tone of these officers, who are not deaf or averse to persuasion or advice except in rare cases. Mr. Turner suggests that section 45 of the Watan Act should be so amended as to authorise the Collector to disqualify a man once appointed for inefficiency and bad work without having recourse to section 58 of the Act. The suggestion in other words amounts to the delegation of powers to Collectors for removing officiators without the sanction of Government which was negatived by Government in their Resolution No. 6189—128-C. of 20th June 1908. Mr. Haigh and his two Sub-Divisional officers refer to the inadequacy of the establishment and pay of inferior village servants (Ugranis). The Collector will be asked to make a separate report on the subject. A re-arrangement of sazas in the Mahád taluka in order to adjust the pay to the work is under consideration. As regards patels, Mr. Husbands remarks that the quality of officiators is low and adds that great difficulty is experienced in finding any one at all to serve as Mahars. Mr. Jayakar ascribes the poor quality of the patels to want of education and insufficiency of emoluments, and suggests that the emoluments should be greatly increased

or lands given to them and attached to their watans and that a Patel Boarding School in connection with the Neral Katkari scheme might be started wherein a beginning might be made with Karjat patels. This is a proposal which requires careful consideration before any opinion can be given as to its feasibility and this should have formed a subject of a separate reference. In Ratnágiri the talátis are considered as fairly efficient and japtidars as indifferent and unsatisfactory.

Rewards in the shape of turbans, gold rings, silver bangles and cash were given to Village Officers and inferior village servants to the extent noted below :—

District.	Kulkarnis.	Patels.	Sanadis, Walikars, Ugranis.	Mahara.
Belgaum	7	13 (One was given a gun.)	5	1
Bijápur		21	3	.....
Dhárwár	9	18	1	.....
Kánara ... ..	.....	5	2	.....
Kolába ... ..	.....	3	.....	.....
Ratnágiri	8	11	.....	Mahárs in one village.

The work of the patels exercising special powers under the Village Police Act is reported to have been on the whole done fairly well. The powers of two* of them were however withdrawn during the year.

*Of one in Kánara and of one in Ratnágiri.

Extracts.

CENTRAL DIVISION.

L. C. Swifte, Esq., Collector, Poona.

It is becoming more and more evident year by year that the old patriarchal type of village officer has now become an anachronism. The remark applies especially to Watan-dár Kulkarnis who have to deal with a complicated system of revenue accounts, to say nothing of the numerous technical or semi-technical miscellaneous duties they are expected to perform. Increased efficiency in the revenue administration should be preceded by increased efficiency in the village staff; but the process has been inverted. In not a few cases great difficulty has been experienced in getting suitable substitutes to officiate for suspended village officers, especially kulkarnis. It is easy to understand why this should be the case. When a kulkarni is suspended for, say, three months because of neglect to write up his village accounts it is but little punishment to him to retire from the scene and let a substitute, if one can be got, work hard and at a great disadvantage for the period of suspension in the hope of evolving order out of chaos. Presuming that a suitable substitute can be got and that his efforts have been successful as soon as he has set matters more or less aright he has to retire in favour of his incompetent predecessor; as well as to bear in many cases local odium as a supplanter of the defaulting watan-dár. Even high rates of remuneration in irrigated villages have failed to attract candidates in such circumstances.

A. F. L. Brayne, Esq., Assistant Collector, Sátára.

With regard to the work of inferior village servants I need only refer to what I have said last year, that the work yearly grows more unsatisfactory. The unrest of the times is upon them: they are indifferent, an indifference accentuated by the tendency of the higher classes to withhold *baluta* and by the vision of the prosperity of their kindred, who, not being bound down to village service, can repair to Bombay, enjoy life and return with accumulated earnings far in advance of the village doles. But one cannot but admire many of these low-caste servants who do a vast deal of Government work unobtrusively and without great return.

4.—*Measurement of sub-divisions.*

Commissioner, Northern Division.

The training of talátis in survey has been suspended under the orders of Government. About 76 per cent. of the talátis have been nominally trained to survey.

No regular survey parties were formed for sub-division of survey numbers. This will be undertaken subsequently. Meanwhile Mr. Anderson has personally trained a staff of talátis and Circle Inspectors to measure the sub-divisions of Bárdoli taluka with the plane table and is enthusiastic regarding its superiority over the chain and cross staff. The cost at 6½ annas per sub-division, including a map for each owner, and a large amount of additional useful survey done incidentally are both noticeable features of what has been achieved; and I hope he may be allowed to continue it.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

No classes were held during the year for the training of village accountants in survey.

The work of measurement of sub-divisions progressed appreciably in the Dhárwár and Bijápur districts, 1,956 sub-divisions having been measured in the former and 9,046 in the latter district. In Kánara only 22 sub-divisions were measured by survey-trained shanbhogs. A scheme is being elaborated by the Settlement Commissioner for the systematic carrying out of this work immediately after the amendment of section 9 of the Record-of-Rights Act is passed.

IV.—*Special Matters.*

1.—*Record-of-Rights.*

Commissioner, Northern Division.

The introduction of the Record has been completed with few exceptions everywhere. Talukdári villages in Gujarát have their own settlement register the preparation of which is progressing and it was decided during the year that Talukdári wantas should have settlement registers and not records of rights prepared for them, previous orders being modified.

The re-writing of the record in the new forms was begun in all districts of the Division except Kaira and Thána. In the Panch Maháls it was completed except the Tenancy Register which could not be introduced on account of the failure of crops and the large waste area. In Kaira the record is now complete but the re-writing which was to have been begun in June was postponed on account of the season. The re-writing has been done everywhere without appreciable difficulty. In Thána alone has the suggestion been adopted of re-writing piecemeal and there one circle in each taluka will be taken up annually. In future this method will probably be found more convenient everywhere.

In Bhágdári villages of the Broach and Kaira districts there are certain complications which render a slightly modified form necessary: this has still to be devised.

The Record is reported to have been well written and maintained in the Gujarát districts, and it is evident that much care was expended on having mistakes corrected and entries made complete and accurate before re-writing. Mr. Husbands in Thána appears to have paid special attention to it, but unfortunately he had left the charge he held in the touring season, and his successor's report is silent on the subject. All reports give eminently satisfactory testimony to the accuracy of the Record. Thána is an exception where the original preparation was badly done in Bassein and Sálsette.

Reports are unanimous in asserting that the land owners themselves have learnt to regard the Record as valuable; the abandonment of the khatedar in favour of the kabjedar in the revenue records has undoubtedly been responsible for this; still the acquisition of rights is not always reported.

The new village forms have been introduced in all tálukas of the Broach and Surát districts and in all except 4 tálukas in Ahmedabad, 2 in Kaira and 3 in Thána. In the Páñch Maháls in Halol only are the new forms in use. Elsewhere the famine interfered with their introduction.

Commissioner, Central Division.

The Record of Rights had been completed previously in all Government villages in the Division, except a few in the Poona district. During the year the record was announced in the remaining villages of Poona. The Record of all sharakati villages in Ahmednagar and some sharakati and saranjám villages in the Násik district has been compiled. The initial Record was introduced in several inám villages of the Sirur táluka in Poona and in one inám village in Sátára; and the work in two more inám villages in the latter district has commenced. The rewriting of the Record is progressing in East Khándesh and Sátára and was completed in three tálukas of West Khándesh; owing to the non-receipt of the revised forms in time the work of rewriting could not be taken up in Sholápur, although four tálukas were due during the year. As regards the mutation registers they are reported to have been kept up to date in the Poona and Násik districts. The condition of things is, however, not so satisfactory in Sátára and Sholápur, and the ordinary kulkarni is reported to find it difficult to understand what is really required and consequently lags behind. A manual of rules on the subject is badly wanted and is now under preparation by the Land Records officers.

The importance of the record of rights is rising in the estimation of the people; and with it, its accuracy. Mistakes of course will continue to be found especially in districts like Poona and Sátára, where the original survey numbers are large and there is much sub-division. But the new forms have been introduced; the record is now the basis of the administration and no one would think of reverting to the old "khatedár" regime.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

The Record, as remarked last year, has been completed for the Government villages throughout the Division. It was promulgated in three villages of the Ratnágiri district which were originally Khoti, but having lapsed to Government were brought under the operation of the Record-of-Rights Act during the year; while in six 'sharakati' villages in the same district the rough copy only was ready. The preparation of the Record for the agricultural areas situated within Municipal limits sanctioned by Government last year was also in progress in that district.

Revision of the Record with a view to its being re-written in the new forms was carried out throughout the greater part of the Division; but the re-writing was done only in some tálukas, the non-receipt of the new forms from the Central Press having interfered with this work elsewhere.

Numerous mistakes in the original Record have been brought to light by the introduction of the new village accounts system under which the kabjedar is made the khatedar and held responsible for the assessment of the land shown against his name in the Record. The new accounts system has thus become a useful check on the accuracy of the Record and helped to secure its popularity among the rayats who, there is ample evidence in these reports, have learned to be more keen upon having wrong entries thus forcibly brought to their notice corrected. Mr. Brander mentions that in his district the Record is very inaccurate especially on account of permanent tenants, whose families have lived in the land for generations and whose landlords have never tried to raise the rents, having been entered as annual tenants merely because they could not produce evidence of title and had passed annual rent notes to landlords. Another main reason assigned for inaccuracy of the Record in this district is

that the position and boundaries of warkas lands which are cultivated only at intervals are not known to the owner and therefore entries of ownership are wrongly made. As for tenancies the difficulties will be removed when the Record is prepared in the new form, as all entries regarding tenancies will be relegated to I-D, Part II. As for warkas lands the inaccuracies can be set right only as they are brought to notice in course of time. The enormous extent of minute sub-divisions has not interfered with the introduction of the new village account forms in the coast talukas of the Kánara district, where they, on the contrary, helped to make the Record more correct than it originally was. The Collector of Ratnágiri will therefore be asked to reconsider his decision to postpone the introduction of the new account forms in his district until after the Record is revised and re-written in the new forms.

Mr. Wiles, the Superintendent of Land Records and Registration, Southern Division, is of opinion that the new account forms should be introduced after the measurement of sub-divisions is done and suggests that in the Konkan the introduction of the new forms should be postponed till then. The Commissioner, however, agrees with the opinion of Mr. Husband, Assistant Collector, Kolába, who says that interest in the Record cannot be aroused and accuracy cannot be secured until it is made practical use of by basing the land revenue demand on it, and that till then it must remain to be regarded as a statistical incubus.

The new account forms have now been revised again and Government have sanctioned their introduction experimentally in selected groups of villages in each district before they are adopted finally everywhere.

The need for preparing a compilation of all the orders relating to the duties of village officers in connection with the Record-of-Rights has been touched upon in several reports. The Settlement Commissioner has now issued instructions in English and vernacular translations have been supplied to all the districts. This will remove the complaint.

The system of giving free copies of extracts from the Record-of-Rights has been working unsatisfactorily, especially in the coast districts, and the Commissioner has recently issued a circular to the Collectors, Southern Division, asking them to stop the giving of free extracts, and will address Government on the subject after he has consulted the other Commissioners.

Extracts.

NORTHERN DIVISION.

F. G. H. Anderson, Esquire, Collector, Surat.

The measurement and mapping of all the sub-divisions in Bárdoli taluka and in Válad mahál (except 10 villages which remain to be completed) was carried out during the year. Each holder now has or will receive during the next few weeks a correct map on a large scale of all his shares and also a copy of the village ledger in Form VB showing the revenue due from him and all his holding in detail. The provisions of the Registration Act requiring a map of the land to be appended to all sale-deeds, mortgages, etc., have been applied to Bárdoli.

SOUTHERN DIVISION.

C. W. A. Turner, Esquire, Assistant Collector, Dhárwár.

In this work as in other village work the chief difficulty here is found to be the inefficiency of the kulkarni. It is impossible to expect a man who will probably only officiate five years to go to the trouble which must be taken if the Record-of-Rights is to be satisfactorily maintained. Every fifth year in every village where there are hereditary kulkarnis the Record must suffer. More often than not the new accountant is a raw hand with no experience as to the manner in which entries should be made, or knowledge of the provisions of the Act or the rules. The result is that in many villages the kulkarnis do not trust themselves to make any entries in the Record at all except under the Circle Inspector's immediate supervision, and that, of course, means delay, with the result that the Record is never up to date.

V. K. Namjoshi, Esquire, Deputy Collector, Dhárwár.

Inspecting officers find it difficult to get the rayats to attend the chavdi in large numbers. What with the rise in wages and the keenness of the struggle for existence the rayats are heard to complain of their inability to attend the chavdi every time an officer comes to check the Record-of-Rights and even in villages people have come to realise that "time is money." This is significant of the fast changing times. The supervision which inspecting officers can give can only supplement the interest the rayats take in the record ; it can never wholly replace the latter.

2.—*Non-alienable Tenure.*

Commissioner, Northern Division.

The area of land held on the "restricted tenure" in each district at the beginning and end of the year was as follows :—

District.					Area at the beginning of the year.	Area at the end of the year.	
1					2	3	
					Acres.	Acres.	
Ahmedabad	...	...	...	...	106,507	104,067
Kaira	...	...	...	...	76,733	76,534
Panch Maháls	...	...	...	...	168,861	168,868
Broach	...	...	...	...	27,678	27,815
Surat	...	...	...	...	36,331	36,334
Thána	...	...	...	...	3,853	3,864
Total					...	419,563	417,482

The figures shown in column 3 (area at the end of the year) of the last year's table against Kaira, Surat and Thána are reported to be wrong and the correct figures are now given by the Collector as shown in column 2 above.

Instances of breach of the tenure do not appear to have been numerous, and it is worth noticing that mention is made in Broach reports of efforts to make agriculturists, and even Mámldárs, understand that sanction to reasonable alienations, such as dealings between cultivators and mortgagees for small and necessary loans, will be readily given. The tenure has been misunderstood and the indiscriminate enforcement of penalties that have followed breach of the condition has helped to foster this misunderstanding. It is hoped that a proper conception of the tenure is gradually gaining ground ; from Broach there comes remarkable evidence of the high prices paid for occupancy of restricted tenure land. But a large proportion of the land held on this tenure seems to be near the margin of cultivation, and it is not a matter for much surprise that it is frequently relinquished after a year or two, and that as a general rule a very small, if any, occupancy price can be obtained. Mr. Alcock writes :—

"Mámldárs still do not quite like this land as security for takávi, as they have not grasped the need of discriminating between cases where the land is really good land and cases where it is too poor to justify a reasonable expectation that the loan will be recovered."

This sentence contains a warning to those Mámldárs who are inclined to accept land as security for tagai merely because it contains so many acres without any enquiry as to its market value.

Commissioner, Central Division.

The area of land resettled on the restricted tenure with occupants was only 436 acres : 15,270 acres of unoccupied land were given out on this tenure ; and 5,621 acres were resumed by Government or resigned by the holders. The land

held on the new tenure at the end of the year comes to 418,545 acres, nearly three-fourths of these lands belonging to West Khándesh, the Collector of which district remarks as follows:—

“Persons holding land on the restricted tenure do not command the same amount of credit as those holding on the ordinary survey tenure, but comparative weakness has not tended in any way to check agricultural operations. The holders of land on the new tenure can get tagái in proportion to the occupancy price paid by them for the land on the security of which tagái is given and sávkárs advance money on the security of crop; so that for all practical purposes they have quite enough credit for their immediate wants.

“This tenure is gaining in popularity specially among backward classes. In the western sub-division well-to-do agriculturists are not slow in taking advantage of it. The sávkárs naturally look down on it.”

Personally I doubt whether the tenure is growing in popularity. Applications for land on this tenure are generally prompted, as one Assistant Collector remarks, from a belief that it will be more readily granted in this way, or, as another puts it, from the same motive as a school-boy, who asks for leave of absence, does so on the score of attending a religious service. The orders in Government Resolution No. 599 of 19th January 1912 now make it clear that the tenure is designed for the wild tribes, depressed classes and cultivators known to be backward and improvident, and now that this has been definitely laid down, there will be no scope for misunderstanding. Even with these restrictions, however, it will be necessary to apply the tenure with caution. During the past year a case came before me, owing to the difference of opinion between the Collector of West Khándesh and his *locum tenens* which related to the disposal of a plot of inferior *padit* land some few miles from Dhulia. The former was anxious to dispose of it to the local Bhils on three times the assessment. I visited the village in January, when employers of labour in Dhulia were offering 8 annas a day for cooly labour and found the whole Bhil population sitting at home doing nothing. I eventually ordered half the land (102 acres) to be sold by auction: the price bid was Rs. 13,375. If the Collector's proposal had been carried out Government would have lost nearly Rs. 13,000 and the only persons who would have benefited would have been a number of inferior cultivators who would have been equally well employed working for other people. I certainly agree with what Mr. Cowie says:—

“Land on this tenure is usually given to poor and backward people and I have come to the opinion that the less given the better. The two problems of Khándesh are fodder and labour, and any increase of bad cultivation increases these difficulties. If Bhils and Tadvis want to live honest lives, they can easily earn enough by labour. Only in villages close to large grazing areas, and to persons who already have some land and bullocks, should land be given out on this tenure.”

Commissioner, Southern Division.

The area held on the restricted tenure at the beginning of the year inclusive of 1,957 acres on account of areas of holdings entered on this tenure in lapsed khoti villages in the Ratnágiri district was 29,605 acres. The area of unoccupied land given out for cultivation on this tenure during the year was 5,326 acres; the area re-settled with the occupants was 1,182, out of which 875 acres in the Ratnágiri district were on account of *sheri* lands in the Vengurla taluka resettled with the old occupants on this tenure under Government Resolution No. 12397, dated 23rd December 1909; while the area resumed by Government or resigned by the holders was 1,178 acres. Thus at the end of the year there were 34,935 acres of land in the Division under the new tenure. Of this total, more than three-fourths is in the above-ghat districts. Mr. Kabraji is unable to express any definite opinion about the light in which it is viewed by the agriculturists and money-lenders. Mr. Brander doubts the necessity of the tenure in Government villages where he adds that the cultivators are able to look after their own interests. Mr. Mardhekar, District Deputy Collector, Kánara, suggests that in

view of scarcity of labour in the above-ghat talukas of Kánara and the fact of a large portion of cultivable land lying fallow that the conditions of the tenure should be modified in such a way that letting on annual lease should not be considered as "alienation." The concession, he adds, is necessary to popularize this tenure among the self-cultivating and non-cultivating class, who may care to go in for it. The tenure though not popular with the well-to-do farmers or money-lenders is appreciated by those for whom it is meant. While Mr. Brendon remarks that money-lenders do not refuse to grant small loans to persons holding lands on this tenure, Rao Bahadur Artal says that sávkárs are not disposed to lend money on the security of lands held on this tenure.

Some cases of breach of the tenure are reported from the Bijápur, Dhárwár and Kánara districts. The cases in the two first-named districts were under enquiry, while in the last named district in one case the occupancy was changed to one on ordinary tenure and in the remaining six cases the lands were forfeited.

The reports show that the credit of the holders of land on this tenure is less than of those holding lands on the ordinary tenure, but the weakened credit nowhere tended to check the agricultural operations.

Return of lands given out on the restricted tenure in the Southern Division for the year 1910-1911.

District.	Total area under the restricted tenure on 1st August 1910.	Area of lands resettled on limited tenure with the occupants during 12 months ending 31st July 1911.	Unoccupied lands given out on limited tenure during the 12 months ending 31st July 1911.	Totals of columns 3 and 4.	Area of lands resumed or resigned during the year.	Total area under the restricted tenure on 31st July 1911. Column 2 plus 5 minus Column 6.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Belgaum ...	5,041*	48	1,683	1,731	891	5,881	* Corrected figure.
Bijápur ...	11,640*	223	1,851	2,074	29	13,686	
Dhárwár ...	7,074*	32	1,580	1,612	44	8,642	
Kánara ...	3,771*	.....	210	210	214	3,767	
Kolába ...	38	.....	2	2	...	40	
Ratnágiri ...	84	875	.....	875	...	959	
	1,957†	4	.....	4	...	1,961	† Vide Government Resolution No. 5386 of 1st June 1906.
Total ...	29,605	1,182	5,326	6,508	1,178	34,935	

3.—Others.

(i) Dekkhan Agriculturists' Relief Act.

Commissioner, Northern Division.

Opposite opinions are expressed regarding conciliators. They have heard large numbers of petitions and in Ahmedabad and Panch Maháls about 25 per cent. have been settled by kabuliats. Figures of settlements effected are not given from other districts. It is a fact that one result is greater unwillingness on the part of the sávkár to finance agriculturists, but this is probably not to be lamented. Good security offered will invariably find lenders. I have no reason at present to alter my opinion that as a body the conciliators have done and are doing much useful work and are proud of the confidence placed in them.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

It is very difficult to decide whether the operations of this Act are beneficial or the reverse. Agriculturists certainly do not complain against it

while the *sávkárs* universally do; but the would-be borrower certainly find his credit impaired and can only borrow on terms that are more stringent than before. The benefits expected from conciliation have not been realized and the conciliators generally are looked upon with suspicion and distrust. On the other hand some benefit is obtained from the increased power of enquiry with which the judges have been invested.

Extracts.

SOUTHERN DIVISION.

B. A. Brendon, Esquire, Collector, Belgaum.

The Act has undoubtedly proved of great use to agriculturists, though the work of the conciliators has frequently been useless and sometimes corrupt. Most of the conciliators have been removed from office. As agent of the Court of Wards I have personal experience of the highly beneficial results which can be obtained from the Act.

The statistics lend no support to the theory that the Act has forced landholders to sell land to a larger extent than before. Not only were sales by agriculturists to non-agriculturists in the year under report fewer than in any of the preceding seven years but mortgages, both with and without possession, by agriculturists to non-agriculturists also exhibited the same striking result.

P. B. Haigh, Esquire, Collector, Kánara.

The appointment of conciliators is regarded with suspicion by every one: and only five have been appointed. At least one of these—Mr. Nilekani Mangesh Rao of Sirsi—has done excellent work which has been much appreciated: but everything depends on the personality of the conciliator, and it is unhappily rare to find persons who command universal confidence.

(ii) *Other Special Acts.*

Khoti Act.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

Mr. Brander writes as follows on the working of the Khoti Act:—

“The settlement of cash in place of grain rents progressed. The sub-joined table shows the year's work in this respect:

No. of applications for disposal.	Number disposed of.	Number outstanding.
3,793	3,025	768

Most applications were decided on the basis of mutual consent, standard multiple and average money value being awarded in few cases. The strained relations between khots and their tenants are somewhat improving as both sides are getting familiar with the new position brought about by the amended Act of 1904. The year brought no cases of personal violence or boycott of khots by tenants as in previous years. Under the commuted rents the tenants know to a certainty what they are to pay from year to year and are thus protected from arbitrary exactions. The tenants are also more independent than they were. They find cash rents more convenient than crop-share rents, as they can easily pay the former from the earnings of labour in Bombay and dispose of the grain thus saved, to the best advantage. The khots complain of the growing independence of the tenants and their unwillingness to render free labour, and complain of the High Court extending by case law the power of the tenant to alienate. The process is one of the gradual conversion of a class of serfs, allowed formerly by the khots little more than their maintenance, into

independent peasant proprietors or permanent tenants not liable to eviction or increase of rent.

A growing tendency of the khots to persuade ignorant tenants to relinquish their lands to the khots in return for inadequate consideration has been noticed and needs to be firmly checked. It will probably be necessary in time to legislate prohibiting entirely such resignation or transfer to khots even for substantial consideration. I have ordered that no such transfer is to be recognized and entered in the revenue records without the strictest inquiry into the *bond fides*."

Mr. Hardy's remarks are also interesting. He writes as follows :—

"There are 226 khoti villages in the sub-division, of which 55 were under attachment during the year under report. The proportion of attached villages tends to increase, since the increasing division of the khotkis into smaller and smaller shares makes it more and more difficult for the sub-sharers to agree on a nominee for the post of managing khot. It is not unusual to find a khot whose share is less than 1/500th part of the whole khotki applying for the management. The selling, mortgaging and sub-dividing of the khotkis is rapidly reaching a stage when fresh legislation will become necessary, since the aggregate of the litigation whose subject matter is khoti rights must form a very large fraction of the total work of the Civil Courts here. I have gathered that an impression exists among the khots as a class that Government intend ultimately to exchange their khoti rights for small inam holdings. This impression to a large extent was based on the fact that when the Khoti Settlement Act of 1880 was framed no restriction was imposed on the alienation and sub-division of khotki. In corroboration of this statement I may cite the case of dhara villages, where the tenants pay only survey assessment. In many of these the khots continue to collect the land revenue though they get no profit from it, except in the very rare cases of lands lapsing to them through want of heirs or failure to pay rent.

Cash commutation continues to be a popular measure. During the year 361 crop-share rents were commuted into cash payments, under my orders as Recording Officer. 206 applications were dismissed owing to the tenants being unwilling to pay cash rent calculated on the basis of evidence produced by the khots. In a few cases commutations were effected on the application of the khots; in all of these the rents paid by the tenants were very low, but such cases are uncommon. In the majority of cases where evidence was produced by the khots (and probably also in many cases where they failed to produce evidence) the tenants had been paying in kind more, and often a good deal more, than three times the assessment. This shows that either rents are high or assessments low. I think that both deductions may safely be made, since cultivators in khoti are generally very poor, whereas ordinary tenants in Government villages are not poor as a rule. In some villages the khots and rayats have agreed on cash commutation without having recourse to the Recording Officer. It is doubtful in many of these cases whether the rayats have not bargained away their occupancy rights, but it is not generally easy to find out the real circumstances. Such agreements are not encouraged.

As regards the khots themselves, their accounts are, as a rule, properly kept, and receipts are generally though not always given. A not infrequent trick is to make appraisements of the crops at a higher rate than that at which they expect the tenant to pay, and sometimes even to give receipts for more than they actually receive, merely in order to create for themselves evidence which they can produce in the event of cash commutation being applied for.

During the year under report a khot was fined Rs. 50 under section 15 of the Khoti Settlement Act, for failure to give proper receipts. Enquiries into cases of misbehaviour on the part of four other khots are pending."

(iii) Regulation of Building Sites and Assessments.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

The provisions of rule 56 (II) of the Land Revenue Code Rules were extended during the year under report, to all unalienated lands within the villages named in the Uran petha and the talukas of Alibág, Pen and Panvel in the Kolába district by Government Notification No. 385, dated 16th January 1911.

Dhárwár, Hubli and Gadag are the only other towns in the Division to which the provisions of clauses II and III of the rule quoted above have been applied.

(iv) Co-operative Credit Societies.

Commissioner, Northern Division.

New societies were started in all the Gujarát districts during the year. The Parántij Societies in Ahmedabad and the new Societies in Modása, also the Malao Society in the Panch Maháls are doing useful work. The Dheds' Society in Salal (Parántij) is progressing well and is said to have made the Dhed weavers independent of the Bania. Both in Kaira and Broach too the movement is finding support.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

Eight new societies were started during the year; three in Dhárwar, one in Kánara, two in Kolába (in addition to nine new grain banks) and two in Ratnágiri. The existence of factions appears to impede progress in many places and nowhere has progress been of a very marked kind but the movement is slowly and, I think, surely developing and should ultimately be a great success. The Chambárs of Sirsi in Kánara registered a society during the year and the Chambár Society at Panvel is reported to be doing well.

Extracts.**NORTHERN DIVISION.**

F. G. H. Anderson, Esquire, Collector, Surat.

Co-operative Credit Societies flourish best in Mándvi and worst in the south. There were 29 at the beginning of the year and now there are 33 with an aggregate capital of Rs. 87,509. So long as seasons continue satisfactory there is no doubt the societies are doing good work and are financially prosperous; but I shall be much more concerned to see what happens when they have been exposed to a fairly bad season. It is everywhere reported that the educative value of these societies is considerable and they fortunately coincide with the development of a strong tendency amongst the lowest classes to seek better primary education. In Mándvi a large number of members have got right out of debt to their sávkárs and everywhere there is progress in this direction.

E. L. Moysey, Esquire, Assistant Collector, Thána.

There are three grain depôts in Dáhánu and two in Umbargaon. Their scope is very limited and those who borrow from them are not enthusiastic over the merits of the system and show no inclination, and have, indeed, not the ability, to manage depôts of their own on similar lines. They depend entirely on official guidance and would collapse the moment that was withdrawn.

(v) Agricultural Department.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

The Agricultural Department continued to do useful work throughout the year and its effects have attracted considerable public attention. Improved cotton-seed has been readily absorbed in Dhárwár and foreign groundnut in Belgaum, Dhárwár, Bijápur and Kánara. Their iron ploughs continue to sell

well and the farmers are also buying the improved implements for preparing sugar which experiment in Poona has shown to be useful. The Agricultural Department is also responsible for the introduction (with the assistance of tagái) of steam plant for raising water from rivers in the Belgaum and Bijápur districts. In the Dhárwár district a French plough worked by cable has been introduced which economically clears valuable lands overgrown with deep-rooted grasses. All this spells progress and the interest taken by the people in the various Agricultural Shows indicates a desire to profit by any information that the Department can supply.

Model farms are in demand and voluntary assistance in the matter of Agricultural Associations is readily evoked.

A marked further improvement in agricultural methods and results may now confidently be anticipated.

(vi) *Remittance of Revenue by Money Order.*

Commissioner, Southern Division.

The amount remitted by Land Revenue and ordinary Money Orders on account of Ábkári and Land Revenue and Tagái in the Division during the year under report was Rs. 34,178 as compared with Rs. 23,693 in 1909-1910. It cannot therefore be said to have yet caught the public fancy. It is used in some instances by absentee landholders and in others by litigious individuals who hope thereby to create presumptive evidence favourable to themselves which can be made use of at some later date.

(vii) *Census.*

Commissioner, Central Division.

This was an important administrative event of the year. Preparations for it were commenced from November 1910 and the work continued to tax the energies and absorb a good deal of the time of all revenue officers from the village accountants upwards up to the middle of March 1911. Every effort was made to employ all available Government establishments and avoid entertaining special staff; and the result was that the work was very economically done. But I am inclined to think that this petty economy was very dearly bought. With the revenue staff, particularly the Circle Inspectors and kulkarnis wholly engrossed in this work, it was but natural for Mámlatdárs to avoid pitching the land revenue demand higher than was actually necessary: and hence a large amount of land revenue, I should say at least five lákhs of rupees, was remitted which, considering the excellence of the harvest, ought to have been collected. If the census of 1921 is conducted under conditions which prevailed during 1911, it will pay the Provincial Government well to make an assignment from Provincial finances in order to be able to retain first call on the services of the revenue staff. The result of the census, so far as it is shown by the provincial figures hitherto received, is shown below:—

		1901.	1911.
Ahmednagar	...	837,695	945,012
East Khándesh	...	959,454	1,035,025
West Khándesh	...	469,743	580,154
Násik	...	814,778	905,134
Poona	...	995,330	1,072,693
Sátára	...	1,145,495	1,081,869
Sholápur	...	722,041	769,278
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		5,944,536	6,289,085

The result shows a net increase of 7.5 per cent. in the whole division, which is shared by all the districts except Sátára from which a decrease of 5.6 per cent. is reported. The greatest increase, one of 28.5 occurred in West Khándesh, East Khándesh and Násik coming next.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

The Commissioner agrees with Mr. MacGregor in thinking that the Census should be taken over again in Municipal towns, the figures of population of which were vitiated by the presence of plague.

(viii) *City Surveys.*

Commissioner, Central Division.

The City Survey of Ahmednagar was completed during the year, the cost being met by recoveries from sanad fees. In Igatpuri the work of measurement as well as settlement was all completed in one year: and a number of intricate questions of tenure which would have occasioned endless correspondence settled at a profit to Government, after all expenses were paid, of Rs. 1,592. In Ahmednagar the new maps promise to be of the greatest utility in connection with the new scheme for water-supply and drainage and the street improvements now in course of being carried out with the help of a Government grant.

V.—Assistance to Ina'mda'rs and Superior holders.

Commissioner, Northern Division.

The relations of inámdárs with their tenants continued satisfactory. No tendency to raise rents in violation of customary rights has been reported. There are no hereditary village accountants in the Division; the inámdárs as a rule recover their rents direct.

The number of assistance cases heard by Mámlatdárs and Maháلكaris was 3,070, of which 546 were filed by inámdárs. Special steps have been taken in two districts to ensure speedy recovery on the Mámlatdár's orders.

Commissioner, Central Division.

This very troublesome question does not fortunately arise in the two Khándeshes: and no figures are given in the report for Ahmednagar. In the latter district while it may be admitted that a large part of the arrears are irrecoverable the matter might have received more attention than it has. Figures are given for Násik which show that out of a current demand of Rs. 1,36,012, Rs. 1,22,738 were recovered: but out of Rs. 1,35,037 past arrears only Rs. 28,530. The balance at the end of the year was Rs. 1,10,818, mostly in the Vinchur villages the inámdár of which has a commission under section 88, Land Revenue Code. In the other three districts excellent work was done in clearing up arrears. In Sátára táluka alone some Rs. 90,000 were recovered, and for the whole district out of 1,728 assistance decrees involving Rs. 1,65,422, no less than 1,422 involving Rs. 1,45,802 were cleared off. In Sholápur out of a current demand of Rs. 61,408 the balance was only Rs. 3,565; while arrears on account of past years amount to Rs. 13,811 only. In Poona the collections are given as Rs. 1,52,927 out of Rs. 3,54,073, but a great deal has been collected and written off since then: and the amount at present outstanding is extremely small. In this connection Mr. Mountford's remarks are interesting and contain a great deal of truth:—

“Efforts have been made to clear off the arrears of inámdárs' madat decrees. A special establishment was given for the purpose and in one táluka alone Rs. 90,000 have been collected, but in very many villages the kulkarnis have collected each year to the full without assistance at all, as in Vaduth, Sátára, where the inámdár's dues of Rs. 2,500 were collected in full by a kulkarni whose emoluments amounted to Rs. 2-4-0 per' mensem. If inámdárs could be persuaded to associate themselves more with the ryots and not to leave so much to their muktyars, if they would occasionally sink a well, build a dharmashála or plant some trees, in a word, do something for their own village, they would find their dues paid more cheerfully and promptly.

As it is they rush their assistance cases before the Mámíatdár at the very end of the year in a batch instead of taking prompt and early measures and by that time the ryot has spent his money on the next year's sowings and in discharge of his debts, and recovery is difficult. In several cases my predecessor has noted that inámdárs had filed assistance cases against 'poklist' khátedárs and had obtained *ex-parte* decrees."

At the same time as the result of a good deal of personal attention to the matter in Sirur and Haveli I regret to have to observe that the bulk of the arrears have been due to neglect and indifference on the part of the táluka authorities. In future in all ordinary years it should be as much part of the Assistant Collector's duty to recover these dues as it is to recover Government revenue.

There is no general tendency on the part of inámdárs to evade the provisions of section 85, Land Revenue Code. However, in two cases, one in Násik and the other in Poona, inámdárs were found to have recovered revenue direct. A jahágirdár in Ahmednager is stated to be raising rents of land given out on annual leases, while inámdárs in unsurveyed villages were induced to raise rents in Násik.

Assistance cases.

The total number of assistance cases heard by the Mámíatdárs, Mahálkaris and Head Kárkúns was 5,244, of which 948 were filed by inámdárs: about two-thirds of the total number of cases pertain to Sátára.

No suits were taken up by Sub-divisional Officers anywhere.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

Evasion by inámdárs of the provisions of section 85 of the Land Revenue Code.

In Kánara there are no inámdárs. In non-khoti villages in Kolába and Ratnágiri, the inámdárs collect their dues direct from the tenants and not through the village officers. In the khoti villages in these two districts the khots collect the revenues and pay the inámdárs. Two instances in the Belgaum district and two in Bijápur were noticed in which the inámdárs offended against the provisions of the section in question. The offenders were fined in two cases—one in Belgaum and one in Bijápur—and warned in the other two cases. Mr. Shannon, Assistant Collector, Bijápur, states that the tendency to direct collection is far more widespread than appears on the surface or is even admitted by the village officers. Mr. MacGregor states that in the Dhárwár district there are very few villages in which the inámdárs have accepted survey rates and that the general tendency among the inámdárs is to claim a right to recover their dues direct on the ground that they are both inámdárs and landlords. They base their claim on the orders contained in Government Resolution, Revenue Department, No. 5095, dated the 6th August 1898.

It was not necessary in any district to punish village officers for neglect in collecting inámdárs' dues.

In the Belgaum district the collections of inámdárs' current dues amounted to Rs. 2,55,667 out of a demand of Rs. 2,97,287 and the collections on account of previous years amounted to Rs. 58,550 out of a recoverable demand of Rs. 1,29,149.

The following figures give the amount of arrears of inámdárs' dues outstanding at the close of the year in the districts of Belgaum, Bijápur and Dhárwár:—

District.	Recoverable.	Irrecoverable.
Belgaum	Rs. 82,601	Rs. 2,68,389
Bijápur (information incomplete)	2,810	63,002
Dhárwár	(N. D. only.) 1,34,198	30,132

The Collector of Dhárwár states that a large part of the arrears put down as recoverable are really irrecoverable since the inámdárs themselves are remiss in taking steps for their recovery though they keep them on their accounts.

The following figures show the number of assistance cases disposed of by the Mámlatdárs, Mahálkaris and Aval Kárkúns during the year under report :—

District.	Total disposed of.	No. on which inámdárs were applicants.
Belgaum	324	35
Bijápur	156 (filed).	72
Dhárwár	338	43
Kánara	1,676	Nil
Kolába	2,668	162
Ratnágiri	840	28

No assistance cases were taken up by Sub-Divisional Officers in relief of Táluka Officers.

Disputes between inámdárs and inferior holders.

The Collector of Belgaum states that in the Hukeri táluka and to a small extent in the Chikodi táluka disputes did occur between the inámdárs and their tenants though he is not certain whether they were due to the inámdárs' attempts to deprive the tenants of their customary rights. A tendency to raise rents arbitrarily is reported to be common in the Bijápur district. In the Dhárwár district the inámdárs are said to have succeeded in a large number of villages by means of loans and civil suits in reducing the rayats to the position of tenants-at-will. The Collector states that a complaint was received by him from the rayats of a village in the Gajendragad Jághir but he was unable to do anything for them as they could not set up a customary right for a fixed amount. The Collectors of Ratnágiri and Kolába report that there is no tendency on the part of the inámdárs in their districts to raise rents arbitrarily.

In inám villages in which the survey settlement is not in force the inámdárs are open to the temptation of availing themselves of every opportunity to reduce the rayats to the position of mere tenants-at-will, while the rayats assert a right to hold the lands on a fixed rent. In such cases, however, the rayats in most cases labour under the disadvantages of poverty and illiteracy and the fact that their alleged customary rights are in many cases unwritten and vague. As matters now stand they are at the mercy of Civil Courts. An authentic record of their rights and liabilities such as they may be, would minimise the disadvantages under which they now labour.

There were three cases of succession among inámdárs in the Panvel táluka of the Kolába district. There were no cases of alienation, settlement and lapses of inám villages.

VI.—General Remarks and Conclusion.

Commissioner, Northern Division.

The pressure of office work is excessive in every district and leaves little needful leisure for thought. Mr. Anderson in Surat has with great personal effort been examining the details of administration of his district and has no doubt succeeded in reducing and simplifying correspondence and procedure and at the same time placing a better check on the dilatoriness of inferior offices. Every one is not endowed with the same unbounded energy and it is difficult also to ask other officers to introduce similar reforms partly because of the orders expected for the better management of correspondence and partly because of the pressure above mentioned.

But as soon as the Government orders are published I think advantage should be taken of Mr. Anderson's experience in other districts.

The administration reports were received a little late from most districts and for this the preparations to meet the famine and distress were generally responsible. My own report, I regret, has been written in great haste on the eve of relinquishing charge, and it could not have been ready in time but for the willing assistance I have received from my Assistant Mr. Smith and other members of my office.

Commissioner, Central Division.

I desire once more to draw the attention of Government to the excellent work done by the Collectors and their staffs during the year, and to place on record my appreciation of the assistance rendered during the year under report.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

All districts in the Division have been well administered and the Collectors and their staff are entitled to credit for the excellent land revenue collections.

B.—SIND.

A. D. YOUNGHUSBAND, Esquire, I. C. S., Commissioner in Sind.

I—Economic Condition and Prospects.

1.—Season. (*Including Crops and Water-supply.*)

The year was generally favourable except in the Karáchi district. The river began to rise in the beginning of June 1910 but it did not reach fair irrigating level of 13' at Bukkur upto the 29th of July 1910. It remained at or above that level for 23 days only as against 31 days of the previous year. The highest level reached was 14·5, nearly the same as in 1909-10. But the late arrival and short duration of fair irrigating level was more than compensated for by the steady maintenance of the river at a level of 12' from the 23rd of June to the end of August and by favourable rainfall throughout Sind. In the beginning of September 1910 the river fell suddenly and this somewhat premature fall had an unfavourable result on the kharif crops in the Lárkána, Sukkur and Upper Sind Frontier districts, as it deprived lands of the last watering usually given in that month. In the Karáchi district heavy rain fell in the delta portion in the beginning of July 1910, causing serious damage to the rice crop. Almost the whole of the delta country, which has no drainage system worth the name, was submerged and the rice cultivation in all the low-lying lands in the Tatta and Sháhbandar divisions destroyed. General remissions on a liberal scale were granted and the rabi rate was lowered to 8 annas, by which measures the zamindars obtained considerable relief. Rabi cultivation too was a failure, due in some places to the fact that the rains were too early and in others to the recent floods which had rendered the land unfit for rabi crops. In other districts the rainfall was very generally beneficial. Both the kharif and the rabi crops were fairly good except in a few localities where the sudden fall in the river or frost or adverse winds had worked harm. Some damage was also caused to the rabi crop in the low-lying kachas of the Hyderabad and Lárkána districts by a sudden rise of the river in March 1911 which necessitated the grant of liberal remissions on a general scale. As a result of the generally favourable character of the season the area under cultivation rose from 3,831,342 acres in the previous year to 4,122,614 acres in the year under report, or by 7·60 per cent. The revenue demand rose from Rs. 1,02,88,570 to Rs. 1,15,79,856, an increase of 12·55 per cent. Out of the total revenue demand for the year Rs. 5,95,894 were remitted as against Rs. 4,20,472 in the previous year. The bulk of the remissions was granted in the Karáchi district where, as noted above, heavy remissions had to be granted on account of the heavy rains of July 1910.

1-A.—Canals.

2. On the whole the canals worked satisfactorily throughout the Province. The Jamráo Canal worked fairly well. The Dad and Naulakhi gave an excellent supply, while the Nasrat worked a little better than in the previous year, but suffered owing to erosion just above the mouth of its feeder, the Lundi dhand, necessitating the expenditure of nearly a lách of rupees for special clearance of the dhand and construction of a new mouth, *vide* Government Resolution No. W.I.-908, dated the 28th April 1911. Plans and estimates for providing a new mouth to the Old Fuleli were approved and sanctioned. The Superintending Engineer, Indus Left Bank Division, stated in July 1911 that a new mouth to the Old Fuleli was in process of excavation but that there was no prospect of the work being completed till after the inundation of 1911-12. The plans and revised estimates for the Renwah Distributary project were submitted to Government under this office endorsement No. W.-434, dated the 30th June 1911. The Sind canals started badly as last year, but subsequently a

change in the main current of the river largely improved its water-supply and enabled it to flow till very late in the season. The Ghotki Canal Project has been abandoned as being unremunerative (*vide* Government Resolution, Public Works Department, No. W.I.-2454, dated the 12th December 1911). The plans and estimates referred to in Government Resolution No. W.I.-1572, dated the 23rd June 1909, Public Works Department, regarding the improvement of the Seharwah have not yet been received from the Superintending Engineer, Indus Right Bank Division. The question of introducing submerged outlets in canals other than the Begari is under consideration. The Ghar worked well, but the Western Nara and its feeder are reported to be deteriorating owing to constant change in the course of the river. The Collector of Lárkána states that an attempt was made this year to solve the *Manchur* flooding problem by the omission to *bund* the Aral as usual. It will be interesting to know the result of this experiment. The Khipro Canal, which is usually unsatisfactory, worked fairly well, while the Thar Canal had an excellent supply during the year under report. The canals in the delta portion of the Karáchi district were generally surcharged with water owing to heavy rains; this resulted in a certain number of breaches and the superfluity of water made comment on the efficiency of the canals impossible. But no inherent fault was found in their working. The Collector reports as most necessary the provision of effective drainage channels for that part of the country. This is a matter for separate consideration and the Collector is being so reminded.

2.—Cattle and fodder.

Fodder was sufficient throughout, except in the Kohistán tract of the Karáchi district and the desert portion of the Thar and Párkar district, where scarcity was felt towards the close of the year owing to the absence of rain. Some scarcity was felt in the Sákrand táluka of the Hyderabad district due to the overflow of the Nasri Dhand which flooded a large area in that táluka. Generally speaking the condition of cattle was good. Outbreaks of rinderpest were reported from all districts except Thar and Párkar, the outbreaks being specially severe in the Lárkána, Sukkur and Upper Sind Frontier districts. Anti-rinderpest inoculation was resorted to in Karáchi, Lárkána and Sukkur districts. Minor outbreaks of foot and mouth disease, Hæmorrhagic Septicæmia, Hydræmia, Surra and Pleuro-pneumonia occurred during the year in the Karáchi and Hyderabad districts. In the Thar and Párkar district 2,500 head of cattle succumbed to small-pox and a disease of the glands.

3.—Land Revenue (Recoveries, Contumacy, &c.).

The land revenue demand of the Province was Rs. 1,15,79,856 as against Rs. 1,02,88,570 in the previous year and Rs. 1,14,10,190 in the year 1908-09, showing an increase of 12·55 per cent. on last year's figures, and of 1·49 per cent. on the figures of 1908-09. The balance outstanding at the beginning of the year amounted to Rs. 9,26,640, bringing the total amount for recovery to Rs. 1,25,06,496 as against Rs. 1,14,82,213 last year. Out of this Rs. 2,53,039 were suspended as compared with Rs. 4,64,591 during the year previous. Remissions granted during the year rose from Rs. 4,20,472 to Rs. 5,95,894. About 35 per cent. of the total amount was remitted in the Karáchi district on account of the damage caused by floods due to heavy rains. Recoveries amounted to Rs. 1,10,19,446 as compared with Rs. 1,01,65,148 of the previous year, a percentage of 88·10 per cent. of the total amount for collection as against a percentage of 95·92 in the previous year. In view of the generally favourable character of the season these figures cannot be regarded as altogether satisfactory, but the fall in the proportion of collections to demand was due chiefly to the Karáchi district, where the season was most unfavourable and where the condition of the zamindars has materially deteriorated on account of several successive bad years. Out of the whole district Karáchi táluka alone seems to have escaped the general calamity. In that táluka the introduction of a graduated scale of fines under section 143 of the Land Revenue Code met with

marked success. Use was also made of this section in all the other districts with satisfactory results. In the Hyderabad district particularly the section was brought into general work with the result that the unauthorized arrears were reduced by 32 per cent. The unauthorized arrears for the Province increased during the year under report from Rs. 4,32,002 to Rs. 6,38,117, the increase being chiefly attributable to the Karáchi district. The increase under this head in the Lárkána and Upper Sind Frontier districts is very unsatisfactory. Mr. Emanuel has offered no explanation for it, while Mr. Smyth attributes it to the slackness of administration in the Kándhkot táluka which was for the greater part of the year in the hands of a Mukhtiárkar who has since been tried and convicted by the Sessions Court on charges of corruption.

4.—*Takávi.*

The total amount advanced to cultivators during the year was Rs. 8,33,215 (Rs. 4,12,099 under the Land Improvement Loans Act and Rs. 4,21,125 under the Agriculturists' Loan Act) as against Rs. 7,26,353 in the previous year. The increase was entirely absorbed by the grant of more than Rs. 1,60,000 in the Karáchi district as against a sum of about Rs. 50,000 in the previous year. This large increase was rendered necessary by the heavy floods in order to enable zamindars to repair their private bunds and karias. The total demand for collection during the year, including the previous years' balances, amounted to Rs. 10,98,047. Out of this Rs. 7,23,640 were collected and Rs. 6,382 written off, leaving a balance at the end of the year at Rs. 3,68,025, as compared with Rs. 4,29,117 at the end of the previous year. The total outstanding debt (principal) at the close of the year was Rs. 19,35,649 compared with Rs. 18,48,793 at the end of the previous year. The Collector of Karáchi states that collections of takávi were exceptionally low and that there seems to have been a misunderstanding on the point in the Tatta division. The nature of the misunderstanding has not been explained, and the Collector is being asked to remedy the matter. The Commissioner trusts that takávi arrears will be greatly reduced during the current year in the Karáchi district as the season there has been very favourable. The increase of arrears in Lárkána and Upper Sind Frontier is very unsatisfactory and demands the special attention of the heads of those districts. But the Commissioner notes with satisfaction the large reduction effected this year in the arrears of Hyderabad, Sukkur and Thar and Fárkar districts.

The inspection of takávi works did not receive everywhere that attention which was due to it. In the Karáchi district out of 619 works the Mukhtiárkars are reported to have inspected only 49, while the Sub-divisional Officers inspected 43. In the Upper Sind Frontier district the total number of works for which takávi loans were granted was 128, of which 82 were for the Kandhkot division. The Deputy Collector of the division inspected 5 works only and the Mukhtiárkars 23. Forty-six works remained to be inspected in the two tálukas of Jacobabad and Sháhdadpur which are under the direct charge of the Deputy Commissioner, Upper Sind Frontier. Out of these the Mukhtiárkars inspected 23. The other heads of districts have not supplied figures of the total number of takávi works to be inspected in their respective districts. It, however, appears from the divisional reports that the duty was inadequately performed in all districts. The attention of the heads of districts will be called to the laxity of supervision in this matter and they will be asked to impress upon their Sub-divisional Officers and Mukhtiárkars the necessity of paying more attention to this important part of their duties.

5.—*Trade and Industries.*

Trade in grain was rather slack during the year owing to a decreased demand for export. The price of cotton remained extraordinarily high, whereby zamindars obtained great profit. A new cotton press was started and two disused cotton gins were reopened in the Hyderabad district. Two new rice

husking factories were constructed in the Lárkána district. A small sugar manufactory was opened in the Thar and Párkar district by an enterprising Punjabi zamindar, but owing to several causes, chiefly the decrease in the area under sugarcane, its success was not commensurate with the enterprise of its promoter. A weaving factory, to be worked by a steam engine, is under construction at Shikárpur. Jacobabad has been indulging in a flourishing brick-making industry, chiefly unauthorized, but since the close of the year steps have been taken to deal with this matter. The minor industries referred to in last year's report underwent no change during the year.

Extracts.

A. E. L. Emanuel, Esq., Collector, Lárkána.

Insurance societies and Banks have been springing up somewhat in excess of their chances of stability in Lárkána, and the Collector had to issue notices warning ignorant persons to be careful in their dealings with the former; but the phenomenon indicates that there is plenty of money about for which people are ready to find safe and simple investments if they can.

6.—Prices.

There were no marked differences in the prices of food grains as compared with those of last year; but a slight reduction in the price of wheat, barley rice and juári is reported from some districts. This was due to a favourable inundation and a smaller demand for export purposes. In the Thar and Párkar district prices continued to rise towards the close of the year owing to the absence of rain. The price of cotton also rose considerably during the year owing to a larger demand from outside. It fetched a price of Rs. 12 and over per maund of bolls in the Jamráo tract, though the average price of cotton bolls was about Rs. 9 per maund.

7.—Labour and wages.

For the greater part of the year wages were almost as high as in 1909-10. In parts of the Hyderabad district there was a slight rise, which is attributed partly to increased demand for labour in cotton presses and partly to the return of Tharis to their homes. There was a large decrease in the maximum rate of unskilled labour in the Karáchi town—12 annas as against Re. 1. The Collector of Karáchi has given no reasons for this reduction, but it is apparently due to a large supply of foreign labour from Kutch and the hilly tracts adjoining Karáchi where rains failed. In the Thar and Párkar district the rates of both skilled and unskilled labour are reported to have fallen considerably towards the end of the year owing to the influx of Tharis and Marwaris consequent on the failure of the monsoon in the desert. Owing to the large increase in the supply of labour available in Sind now the rates of wages may well be expected to decline in all districts during the current year.

8.—Emigration and Immigration.

In Sind there is no emigration or immigration strictly so called. The temporary immigrants, *viz.*, the Kachis and Tharis, came to Sind in larger numbers than usual owing to the failure of the rains. Brohis also came over to Sind as usual from the hills for the rice harvest; and there was the ordinary influx of Pathan labourers from trans-frontier territory, to work on the clearance of Government and zamindari canals during the cold weather.

9.—Public Health.

The public health was not as good during the year as could be desired. Plague ran its usual course in Karáchi, the epidemic being more virulent and of longer duration than usual. It spread to places hitherto unaffected and claimed several prominent members of the community as its victims. A few cases of plague were also imported into the Hyderabad and Sukkur districts, almost all of which proved fatal. The value of inoculation as a preventive measure is being gradually appreciated in Karáchi and amongst the better-informed members of the community, but this measure is still far from popular with the masses in spite of its great success where used. Cholera broke out in the Lárkána, Sukkur, Upper Sind Frontier and Hyderabad districts, and assumed somewhat serious proportions in the first two. The towns of Shikárpur and Gárhi Yasin in the Sukkur district are reported to have suffered heavily. General evacuation was resorted to in these towns. Small-pox is reported from all districts except Karáchi: the Hyderabad district in particular suffered heavily from it and there were 320 fatal cases out of a total of 1,315. Malaria appeared throughout the Province, but in a less virulent form, except in the town and cantonment of Hyderabad and in the Thar and Párkar and Sukkur districts. It is very satisfactory to note the general success of the campaign against malaria in the Karáchi district by the system of quinine distribution instituted by Mr. Lawrence, a repetition of his previous success in the Sukkur district. The same system was tried in some other districts with satisfactory results. A new dispensary was sanctioned for Ladiun during the year under report (*vide* Government Resolution, Financial Department, No. 2035, dated the 15th June 1911).

10.—Education.

Education has so far made no great strides among the agricultural classes; but signs of an awakening in the near future are not wanting; and the matter continues to engage the attention and interest of the leaders of Mahomedan opinion. The Sind Madressah is in an exceptionally flourishing and efficient state, while the local Madressahs at Lárkána, Naushahro and Pithoro are working satisfactorily. At Sukkur the first stage towards the projected Madressah has been reached in the opening of a Mahomedan boarding-house which is for the present attached to the local high school. In the larger towns education continues to flourish. At Hyderabad in particular both the Navalrai Hiranand Academy and the Nava Vidyalaya are doing excellently. The new buildings of the Nava Vidyalaya to which reference was made in the last year's report are in occupation, though not yet fully complete. The project for a new high school at Lárkána has been delayed by the difficulty of agreement as to a site.

Extracts.

C. H. Blathwayt, Esquire, Deputy Commissioner, Thar and Párkar.

It is in the Desert that education is most popular. Villages, which in the Nára Division might have an attendance of 40 or 50 in their schools, have more than 100 in the Desert. The girl-schools (many of them well-attended) are a special feature of the Desert.

Sheikh Gulam Mahomed Mir Mahomed, Deputy Collector, Thar and Párkar.

The Hindus have taken to education but the apathy of Thar Mussalmans continues as ever. No amount of exhortation has any effect. Hardly a few Mussalman boys are found receiving education in the public schools.

11.—Public feeling and the Press.

Public feeling continued to be satisfactory. There was a great display of loyalty to the British Crown on the occasion of the Coronation in London of His Majesty the King-Emperor. The tone of the Press was generally moderate and inoffensive. Some papers confine themselves to a discussion of petty matters of no general interest; but the generality are well conducted and often express intelligent and helpful opinions on leading questions of the day. But there are too frequent indications, even in some of the better-class and more influential journals, of a spirit of personal or sectional animosity, which tends seriously to mar their repute.

Extracts.

J. Abott, Esquire, Assistant Collector, Karáchi.

In connection with public feeling upon any public question in this division I should like to touch briefly upon the question of the Mohurram. Last year, as is known, Sujáwal held a unique position in the Presidency from the action of local kazis who supported by a local zamindar of great influence, stopped all celebration of the Mohurram there. As a whole, the body of zamindars of position are quite indifferent to those celebrations, and would even welcome any general cessation thereof, whilst the more religious regard them as contrary to their religious tenets.

12.—Summary of material prosperity and prospects.

Except in the Karáchi district the year was prosperous on the whole. The prices of the agricultural products remained almost stationary but the sustained high price of cotton was of great assistance towards the material prosperity of the zamindars and traders of the Hyderabad district and the Jamráo tract. The increase in area of rice cultivation in the Lárkána district was also a source of great benefit to the agricultural classes of that district. Local traders participated in the prosperity due to a good year, but their gains were limited by the slackness of the export trade. The zamindars of the Karáchi district fared worst of all; but an improvement is expected in their condition on account of the good harvest of the current year and the 25 per cent. reduction in the assessment sanctioned recently by Government in their Resolutions Nos. 10759 and 10858, dated respectively the 15th and 18th November 1911. For the rest of the Province the outlook is gloomy except in a few favoured talukas.

II.—INSPECTION.

1.—General Inspection.

The inspection work performed by the District officers in the Province is shown below:—

(1) Number of Mukhtiárkars' offices inspected	...	44
(2) Number of Mahálkars' offices inspected	...	2
(3) Number of dehs visited on duty in which routine inspection was done	... ..	915
(4) Number of dehs visited on duty in which no routine inspection was done	... ..	1,665
(5) Number of village sites visited on duty in which on routine inspection was done	... ..	900

The work done has been generally satisfactory. The omission on the part of the Collector of Karáchi and Deputy Commissioner, Thar and Párkar, to inspect certain táluka and mahál offices in their respective districts has been explained in their reports. The Karáchi Táluka office which is at the headquarters of the district could easily have been inspected in May after the jamábandi work was finished. Not one of the district officers, except the Collector of Sukkur, has made any reference to the inspection of boundary marks. The attention of these officers will be drawn to this important subject, and they will be asked in future to report invariably on the extent to which the inspection and repairs of boundary marks have been carried out in their districts. The Presidency system of carrying out repairs which was adopted in this Province in 1909 does not seem to have achieved that success which was anticipated from its introduction; but the Commissioner would like to give the system a further trial before considering the advisability of its modification. The Collector of Karáchi ought to have inspected the Huzúr Account office independently of the Commissioner's inspection. The Commissioner inspected four táluka offices in the Sukkur, Lárkána, Thar and Párkar and Hyderabad districts. The work done was fairly satisfactory, and errors and irregularities discovered were communicated to the district officers.

2.—Destruction, indexing and sorting of records.

The work of destruction of useless records was properly attended to, and is up to date, except in a few offices. The heads of districts will be asked to take steps to have it brought up to date wherever it is in arrears. The indexing and arranging of records to be preserved received due attention. A temporary clerk on Rs. 20 per mensem was appointed during the year for three months to put in order the records of the Sehwan Sub-divisional office. The work, however, could not be finished within that time and the appointment was continued for a further period of three months in August 1911. A temporary appointment of a clerk on Rs. 30 for six months was also sanctioned by the Commissioner towards the close of the year for arranging the records of the office of the Assistant Collector, Shikárpur.

III.—Revenue establishments and Land Records staff.

1.—Land Revenue Staff.

The Mukhtiárkars and subordinate revenue establishments worked satisfactorily on the whole. The Mukhtiárkar of Kándhkot was suspended during the year on account of dishonesty in remission work. Criminal proceedings were instituted against him and resulted in a conviction by the Sessions Court, Sukkur. He has been sentenced to undergo rigorous imprisonment for 18 months and to pay a fine of Rs. 5,000. The case is now under appeal to the Court of the Judicial Commissioner of Sind. The Head Munshi and the Second Munshi of the same táluka were also suspended on charges of corruption. The former died before trial, while the latter was tried and convicted. Steps are being taken by the Deputy Commissioner to put the office in a satisfactory condition. During the year census work was a heavy strain on the already overworked establishments, but was got through successfully. Mr. Chatfield has referred to the inadequacy of establishments in the Sukkur District, a matter which should, if sufficient reasons can be shown for an increase, form the subject of separate report. The temporary appointment of an additional Munshi on Rs. 20 in the office of the Deputy Collector of Kándhkot referred to by the Deputy Commissioner, Upper Sind Frontier, in his report has since been made permanent. The large number of cases of corruption among the Pound Munshis that came to notice in the Upper Sind Frontier calls for strict supervision over that class of subordinate officers. Mr. Smyth, the present Deputy Commissioner, is giving his careful and vigorous attention to this matter.

2.—Land Records Staff.

The work done by the Land Records staff is dealt with in Part III of the Land Revenue Administration Report.

3.—Village Staff.

The work of the village staff was generally satisfactory. Survey work is still unpopular with the tapádárs, but owing to energetic supervision by Sub-divisional Officers, tapádárs are compelled to see the necessity of this work, in which improvement has been noted. The measurement of the sub-divisions of survey numbers required for the Record-of-Rights is done, where possible, by the ordinary village establishment, but the great amount of such work in the Sukkur and Lárkána districts will render necessary the entertainment of special survey parties. No parties were employed this year, however, on account of a policy of retrenchment adopted in view of unfavourable conditions in the Presidency proper. Out of 204 Supervising tapádárs and 752 tapádárs, 190 Supervising tapádárs and 706 tapádárs have been trained in survey work.

The following table shows the number and percentage of cases of suspensions and dismissals :—

	Total number of officers.	Suspended.		Dismissed.	
		Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.
Tapádárs	752	13	1.73	11	1.46
Supervising tapádárs	204	1	.49	1	.49

Of the tapádárs suspended and dismissed four were prosecuted, two in the Karáchi and two in the Hyderabad district,—one for receiving illegal gratification and three for embezzlement of Government money. The results of the prosecutions should have been reported by the Collectors concerned. The rest were punished by suspension or dismissal on account of gross misconduct or negligence in the discharge of their duties. Besides these, one Supervising tapádár and two tapádárs were reduced in the Sukkur district, the former on account of incompetency and the latter on account of gross negligence. One Supervising tapádár and three tapádárs were fined in the same district for neglect of duty, and the Collector of Sukkur will be asked to explain why this form of punishment was adopted. No fines were inflicted in any other district, and the Collector of Karáchi reports that the abolition of fines was in no way prejudicial to the maintenance of discipline.

IV.—Special matters.

1.—Record-of-Rights.

The Record-of-Rights forms one of the special subjects of Part III of the Land Revenue administration Report and is more fully dealt with in that report. The experiment of using the Record-of-Rights as the basis of the land revenue accounts was repeated during the year in the nine tálukas in which it was tried in the year 1909-10. It continued to be a success, and the new

system was greatly appreciated by the people. Its introduction in 24 more talukas has been ordered during the current year. People are still remiss in reporting acquisition of rights, and fines were imposed in several cases under section 8 of the Record-of-Rights Act. Excluding the Desert and Kohistán tracts, which are exempted from the operation of the Act, a Record is now prepared for the whole of the Province excepting the two talukas of Karáchi and Jamesabad, in which it is in process of preparation. The work of fair copying the Record in the revised form I-C remained in arrears in 14 talukas on account of the inevitable delay that took place in the translation and printing of the new forms. The work will be finished during the current year. Due care is being taken to see that the Record is kept up to date in those talukas where it has been introduced already.

2.—*Non-alienable tenure.*

The total area held on the restricted tenure at the beginning of the year was 4,70,597 acres, to which an area of 67,329 acres was added during the year under report. Out of the total of 537,926 acres 7,407 acres were resumed or resigned, leaving a balance of 530,519 acres at the end of the year. These figures are exclusive of the areas held under the Sind Occupants Act in the Jamráo tract. Taking the Jamráo figures into account, the total area held on the restricted tenure at the end of the year under report was 1,232,165 acres as against 1,118,282 acres at the end of the previous year. This form of tenure has now been generally acquiesced in, but continues to be viewed with disfavour by both agriculturists and money-lending classes, though in the case of agriculturists liberal advances of takávi are sufficient to counterbalance any contraction of credit that this tenure may have introduced. The Commissioner has nothing to add to the remarks made by him in the previous year's report as regards the credit of the agricultural classes holding lands wholly or partly on the restricted tenure. This tenure has in no way tended to restrict agricultural operations. Cases of violation of its conditions are reported from all districts, but the number is exceedingly small, except in Hyderabad, where 75 cases came to notice. The district reports show that the delinquents have been suitably dealt with.

Extracts.

Moizuddin Khudayar Khan, Esq., Deputy Collector, Thar and Párkar.

Doubtless there is some contraction of credit in the cases of such occupants but that results to their advantage in the long run as they become thrifty and resort to Government instead of to the money-lender for loans. The weakened credit has not tended to check agricultural operations. Money-lenders also finance zamindárs on the security of getting a share of the produce.

Both the agriculturist and the money-lender regard the tenure as one specially prescribed by Government for the benefit of the former and in order to save him from being ruined at the hands of the latter.

3.—*Others.*

Small agricultural exhibitions were held in the Karáchi, Hyderabad and Sukkur districts, and evoked much interest. Their practical utility appears to be great, and it is hoped that their number will soon be considerably extended.

The three farms of the Agricultural Department at Mirpurkhás, Dowlatpur and Sukkur did good work. They are now being supplemented by one at Lárkána, and another at Landhi near Karáchi.

No new Co-operative Credit Societies were started during the year. The old ones are reported to be doing satisfactory work.

The Shahi and local jirgas under the Sind Frontier Regulations, III of 1892, worked satisfactorily. The Commissioner endorses Mr. Smyth's remark that the jirga system is an integral part of Baluch life and as such inspires the full confidence of the people.

V.—Assistance to ina'mda'rs and superior holders.

The total number of applications from jágirdárs for assistance for the recovery of their dues under section 86 of the Bombay Land Revenue Code amounted during the year to 13—one in the Karáchi district and twelve in the Hyderabad district. Holders of this class rarely ask for assistance in Sind, as they usually recover their dues direct without difficulty. The number of applications from other superior holders was 512, of which 424 were in the Hyderabad district. Only 19 applications remained undisposed of at the end of the year. Ten cases were heard on appeal by Sub-divisional Officers, but no original cases were taken up by them in relief of the táluka officers.

The following are the particulars of successions and lapses :—

Successions—

Jágir grants	...	...	... 12 cases.
Garden grants	...	...	... 16 cases.
Asaish grants	...	...	... 3 cases.

Lapses—

Life grants	...	...	... 1 case.
Perpetual grants	...	...	... 3 cases.

VI.—General remarks and conclusions.

The year was on the whole one of fair prosperity and peace. The prospects of the current year, however, are distinctly unfavourable owing to a low inundation and the absence of summer rains, but the irrigated part of the Karáchi district has fared extremely well.

The new kacheri at Hyderabad is now nearing completion.

The political outlook is good, and as usual zamindárs of the Province rendered loyal and hearty assistance wherever need arose.

Reports.

Commissioners' Land Revenue Administration Reports, Part II, and Collectors' and certain Sub-Divisional Officers' Administration Reports for 1910-11.

No. 7760.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 19th August 1912.

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| Letter from the Commissioner, N. D., No. 4363, dated 26th October 1911. | } | Submitting the Land Revenue Administration Reports, Part II, of their respective charges for the year 1910-11, together with the Collectors' and three Sub-Divisional Officers' Administration Reports for the year, the Divisional Commissioners also submitting extracts from the other Sub-Divisional Officers' reports. |
| Letter from the Commissioner, S. D., No. 405, dated 8th February 1912. | | |
| Letter from the Commissioner, C. D., No. C.—812, dated 21st February 1912. | | |
| Memorandum from the Commissioner in Sind, No. 1189, dated 24th April 1912. | | |
| Letter* from the Commissioner, N. D., No. 4544, dated 7th November 1911. | | |
| Letter* from the Collector of Thána, No. GEN.—3090, dated 11th November 1911. | | |
| Memorandum* from the Commissioner, N. D., No. 4660, dated 15th November 1911. | | |
| Letter* from the Collector of Lárkáná, No. 3425, dated 7th June 1912. | | |
| Memorandum* from the Commissioner in Sind, No. 2202, dated 13th July 1912. | | |
| Letter* from the Collector of Sakkur, No. 4816, dated 5th July 1912. | | |
| Memorandum* from the Commissioner in Sind, No. 2409, dated 26th July 1912. | | |

RESOLUTION.—In the Presidency proper the season of 1910-11 was, on the whole, the best experienced for many years and, but for a severe frost which caused considerable damage to crops, especially in Gujarát, in January 1911, the year would have been one of exceptional prosperity. The feature of the preceding year had been the large area under cotton and the very high prices obtained for it, and in the year under review both area and prices increased. On this account the losses due to frost were less severely felt than they would otherwise have been. Apart from the frost, adverse seasonal conditions prevailed in very few places and little damage was done by insects and other crop pests, so that in many tracts the crops were above normal. This is not, however, usually apparent in the annual valuations made by district officers, and the Commissioner, C. D., has cited numerous instances, in which these valuations are far below the figures which the detailed descriptions of the crops given by the valuing officers would indicate as correct. The copious rainfall resulted in a generally good water-supply both for irrigation and drinking purposes, except in places where the difficulties in this respect are chronic and little affected by the nature of the season. In the Bhál country of the Ahmedabad district and the Bára tract of Broach where sweet drinking water is obtainable with difficulty, special measures were taken, with the aid of grants from Government, to improve the supply. It is reported that success depends on the practicability of tapping artesian and sub-artesian supplies as has been done successfully in other parts of Gujarát. Good use continued to be made of "jumpers" and similar appliances, especially for testing purposes, preliminary to the excavation or deepening of wells. The supply of fodder was generally good and sufficient. Partly on this account, no doubt, cattle were in excellent condition during the year and disease appears to have been less than usual. Several officers report that, both as regards quality and numbers, the effects of the famines of 1399—1902 had passed away, and it is unfortunate that the partial failure of the monsoon of 1911 has since caused a set-back. The demand for village stud bulls which are purchased by the rayats from tagái advances, and in some cases with assistance from Local Funds, has expanded.

* Not printed.

The value of the tagái system in providing the cultivators with cheap money wherewith to replenish their stock is illustrated by the purchase in this way of 550 head of cattle in the Sholápur district. The high price of cattle is a subject of frequent comment and, as suggested by the Collector of Surat, may stimulate in time the scientific breeding and rearing of cattle. The price of fodder was also conspicuously high. This is attributed in part to the increased cultivation of valuable non-fodder crops. It is gratifying that the work of the Civil Veterinary Department is growing in public appreciation and that the orders issued by Government in 1909 for increasing grazing facilities have proved beneficial. In the Surat district the pancháyats placed in charge of village grazing grounds are stated to be working smoothly.

In Sind there was a steadily maintained inundation of the river and, except in the Karáchi district, rainfall was beneficial, so that the season on the whole was very favourable. In the Karáchi district heavy flooding caused serious damage. There were some severe outbreaks of cattle disease, but with a sufficient fodder supply the condition of the cattle in the province was otherwise good.

2. The figures relating to the land revenue collections are not the final figures shown in the accounts, but they are sufficiently accurate for giving an idea of the work of the year. The current demand of the year was 319½ lákhs and the collections, including those of arrears, amounted to 338½ lákhs. Unauthorised arrears were reduced from 13½ lákhs at the beginning of the year to 4½ lákhs at its close. These results present a satisfactory appearance, but they are discounted by other considerations. In addition to the unauthorised arrears of 13½ lákhs at the beginning of the year, there was under suspension a total amount of 42½ lákhs, and in a year of bountiful harvests it was reasonable that Government should expect that a large proportion of this would be assessed for collection under the operation of the suspension and remission rules and would be actually collected. This expectation has, however, not been completely realised. Despite the very favourable season no less than 32¾ lákhs of revenue were suspended and remitted. Of this amount about 14½ lákhs were remitted and 12 lákhs were resuspended out of the 42½ lákhs of revenue under suspension at the beginning of the year, so that of this last mentioned amount only 16 lákhs were assessed for collection. The Governor in Council agrees with the Commissioner, C. D., in believing that this amount, which represents an addition of only 5 per cent. to the current demand of the year, was in the circumstances of the season not sufficiently large. The fact has already been referred to that the anna valuations of the harvests were pitched too low in the majority of the districts where the season was most favourable and it is of course inevitable in these circumstances that under the operation of the suspension and remission rules the public revenues should suffer. It is essential that the rules should be worked with uniformity and that the people of one district should not undeservedly escape payment of dues at the expense, in a sense, of the rayats of other districts where crop valuations are made with care and judgment. Accordingly Government are taking measures to ensure that in future the estimation of the crop outturn will be made under checks adequate to prevent either over or under-valuation.

While the assessment of the demand for the year is open to criticism, the actual work of collection was on the whole thoroughly done. Of the unauthorised arrears of 4½ lákhs at the close of the year the only large amounts not satisfactorily explained are 1½ lákhs in the Ahmedabad district and ¾ of a lakh in the Kaira district. Government are especially pleased with the great improvement in the state of the revenue accounts of the Deccan districts. The experience of the last two years has shown that it is useless in many parts of the country to expect the revenue administration to be satisfactory unless the officers entrusted with it are prepared to use the coercive powers given to them by the law. In the year under review a large number of warrants of arrest were issued in the four districts of Ahmednagar, Poona, Sátára and Sholápur and it is significant that the majority of the defaulters paid up their dues before the warrant was actually executed. Of 68 persons actually arrested four-fifths paid their dues within a few hours. These facts indicate that many revenue payers who were able to pay their assessments were deliberately avoiding payment. The general experience has been that the difficulty of collecting the revenue is greatest in the case of the well-to-do and in the tracts where the concessions granted in the past have been most liberal. A notable result of the failure to deal promptly with revenue in

arrears is reported from the Kaira district. Last year Rs. 77,000 were written off in this district as irrecoverable and the attention of the Commissioner was drawn to the fact that a considerable proportion of the arrears still outstanding was reported to be also irrecoverable. In reporting a further amount of Rs. 92,000 as written off during the year under review, the Collector states that in past years many lands have been abandoned, but as the occupants sent in no formal notices of relinquishment and the revenue authorities took no decisive steps regarding the non-payment of the assessment, large arrears were allowed to accumulate to the advantage of no one and to the confusion of the accounts of the district. Government trust that the improvement which has taken place in the methods of collecting the revenue will be maintained and that there will be no relaxation of the efforts made to clear the accounts as far as is possible of all unauthorised outstandings.

3. The figures for tagái reflect the nature of the season. The demand for loans decreased and advances amounted to only 11 lákhs. Recoveries on the other hand reached $39\frac{1}{3}$ lákhs, so that there was a large reduction in the total outstanding debt. At the close of the year the unauthorised arrears were $4\frac{1}{4}$ lákhs, of which the Ahmedabad, Kaira and Ahmednagar districts were responsible for $3\frac{1}{4}$ lákhs. Government entirely agree with the Commissioner, N. D., that borrowers should be taught to consider that tagái loans must be punctually repaid and not treated as debts to be repaid at the borrowers' convenience. Once suitable instalments have been fixed—and it is the Collector's duty to see that the instalments fixed in his district are suitable—Government must insist on punctual repayment being strictly enforced as a general rule. The first result of laxity in collection is a demand for unnecessary loans. In this connection Government are pleased to observe that increased attention was paid during the year to the inspection of works and to the scrutiny of applications for loans for cattle and seed, and that as a consequence the misapplication of loans has been considerably checked. In several districts there is, however, need of more vigilance in this respect. On account of the good season the Collector of Surat increased the repayment instalments in that district to $1\frac{1}{4}$ or $1\frac{1}{2}$ times the normal. Government consider that this action was correct and desire to bring it to the notice of all Collectors.

4. In Sind the recoveries of land revenue and tagái were unsatisfactory. The unauthorised arrears of land revenue increased during the year from $4\frac{1}{3}$ to $6\frac{1}{3}$ lákhs. The calamity in the Karáchi district was to a very large extent responsible for this, but the arrears in all districts are capable of reduction. As in the Presidency proper, tagái collections were poor wherever revenue collections were unsatisfactory. In the Karáchi district the recoveries did not amount to one-fifth of the demand and were apparently worse than the calamity of the year could justify. Although there was a considerable improvement as compared with the preceding year in Hyderabad, the arrears at the close of the year were high in this district and also in Lárkána. The inspection of tagái works is admitted to have been generally inadequate. Government hope that the Commissioner in Sind will not in future omit any measures to bring the collection of land revenue and tagái upto the standard which now prevails in the Presidency proper.

5. In other branches of administration the work performed by district officers of all grades was on the whole very satisfactory. Tours were generally well arranged and inspection duties carefully carried out. As already noticed, more attention should, however, be paid to testing adequately the valuation of crops made by the subordinate staff. The Census threw an additional burden of work on all offices and though it is reported to have been made an excuse in some instances for scamping ordinary routine duties, the work itself was well done. The use of new forms of land revenue and tagái accounts was extended and the success of both systems is now established. The need of reorganising the subordinate revenue establishments is a subject of general comment and it is a matter of great regret and concern to Government that the collection of the statistical information required before the case can be submitted to the Secretary of State should, after an interval of more than two years, be still incomplete. In the districts where the watandári system prevails there is much difficulty in obtaining the services of men who are competent to perform the duties of a village accountant under modern conditions, and the question of introducing such reforms as will overcome this difficulty still remains under the consideration of Government.

It is feared, however, that even under the existing system the work of the village accountants sometimes suffers for lack of careful instruction and organisation by the officers in control over them. Several Collectors refer to the hardships suffered by inferior village servants owing to the increased cost of living combined with the tendency on the part of cultivators to withhold their customary perquisites. Schemes for improving and regulating their emoluments have recently been introduced in several districts and Government will continue to bestow close attention on this deserving class of public servant. Patels, as usual, rendered loyal and generally efficient service. The Governor in Council is pleased to observe that good work in all kinds of village service is everywhere recognised by the bestowal of appropriate rewards. The work of the Land Records staff has been already dealt with by Government in a separate review. In Sind it appears that more attention requires to be paid to the repairs of boundary marks.

6. A sign of the prosperity of the rayats was the unusually large circulation of gold currency referred to by the Commissioner, C. D., and the Collector of Belgaum. Marriages were again numerous and the liberal scale of expenditure which characterised the preceding year was maintained. The attendance and business at fairs increased and there were large purchases of gold and ornaments. There is evidence also that the profits of the year were not entirely spent on luxuries and ephemeral pleasures and that the agriculturists endeavoured to better their position permanently. While an increase in the consumption of liquor is reported from many districts as a natural outcome of the prosperity of the year, in East Khándesh the Rewa Kunbis combined to suppress drinking in their community and to improve their position by paying off their debts. Similarly in West Khándesh debts were reduced and large quantities of gold and numbers of cattle were purchased, while the demand for land led to an increase in its price. In the Sátára district the tendency of the labouring classes to save and even to become sávkárs on a small scale was noticed. The manner in which the cultivating classes tided over the adverse season of 1911-12 also shows that amidst the festivities and rejoicings of the two preceding years they exercised prudence and forethought.

7. The prosperity of the agriculturists made itself felt amongst other classes. Trade was very brisk. While prices of food fell a little, the wages of the labouring classes tended to rise, and their growing independence and improved condition is a matter of general comment. In the year under review the demand for labour in the fields, in the large centres of industry, and on important public and private works, was in excess of the supply. In districts so far apart and with circumstances so different as Broach and Kánara it is observed that the landlord system is seriously threatened by the difficulty of obtaining labour and that the number of small independent holders tends to increase. At Sholápur the working of short time in the mills was determined by the shortage of labour and not by any falling off in business. There was much industrial activity, but the high price of raw cotton, the scarcity and dearness of labour and the moderate demand for manufactured articles again combined to make the year a trying one for the spinning and weaving mills. The handloom industry, however, did well and cotton gins and presses continued to spring up in all the cotton-growing tracts. Possibly the expansion has been too rapid, for there are indications that all the ginneries cannot obtain sufficient work and that the combines which have arisen in recent years are so overweighted with members that profits cannot be readily secured for all. In East and West Khándesh combinations appear to have partially broken down during the year. In Broach the ginning association which in the previous year had doubled the already high rates for ginning was dissolved and in Surat the exorbitant rates fixed by the gin owners' trust resulted in organised opposition on the part of the cotton growers. The scarcity and dearness of labour has provided an incentive to the use of machine power in local industries, and the increase in the number of flour mills was especially noticeable. The general prosperity led to much house-building and the timber and other allied trades were very busy. A noteworthy branch of the activity and enterprise of the year was the extension, actual and projected, of railway communication in Gujarát. In the Southern Division also demands for increased railway facilities have arisen. In Sind the year was prosperous for trade and industry, but, with the exception of the rise of a number of apparently unstable insurance societies and banks, without any remarkable features.

8. The education of all classes continued to receive close attention from district officers. With the aid of special grants from Government new primary schools were opened in most districts and the opinion is frequently expressed that it is now time to divert attention and money to improving the quality of the education by providing more trained masters and better accommodation and equipment. In order to lessen the difficulty of providing funds, the Collector of Surat devised a new standard plan of school-house which can be constructed at less cost than the old type. The plan and estimate have obtained the approval of the Superintending Engineer of the Division and in the neighbouring district of Thána a five years' building programme based on the reduced estimate has already been laid down. At the close of the year further developments in primary education were awaiting the introduction of the rural standards. The progress made in educating the backward and depressed classes was good, especially in the Panch Maháls, Surat, Thána, Kolába and West Khándesh. Female education languishes except in the larger towns where it is steadily improving. One great impediment to its spread is the lack of trained mistresses. How far the diffusion of education has made the agriculturist better fitted for his occupation it is difficult to say, but there is no doubt that his outlook is broadening. He is now ready and even eager to follow the advice of agricultural and veterinary experts and to adopt new methods. He takes a keen interest in cattle shows and agricultural exhibitions. Co-operative Societies and Agricultural Associations are spreading in all directions. It is impossible not to believe that these results are partly due to the spread of education. A gratifying result of the prosperous season was the number of subscriptions raised and donations made in furtherance of educational projects.

9. A statement showing the results of the working of the non-alienable tenure is appended. In the Karáchi district 2,800 acres, in Kaira 1,200 acres and in Sukkur 700 acres of land were resettled with the occupants on this tenure. The Collectors have not supplied any explanation, but the figures in Kaira are doubtless connected with the very large amounts of unauthorised arrears which have been written off in this district. In Ratnágiri the area of 900 acres shown as resettled in this way consisted of sheri lands of which the leases had expired. Throughout the rest of the Presidency and Sind the area resettled with original occupants was only 1,500 acres in all. The area of lands resumed or resigned during the year was very large in the district of Ahmedahad where it amounted to 12,000 acres. The lands held on the non-alienable tenure in this district are largely poor lands on the margin of cultivation and the cultivators are in the habit of relinquishing them after exhausting their productive capacity. Forfeiture in consequence of a breach of the conditions of the tenure was imposed in this district only in flagrant cases, and alienations for good reasons were allowed. In the districts of Kaira and the Panch Maháls nearly 7,000 acres were resumed or resigned. The Collectors have not given any explanation of the figures, but it is probable that, as in preceding years, the conditions are the same as in the Ahmedabad district. In Násik district 3,500 acres were resumed or resigned, but the resumptions were restricted to six cases of evasions of the conditions. Only in the Hyderabad district do there appear to have been numerous cases of resumption on account of breach of conditions. The area of unoccupied lands given out on the tenure was considerable in some districts, but no Collector has made any comparison between it and the area given out on the ordinary survey tenure. As it appeared that misunderstandings had arisen regarding the purpose of the non-alienable tenure, Government recently issued orders* to emphasise the fact that it is designed to meet the circumstances of the wild tribes, the depressed castes and backward and improvident classes of cultivators and that in the giving out of waste lands the requirements of those classes who are capable of looking after their own interests should be considered and a suitable proportion of the lands offered to them on the ordinary tenure. To this extent Government agree with the Commissioner, C. D., that it is necessary to apply the non-alienable tenure with caution. Government consider that the practice reported by the District Deputy Collector, III Division, Dhárwár, of giving land on the ordinary tenure to non-agriculturists when they are the highest bidders is wrong. Except in unusual cases non-agriculturists should not be

* *Vide* Government Resolution No. 599, dated 19th January 1912.

allowed to take up waste lands on either tenure. Government agree also with the Commissioner, N. D., that sanction to reasonable alienations should be readily given. In this connection it is, however, noteworthy that the permission to lease land for 10 years which was widely notified in the Ahmednagar district has not been made use of.

10. The opinions of district officers on the working of the Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Act are somewhat diverse. A common complaint is that the Act has checked credit. This was, however, what it was intended to do, and it is not asserted that the check has been on necessary as well as on unnecessary borrowing. The provisions regarding conciliation are also frequently criticised, but apparently only in cases where the selection of conciliators has not been well made. The value of the work done by gentlemen who are fitted for this important duty is fully acknowledged. The Governor in Council sees no reason to doubt that the working of the Act has been beneficial. An enquiry has recently been conducted with a view to remedying such defects as may be found to exist.

11. The collection of inámdárs' dues was up to the standard of the collections of Government revenue and in the Central Division excellent progress was made in the recovery of arrears. In the districts of Thána and Surat also steps were taken to ensure that after an assistance decree has been granted coercive measures shall be taken if the decretal amount is not paid within a fixed time, and that arrears found to be irrecoverable shall be discharged instead of kept hanging over defaulters' heads. Many district officers complain that inámdárs will not write off arrears even when they are certainly irrecoverable. Those inámdárs who take a personal interest in their villages, encourage the village officers in their work and make prompt application to the district officers when assistance is required, have little difficulty in securing good collections of their dues. But the complaint is general that inámdárs even when specially requested to submit applications for assistance as soon as default occurs generally postpone doing so till the close of the revenue year, when there is great difficulty in effecting recoveries. Government regret to observe that inámdárs in several districts are attempting to raise rents in violation of customary rights claimed by the tenants. This tendency is ascribed by the Collector of Bijápur to the occurrence of recent prosperous seasons. As the Commissioner, S. D., points out, attempts to raise rents, if resisted, end in litigation where the tenants are at a disadvantage on account of their poverty and illiteracy and of the fact that their rights are from their very nature seldom supported by irrefragible documentary evidence. The question whether it would not be advantageous to introduce the Record of Rights into surveyed alienated villages is engaging the attention of Government.

12. The Governor in Council regards the record of the year with considerable satisfaction. Amidst the general prosperity there were plain indications that the standard of living of the masses continues to rise and that the moral qualities of the people are steadily developing. Public benefactions were unusually numerous. Public feeling was excellent. The Coronation of Their Imperial Majesties stirred in the people those feelings of loyalty and devotion to the throne which found their full expression during the royal visit after the close of the year. Amidst an ever increasing pressure of duty Government officers of all grades worked conscientiously, and in many cases with conspicuous ability and energy, to meet the convenience of the public and to promote its welfare. The Governor in Council has great pleasure in acknowledging these labours which, he believes, have secured also the appreciation of the people of the Presidency.

C. W. A. TURNER,

Acting Under Secretary to Government.

The Commissioner in Sind, }
 The Commissioner, N. D., } With copies of the report.
 The Commissioner, C. D., }

The Commissioner, S. D.,
All Collectors, including the Collectors and Deputy Commissioners in Sind,
The Settlement Commissioner and Director of Land Records,
The Director of Agriculture,
The Colonization Officer, Jamráo Canal,
The Manager, Encumbered Estates in Sind,
The Tálukdári Settlement Officer,
The Director of Public Instruction,
The Superintendent, Civil Veterinary Department, Bombay Presidency,
The Accountant General,
The Educational Department of the Secretariat,
The General Department of the Secretariat,
The Judicial Department of the Secretariat,
The Public Works Department of the Secretariat,
The Financial Department of the Secretariat.
The Government of India,
The Under Secretary of State for India. } By letter.

} With copies
of the
report.

Return of lands given out on the restricted tenure, referred to in paragraph 9 of the Resolution.

Taluka or Petha.	Total area under the restricted tenure on 1st August 1910.	Area of lands re-settled on the limited tenure with the occupants during the 12 months ending 31st July 1911.	Unoccupied lands given out on limited tenure during the same period.	Total of columns 3 and 4.	Area of lands resumed or resigned during the year.	Total area under the restricted tenure on 31st July 1911 columns (2+5) - column 6.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<i>Northern Division.</i>							
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	
Ahmedabad ...	106,607	77	9,245	9,322	11,863	104,066	
Kaira ...	76,733	1,222	1,674	2,896	3,095	76,534	
Panch Mahals ...	168,860	...	3,676	3,676	3,669	168,867	
Broach ...	27,677	9	958	967	830	27,814	
Surat ...	36,331	49	354	403	401	36,333	
Thána ...	3,353	197	315	512	...	3,865	
Total ...	419,561	1,554	16,222	17,776	19,858	417,479	
<i>Central Division.</i>							
Ahmednagar ...	12,215	...	1,757	1,757	138	13,834	
East Khândesh ...	27,780	...	1,259	1,259	142	28,897	
West " ...	295,978	...	3,756	3,756	1,499	298,235	
Násik ...	64,007	64	3,893	3,957	3,577	64,387	
Poona ...	1,016	179	937	1,116	251	1,881	
Sátára ...	2,766	163	806	969	15	3,720	
Sholápur ...	4,696	30	2,863	2,893	...	7,589	
Total ...	408,458	436	15,271	15,707	5,622	418,543	
<i>Southern Division.</i>							
Belgaum* ...	5,041	48	1,683	1,731	891	5,881	* The total area on the restricted tenure on 31st July 1910 shown in the previous year's statement does not tally with the figures in column 2 of this statement owing to the correction of previous mistakes.
Bijápur ...	11,640	223	1,850	2,073	29	13,684	
Dhárwár ...	7,074	32	1,580	1,612	44	8,642	
Kánara ...	3,771	...	210	210	214	3,767	
Kolába ...	38	...	2	2	...	40	

Ratnágiri	{	84 †1,956	875 4	...	875 4	...	959 1,960
Total ...		29,604	1,182	5,325	6,507	1,178	34,933
Total for the Presidency proper ...		857,623	3,172	36,818	39,990	26,658	870,955
<i>Sind.</i>							
Karáchi		52,190	2,825	2,602	5,427	245	57,372
Hyderabad		228,728	...	41,649	41,649	‡3,974	266,403
Sukkur		57,207	715	2,858	3,573	530	60,250
Lárkána		34,730	282	929	1,211	§293	35,648
Thar and Párkar		56,440	103	10,377	10,480	69	66,851
Upper Sind Frontier		41,857	53	5,019	5,072	2,295	44,634
Total ...		471,152	3,978	63,434	67,412	7,406	531,158
Grand total for the whole Presidency...		1,328,775	7,150	100,252	107,402	34,064	1,402,113

† Area entered on the restricted tenure in virtue of the orders directing that the lands of occupancy tenants in khoti villages having no right of transfer should on the lapse of the villages be entered as held on the restricted tenure.

‡ Out of this, 1,857 eroded.

§ Of this, 5 acres 30 gunthas have been resettled on ordinary tenure and 23 acres 25 gunthas have been reserved on account of non-payment of conditional assessment.