

LAND REVENUE ADMINISTRATION REPORT,

PART II,

OF THE

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY, INCLUDING SIND,

FOR THE YEAR 1911-1912.

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A.—PRESIDENCY PROPER.

THE HONOURABLE MR. R. P. BARROW, I. C. S., Commissioner,  
Northern Division.

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

W. D. SHEPPARD, Esq., C.I.E., I. C. S., Commissioner,  
Southern Division.

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I.—Economic Condition and Prospects.

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

Commissioner, Northern Division.

The season of 1911-12 was a most unhappy one for the three northern districts of the Division, actual famine being declared in the Panch Maháls. Conditions in Ahmedabad and Kaira were apparently as bad as in the Panch Maháls, but the people of these two districts drew to such an extent on their own resources and those placed at their disposal by Government that famine had not to be declared in them. The monsoon set in early in June and promised well, but in north Gujarát a break occurred in the middle of the month and continued till the beginning of July when a few showers fell. Thereafter there was practically no rain till a few more showers fell in Ahmedabad early in September without doing any good. In Broach the rainfall was in defect during the month of July, but good rain fell in the first week in August and so gave relief; the total rainfall for the year was however considerably below the average. In Surat the total fall was only about half the average; the first rain was opportune and well distributed, and had there been only two or three inches more at the close of the season the crops would have been excellent. In Thána too the fall was below normal, but it was, on the whole, timely and well distributed.

During the break in June caterpillars ravaged the young crops in the Panch Maháls and practically destroyed them. A little cotton sown on black soil and such few remnants of the other crops as the caterpillars had missed dragged on until September, with the aid of an occasional shower, and then withered under the heat of the September sun. Thus the failure of crops in this district was complete.

Except in the Gogha mahál where conditions were more favourable, the crops in the Ahmedabad district were almost as absolute a failure as they were in the famine of 1899. The early sown bájri which had the benefit of the first rain in June yielded a two-anna crop, but that was all that was saved from the general ruin. In the Kaira district the annewari of all crops was well below four annas except in a few villages of Borsad and A'nand.

In Broach the prospects of the cotton crop were fair right up to the end of August, but the dry atmosphere of the hot cloudy days that followed caused much damage to this crop, especially in Jambusar; the crop is estimated at about 5½ annas, while the jowári averaged about four.

In Surat the earlier sown crops were up to the average. Tur and jowári did fairly well, but the absence of rain just when it was most needed

diminished the outturn of the latter. The early sown rice turned out well, but not so that which was sown later nor the cotton which in the beginning promised well.

In Thána, rice—the chief crop of the district—averaged about twelve annas. The grass lands of this district, comprising over  $3\frac{1}{2}$  lakhs of acres are now very valuable and the fodder famine in Gujarát brought much profit to the grass growers of Thána and of Surat also; the exports from Thána alone amounted to nearly 50,000 tons.

Almost all the irrigation tanks in Gujarát remained empty. In the Ahmedabad district the Khari Cut System was dry throughout the year, but the Háthmáti Canal was able to serve three villages. Boring operations were vigorously taken in hand to improve the drinking water-supply and to obtain irrigation for fodder crops. Some good results were obtained in the Viramgám taluka, but in the Bhál tract where there is a chronic scarcity of water the available plant which can carry the boring to no greater depth than about 150 feet proved to be insufficient. At a depth of 150 feet only brackish water can as a rule be obtained, and if anything is to be done in the Bhál tract deep boring, such as is now being tried in Viramgám and in Broach town, must be resorted to. In parts of this district a sort of water dole was instituted, every household being provided with one gallon a day. The Kaira District Local Board, the level in the wells having fallen below even that of 1899, purchased ten sets of boring implements and succeeded in tapping water in 54 out of 89 cases. In the Panch Maháls the drinking water supply was most inadequate and a large number of wells were sunk in the beds of tanks and rivers; juniper experiments were successfully tried in a few cases. In Broach the Collector made arrangements for supplying certain of the villages that were hardest hit with potable water from a distance, and for filling central drinking troughs for cattle. Surat was not as badly off as its northern neighbour, but even there the Local Boards spent no small sums on sinking new wells that were urgently needed. The same may be said of Thána where the Local Board expenditure on wells amounted to a third of a lakh of rupees.

#### Commissioner, Central Division.

The season of 1911-12 was generally below the average, the districts, which suffered most, being West Khándesh, Ahmednagar, Sholápur and the eastern parts of Poona. The early rain did not set in till late in June, and there was a long break after the end of July or first week in August: consequently sowing and transplantation were retarded. In August rain was generally lighter than usual, but not so deficient as to cause any real anxiety. The main cause of trouble was the almost complete failure of the usual rain in September and October, above all the absence of the "*uttara*" and "*hasta*" showers, on which the proper ripening of the cotton crops depends. Fortunately towards the end of November there was a heavy fall, which allowed of fairly extensive rábi sowings: these, however, did not come to very much, except in the better soils in regular rábi tracts. Added to the deficiency in the rainfall was its extreme capriciousness: there were extraordinary variations in the same taluka and even in the same village. The rainfall seemed to have, as it were, no real current behind it. As a result, the harvest, both kharif and rábi, was a good deal below the average.

As regards irrigation, economical management aided by the heavy showers in November enabled the engineers to maintain an adequate supply of water in the Nira and Mutha Canal systems: and the completion of the Godáveri Canal allowed of irrigation for the first time on that canal. But on the smaller canals and irrigation works, there was a very poor supply and consequently there were very large remissions of the irrigation share of land revenue. In Poona, for instance, this amounted to no less than Rs. 69,129. The supply of water for drinking was very scanty, and in places this caused a good deal of distress. A good deal of relief was, however, afforded by grants of Provincial funds: in West Khándesh and Sholápur, for instance, sums of Rs. 13,500 and Rs. 11,000 were spent from this source.

As regards crops, the area under cotton in Poona was reduced from 25,363 acres to 13,986 acres: but elsewhere the area under this crop was maintained at its former level. Ground-nut was even more largely cultivated than last year: in Sátára the Collector shows that the area has increased from 37,393 acres in 1905-06 to 95,461 acres in 1911-12, and the variety grown was almost entirely the Japanese, which unlike the Indian produces no fodder. It is not surprising that the reports are full of lamentations at the substitution of these crops for the less profitable but less risky food and fodder crops.

#### Commissioner, Southern Division.

The season of 1911-12 was on the whole unsatisfactory. In the Konkan and the below-ghát talukas of Kánara the rainfall was deficient though not generally unseasonable. In the Karnátic it was ill-distributed, unseasonable and insufficient. The out-turn of crops in the Konkan varied from 10 to 40 per cent. below the normal. In the Karnátic the results were variable. Rice was a complete failure in the Dhárwár district except in one taluka (Kod), while in Belgaum rice did well in Khánápur and Chándgad and was only disappointing in Sampgaon. Cotton did well in the greater part of Bijápur, though other rábi crops practically failed in one-half of the district, and were also very poor in one-half of Dhárwár and one-third of Belgaum. Kharif crops throughout the Karnátic (other than rice) were much below the average, and the rice lands bordering on the Krishna were never once flooded by that river.

#### *Insect Pests.*

Both rice and jowári hoppers appeared in parts of Belgaum, Bijápur and Dhárwár; but fortunately the damage done was not considerable. The operations for the destruction of rice hoppers near Belgaum town were conducted as in the preceding year at a cost of Rs. 3,650 and 186 millions of hoppers are reported to have been destroyed. These operations have been most effective and for the next few years it seems probable that but little damage will be done.

#### *Wild pigs, etc., destructive to crops.*

In Kolába blue bulls (Rohis) and wild pig, and in Belgaum and Kánara wild pig, did much damage to the crops. In Belgaum, where the destruction of a certain number of wild pigs is made a condition of the grant or renewal of a gun license for crop protection, 383 pigs were killed and rewards to the extent of Rs. 308 were given. The amount of rewards claimed during the year for killing pigs is reported to have increased in Kánara. Parties of local Shikáris were formed in Kolába and 60 Rohis and 164 pigs were shot. Mr. Jayakar says:—

“In part of Karjat and Nágothna there is yet a good deal of complaint on account of damage caused to crops by wild pigs; the temporary licensing has mitigated the evil, but unless sustained and well-organised efforts are made the ‘trouble’ will not be completely eradicated. Some time back field parties of shooting men were organised in Karjat, but on account of the want of organisation amongst the men selected and their haphazard method nothing much was accomplished. What is therefore wanted is sustained efforts from a party of trained shooting men. This method remains yet to be tried and I feel confident that this method would prove more beneficial than the present one of temporary licensing to inexperienced and ignorant agriculturists.”

The damage done by wild elephants in parts of Kánara is reported to have been much less during the year than in the previous one.

#### *Water-supply.*

In the ghát districts on account of the scanty rainfall, water both for irrigation and drinking purposes was deficient. The failure of the irrigation tanks necessitated the grant of remissions of water revenue on a liberal scale.

The want of drinking water was generally supplied by the Local Boards with the help of the Provincial grant for the improvement of village water-supply, by sinking new wells, repairing old ones, digging holes in the beds of nallas, etc. Still a few outlying villages suffered much, water for daily consumption having to be brought from a considerable distance (even six miles in some cases). The water-supply of the towns of Hubli and Dhárwár having failed, the Municipalities did their best by providing temporary wells and deepening old ones. The Dhárwár Municipality used the cheap boring apparatus in deepening wells with success.

In the coast districts, on the contrary, water-supply was adequate except in the Khárápat villages and the denuded tracts adjoining the gháts in Kolába where its scarcity is a matter of general complaint. The Local Boards rendered such assistance as was possible. Twenty-eight jumper experiments were tried, but only four proved successful; the failure is attributed to the lack of experienced men. The Collector (Mr. Thomas) is of opinion that careful attention in tahal cutting will probably improve the water-supply. The Alibág, Roha-Ashtami and Uran water-works were commenced during the year, but the progress of the first two works is reported to be extremely slow.

### Extracts.

#### NORTHERN DIVISION.

O. Rothfeld, Esquire, Collector, Broach.

It remains to say that the resourcefulness of the people as a whole with the exception perhaps of some Rajput and Koli villages was beyond praise, and that their energy and intelligent co-operation in all measures made it difficult to credit that this was the same Gujarát that we knew in 1899-1900. This spirit deserves all the more recognition, as the previous season had also been bad in the greater part of the worst scarcity area of this year, while it is to my knowledge that in many cases the villagers had a very hard struggle indeed to pull through without requiring further relief than that given by early announcements of revenue suspensions and timely grants of takávi.

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

The failure of the monsoon revealed the resourcefulness of the people. Instead of sitting with folded hands or wandering about, as they had done in the last great famine, they took to irrigation whenever they had facilities. All Gogho and Dhandbuka (except the Bhál) was busy from August 1911 right up to June 1912, irrigating fodder and other crops. Even Viramgám, in spite of its brackish water, was covered with waterholes dug in every direction. Busy and intelligent Kunbis took as many as three crops in this year of drought, viz., winter and spring "chhasatias," with irrigated wheat between. Of course, the acreage was very small, being limited to two acres per pair of bullocks. The work was exhausting, requiring incessant toil, and vigilant watching night and day. But the result was good. As against only 4,029 irrigated acres in the previous year, the area irrigated in the year under report was 17,270. This was not achieved without recurring grants of tagái and distribution of fodder.

### 2.—Cattle and Fodder.

Commissioner, Northern Division.

Last year's report observed that the previously formed impression that the effects of the great famine of 1899 on the cattle of the Division were gradually being removed had been confirmed. To what extent improvement has been retarded during the year under report it is impossible to say, since no reliable statistics of cattle mortality are as yet to hand. The year was naturally a very trying one for cattle: scarcity of fodder drove owners either to remove their cattle in large numbers into territories where grass was, or was expected to be, available, or else to hand them over to the District Officers for conveyance to the Dangs or the Gir and many beasts died either on the road or in the strange places to which they were taken. The mortality, though undoubtedly heavy,—it is estimated at 25 per cent. in Ahmedabad, 10 per cent. in Kaira and 12 per cent. in the Panch Maháls,—was much less than might reasonably have been expected; and of the animals that died a large proportion were old and infirm cattle, the

preservation of which would have served no economically useful purpose. It has been noted before now that in the Panch Maháls the number of cattle kept is considerably in excess of the actual requirements because, as a rule, grass is so plentiful and so cheap that any number of good, bad, or indifferent animals may be kept without any strain on the resources of the people and to some extent the same is probably true of other parts of the division. The essentially important consideration to be borne in mind is that at the close of this very trying year agriculturists and dairy men were, unless the District estimates are incorrect, still in possession of sufficient animals for their business and domestic purposes. A cattle census lately taken in the Ahmedabad district revealed the unexpected and surprising fact that there are now in the district over 23,000 head of cattle more than there were in 1909!

In addition to the losses amongst cattle migrating in search of fodder, caused by fatigue, change of conditions of life and, in some cases neglect, there were deaths in all districts except Surat from rinderpest, Hæmorrhagia, Septicæmia and Foot and Mouth disease, while Anthrax and Surra also appeared in Thána. A large number of inoculations for rinder pest were performed; if the figures are correct, these inoculations were very successful.

The famine was entirely a fodder famine for, while grain was everywhere available in sufficient quantities, there was an almost total absence of grass in the three northern districts by reason of the failure of the monsoon. Broach suffered from scarcity of fodder and had to import from outside, but that is the normal state of things in that district. Surat and Thána were in a position to export grass at much profit to themselves. To meet the needs of the people the Collectors imported some  $6\frac{1}{2}$  crores of pounds of grass into Ahmedabad, 4 crores into Kaira and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  crores into the Panch Maháls, the whole of which was either given out as tagái or sold to cultivators at a cheap rate; the Bombay Central Famine Relief Fund and the Wadia Charity Fund threw a large quantity of grass into these districts either for free distribution or for sale at a reduced rate.

Tagái was freely advanced for the digging of new wells and repairs to old ones on which to raise fodder crops as far as possible. Although large irrigation schemes are supposed to be impracticable in Gujarát, there is ample scope for the extension of well irrigation.

#### Commissioner, Central Division.

Owing to the deficient rainfall of the year the amount of fodder yielded by the kharif crops was very scanty: this would have been a serious matter in any case, but it was made worse by the almost total failure of the early rains in Gujarát, which stimulated the demand and caused huge quantities of kadbi to be exported to that province from Sholápur and parts of Poona, the ryots trusting to the October rains to enable them to replace their stocks. The October rains, however, failed almost entirely, those of November came too late for fodder crops except in Násik; and at the end of 1911 the position, as far as fodder was concerned, was very serious indeed. On this being realized measures were at once organized to supply the deficiency as far as possible. The rate for transport of grass on railways was reduced to one-fifth the normal. Forests and kuráns were thrown open. Anjan leaves were given, facilities granted for removal of grass by carts or in head-loads from forests, and extensive departmental operations for cutting and baling grass started in Thána and West Khándesh from where consignments were made to depôts opened at convenient distances along the line, where it was offered for sale at reduced rates. In all these operations the officers of the Forest Department rendered invaluable aid: in fact as Mr. Joshi, Deputy Collector, West Khándesh, remarks, if the year has done nothing else, it has made the people realize the value of Forest conservancy. Without the forests the Division would have indeed fared badly.

The result of the shortage of fodder has of course been considerable mortality. But I do not think that that mortality was anything like so great

as is stated by the Collector of Ahmednagar, for instance. I recently made inquiries at Vambori Station, the principal export market of the Ahmednagar district, as to the quantity of hides exported during the past calendar year. I forget the amount but it was small and actually below the average of preceding years. There is of course reason to fear that in the current year there has been a much more marked deterioration: but, as far as the year now under review is concerned, there is, I am convinced, no ground for the sensational statements put into circulation.

#### Commissioner, Southern Division.

Scarcity of fodder was generally experienced in all the above-ghát districts and the cattle also suffered from the deficiency in the water-supply. Relief was afforded by allowing free grazing in the forests, by large imports of grass, and by grants of tagái. Superfluous cattle were sold early in the season. Sufficient cattle were retained for agricultural purposes and little or no mortality occurred among them. On the coast the cattle continue to be poor and the breed inferior. Their number also is inadequate in parts of Kánara. Rinderpest appeared in a few places in Bijápur, Dhárwár, Kánara and Ratnágiri; but the losses were not considerable. Minor diseases of cattle, *viz.*, Hæmorrhagia, Septicæmia, Anthrax and Foot and Mouth disease—prevailed on a small scale in all the districts. The treatment of cattle at the veterinary dispensaries is gaining popularity among the cultivators. Inoculation against rinderpest was successful in Bijápur. The itinerary veterinary dispensary in Kolába is reported to have made a promising beginning.

The unfavourable nature of the season combined with the growing tendency of the cultivators to replace fodder crops by the better paying non-fodder crops, such as cotton, tobacco, chillies, etc., brought about a somewhat serious scarcity of fodder in all the three above-ghát districts, except perhaps in the south-west corner of Belgaum. On the other hand, the very high prices obtained for fodder, which was due to demands from outside the Division rather than to any local deficiency, induced many persons who had large stocks in store, especially in Belgaum, to export them or sell them locally at a profit. Ráo Bahádur Artal reports that some cultivators in Gokák taluka who had old kadbi in stock received from 30 to 50 thousand rupees by its sale.

Prompt measures to alleviate the distress were taken in all the districts. Tagái for the purchase of fodder was liberally advanced. Railway freight concessions were allowed to persons importing fodder. It was imported into Bijápur and Dhárwár from the Nizam's Dominions, the Mysore territory, the Bellary district in the Madras Presidency and other places. In Belgaum the reserved forests of two talukas were thrown open to free grazing. In Bijápur also grazing in reserved forests was made free in February 1912. The villagers of Navalgund taluka and Mundárgi petha in Dhárwár were allowed to cut and remove grass from closed forests free of charge. In the west of the Dhárwár district, large quantities of grass from reserved forest were allowed to be cut and removed at a low fee of annas 8 per cart-load. Besides, Government depôts were opened in the more affected parts of Belgaum and Bijápur at which grass was sold to agriculturists either for cash or as tagái. But the cattle of the black soil accustomed to kadbi (jowári stalk) did not take to the forest grass supplied at the depôts. A portion of the grass supplied to Bijápur had consequently to be transferred elsewhere. It was only when the supply of kadbi became nearly exhausted and its price had risen enormously (20 rupees per cart-load) that people bought the grass in any quantities, but even then only as a last resort and to supplement the ordinary feed of kadbi. Below the gháts, the supply of fodder was sufficient though prices ruled high.

#### Extracts.

##### NORTHERN DIVISION.

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

A fairly good scheme of insurance against fodder famine can be gradually evolved if Sub-Divisional Officers and Mámlatdárs were to help the village Pancháyats to insist on

cultivators contributing a certain quantity of fodder in good years, when grass has practically no value in the village. Most of the village population would gladly contribute and a few independent men could always be managed by the Pancháyat. A lac of pounds a year thus collected for five or six years, and stacked in the village common, would have the effect of saving all the village cattle in a year of fodder famine such as we have passed through. With the Collector's approval I have made a beginning in Virangám taluka. The experiment will be made in selected villages, the incidental expenses being borne by the balance of the local Dharmáda Fund. The matter of greatest importance is to take action regarding the preservation of the stacks from incendiarism. The Mukhi and the village chokidárs would be responsible for the safety of these hay-stacks and the Taláti could keep a rough account for the Pancháyat. If the experiment becomes successful the scheme would work automatically without necessitating help or interference from Government Officers.

#### SOUTHERN DIVISION.

A. R. Bonus, Esquire, Collector, Ratnágiri.

The prices of cattle have risen considerably and the difficulty of getting good cattle for agricultural and other purposes is increasing every year. In fact, the cattle problem like the *ráb* question is gradually becoming acute. The condition of cattle generally is not satisfactory. Their number is said to be decreasing and their quality deteriorating owing to want of intelligent breeding and sufficient nourishment. Good breeding bulls are not locally available and the local fodder is very poor in quality. Owing to the general rise in the prices of food stuffs, the use of grain, oil cake, etc., for feeding cattle is getting beyond the means of the average cultivator. Agriculturists are just beginning to realise the importance of the subject and the question of growing fodder crops is attracting attention. The Agricultural Department is trying experiments in Guinea grass cultivation with this view, and the District Veterinary Graduate has expressed himself to the effect that much may be done towards rehabilitating the cattle. I have asked him to report his views on this subject in detail.

#### 3.—Land Revenue—Recoveries, contumacy, etc.

Commissioner, Northern Division.

The jamábandi settlement was everywhere effected in time except in the Ankleshwar taluka in Broach, the Olpád taluka in Surat and the Bassein and Sálsette talukas in Thána. The reason of the delay in the case of Olpád has not been given; in the case of the other talukas the delay has been satisfactorily explained.

The following statement gives the details of land revenue of the year:—

##### 1. Arrears at the beginning of the year—

				Rs.
(a) Authorised	...	...	...	1,34,551
(b) Unauthorised	...	...	...	3,10,471
2. Current demand of the year	...	...	...	1,00,72,947
		Total demand	...	1,05,17,969
3. Suspensions	...	...	...	39,45,940*
4. Remissions	...	...	...	7,09,550
5. Collections	...	...	...	56,58,497
6. Arrears (unauthorised) at the end of the year—				
(a) of current year's demand	...	...	...	33,955
(b) of previous years	...	...	...	1,69,867

but, of the current year's demand, Rs. 160 were collected in the Kaira district in the previous year.

The current year's demand decreased by Rs. 1,38,000 owing mainly to the existence of famine conditions in the three northern districts of the Division.

\* Of these Rs. 21,509 were paid during the year.



Wholesale suspensions of land revenue were granted throughout the districts of Ahmedabad, Kaira and the Panch Maháls, except in parts of the Gogha mahál and three villages in the Hathmáti Canal in the Parántij táluka of the Ahmedabad district, and a few villages in the A'nand and Borsad tálukas of the Kaira district and forty-nine in the Panch Maháls where payment of only half the revenue was suspended. In Broach where suspensions amounted to over Rs. 93,000 payment of the whole of the demand was suspended in only a few cases; generally only a half was suspended. In Surat the payment of half the demand over a half of the Olpád táluka and a part of Chorási was suspended. In Thána where a little over twenty-six thousand rupees were suspended, Rs. 263 were on account of loss by fire; the remainder represents payments in Sálsette affected by the results of appeals and suits or the correction of survey records consequent on the acquisition of lands for railways.

Remissions of nearly one láksh and thirty thousand and two lákhs and thirty-six thousand were given in the Ahmedabad and Kaira districts, respectively, on account of the complete failure of the rice crops and the abatement of 30 per cent. of the enhanced assessments under the current settlement in certain villages. In Ahmedabad automatic remissions of the previous years' suspended revenue under the three years' rule amounted to about Rs. 5,000. In the Panch Maháls remissions amounted to only Rs. 6,000, four-fifths of which are accounted for by the introduction of the revision survey settlement in the Kalol and Dohád tálukas and the abolition of the Ghasdana and Raja Chithi cesses pending correction of Government records. In Broach out of remissions of one láksh and five thousand, 75 per cent. were on account of revision survey settlement, the remainder being due to writes-off and diluvion; while in Surat Rs. 82,000 or nearly three-fourths of the whole were on account of deficient rainfall. It is creditable to the district that the arrears written off as irrecoverable have during the year been reduced to Rs. 272 only. The sum of Rs. 1,15,000 out of total remissions of Rs. 1,17,000 in Thána represents merely the demand on account of building assessment in Sálsette táluka at full rate included in the jamábandi, but subsequently cancelled on the owners' passing agreements to pay composition rates.

Wherever full or partial collections were ordered, recovery was effected without difficulty except in three villages of the Broach district in which contumacy was displayed but soon overcome. The previous year's arrears in Ahmedabad were largely due to the damage done to cotton by frost, and it would not have been right to press for their recovery in such a season as the last. It is satisfactory to observe that in Broach, a district once notorious for contumacy, only Rs. 450 out of a net demand of Rs. 14,88,000 remained uncollected and the Local Fund, a part of which might have been suspended, paid up in order that the activities of the Local Board might not be hampered. In Surat only Rs. 141 remained as unauthorized arrears out of Rs. 21 lákhs.

The heavy unauthorized arrears in the Thána district, were reduced by writing-off to the extent of over 67 thousand, leaving four thousand still to be collected of which Rs. 3,000 are arrears of building assessment in Sálsette.

No severity was exercised in the collection of State revenue; coercive measures were sparingly resorted to and only in cases of proved necessity.

Commissioner, Central Division.

There was some delay in the completion of jamábandi in parts of the Ahmednagar, Poona and Násik districts, which is attributed to the introduction of the new village forms. The explanation is not satisfactory. The delay could have been obviated, if a little foresight and personal supervision had been exercised at the right time. The year opened with an outstanding balance of 10½ lákhs authorized arrears and Rs. 1,37,000 unauthorized arrears: and the demand for the year amounted to Rs. 127 lákhs. The accounts for the year

show that the 10½ lakhs of suspended revenue were remitted under the suspension and remission rules: this is the second year in succession that remission to this extent has been necessary. Out of the demand of the year 26½ lakhs or roughly one-fifth was suspended: and the balance for collection amounted to 101 lakhs. Turning to the figures for districts it will be noted that Ahmednagar again had a most unfortunate year. Out of a total demand of 20½ lakhs no less than 8 lakhs were suspended, 2½ lakhs remitted and 9½ lakhs only collected. In East Khándesh only 60 miles away there were no suspensions or remissions at all. As regards the collections, it is satisfactory to note that the outstanding balance was only Rs. 30,014. Of this Rs. 13,965 or nearly one-half in Sholápur was due to special causes and has since been collected: and a similar reduction has been made in Poona and Ahmednagar. No satisfactory reason is assigned for the balance of Rs. 4,643 in West Khándesh. The fact that it was due from Bhils is no excuse, as Bhils had a particularly good year. As is unfortunately common now-a-days, there was a certain amount of difficulty in collection, particularly when the payees were of the well-to-do class. Mr. Gupte in Ahmednagar mentions a case in which a jágirdár refused to pay up Rs. 2-5-1, until threatened with a warrant of arrest: but on the whole the drastic measures taken in 1910-11 have had a very marked effect and the persistent contumacy of a year or two ago has to a great extent disappeared. The figures for the Sátára district given in the Collector's report, which I quote below, are a striking illustration of this. Mr. Mountford shows that though the year was a far worse year than 1910-11, the amount of pressure necessary for the collection of the revenue was not one-fourth of that found necessary in the latter year: and yet the arrears for 1911-12 were practically nil. Taking the Division as a whole, the position as regards collection is undoubtedly better than it was: all that is necessary now is to see that there is no relapse into slackness and that the powers which the law gives are applied consistently and punctually to rich and poor alike, particularly the rich. With our modern liberal system of suspensions and remissions the assessment is never demanded unless there is a crop to pay for it: and arrears can only be due to the improper appraisement of the crop in the first case or unbusinesslike methods of collection in the second. The really competent revenue officer will avoid both these errors.

Name of District.	Past arrears.		Current demand.	Total demand.	Suspensions.	Remissions.	Collections.	Unauthorized arrears.	Remarks.
	Authorized.	Unauthorized.							
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Ahmednagar ...	3,29,929	45,324	10,40,255	20,24,507	8,04,387	2,81,953	*9,32,761	7,251	* This includes Rs. 1,844 voluntarily paid in advance.
East Khándesh ...	52	...	28,04,653	28,04,703	...	170	28,04,405	40	
West Khándesh ...	80,363	5,216	18,57,622	19,40,201	5,08,825	1,10,092	13,25,611	4,043	
Náalik ...	1,33,715	420	17,16,068	19,50,203	1,93,785	2,39,905	14,15,955	559	
Poona ...	3,21,062	60,074	13,53,242	17,04,078	5,50,384	1,87,207	9,93,875	3,112	† Includes Rs. 8,740 on account of over-collections.
Sátára ...	18,700	12,091	20,01,015	20,32,306	1,61,712	92,057	†17,66,632	45	
Sholápur ...	1,55,968	12,970	12,90,554	14,66,448	4,17,237	1,27,204	9,01,043	13,965	
Total ...	10,45,983	1,37,001	1,27,02,359	1,38,85,349	26,66,330	10,39,187	1,01,60,401	30,014	

Commissioner, Southern Division.

The jamábandi settlement was delayed beyond the prescribed date (15th March) in 14 talukas and one mahál of the Division as noted in the margin.

Name of district.	No. of talukas in which delay occurred.
Belgaum ...	3
Bijápur ...	2
Dhárwár ...	2
Kánara ...	2 and 1 Mahál.
Kolába ...	3
Ratnágiri ...	2
	14

The delay in these cases has been satisfactorily explained by the Collectors except in the case of one taluka in Kolába where it is attributed to the very late date at which the Collector commenced touring; reasons have not been given in the case of the other two talukas in Kolába and one taluka in Ratnágiri where the settlement was completed before the end of March, presumably under the impression that the end of March is the date fixed for the

settlement. The attention of the Collectors will be drawn to the Standing Orders on the subject.

The subjoined table shows the demands, collections, and outstandings of land revenue as reported by the Collectors. Second revision settlement was introduced into the Dhárwár taluka and the revised enhanced rates for the next 25 years were brought into force in Hubli during the year under report. These causes are mainly responsible for the appreciable increase in the demand in Dhárwár, while the variations in the case of other districts are principally due to fluctuating items of miscellaneous land revenue.

Suspensions of land revenue on a large scale and remissions of water-rate in the above-ghát districts and in parts of Kánara were granted owing to the unfavourable nature of the season. The major part of the amounts shown as remitted, however, represents automatic remissions in Belgaum and Bijápur. The large amount of Rs. 2,18,536 shown against Dhárwár includes Rs. 1,45,066 on account of remission of increased assessment of revision as per Igatpuri concession and full remission owing to the introduction of revised rates in two talukas as stated above. Out of the total amount of remissions of Rs. 10,759 shown against Kánara Rs. 4,587 are due to the introduction of revision settlement into the Kárwár taluka. In Kolába and Ratnágiri the figures entered against suspensions and remissions are for the most part on account of attachment expenses of Khoti villages which are recovered when the Khots resume management or are written off in case the villages lapse to Government.

In spite of the poor harvest of the year, the collection work in the above-ghát districts and especially in Belgaum has been very satisfactory; and it is gratifying to see that the unauthorised arrears for the whole Division which stood at Rs. 67,477 at the beginning of the year were reduced to Rs. 12,208 only during the year. The result was probably due to the prosperity brought about by the preceding year's harvest and also to some extent to the liberality of the suspensions granted during the year as well as to the exertions of the officers concerned.

The revenue is generally willingly paid, though in some parts, especially in Kolába, contumacy is reported on the part of even well-to-do people who withheld payment in the belief that by so doing they would simply have to pay notice fees of annas 8 per notice while continuing to earn interest on their money. The penalty under section 148 of the Land Revenue Code was applied in these cases, and it is hoped that it will have the desired effect. Unpunctuality in paying revenue was noticed in one taluka in Belgaum where also section 148, Land Revenue Code, was resorted to in a few cases. The Mahál jamedárs in Dhárwár gave some trouble and the inámdárs held off asking for suspensions till the last moment which resulted in slightly swelling the amount of arrears in that district. In Kánara a certain number of notices of demand have to be issued every year owing to the unpunctuality of the rayats. Mr. Hiremath reports that lands were forfeited for realisation of land revenue in the case of 205 defaulters in the Bijápur taluka, and Mr. Desai states that 39 cases of forfeiture occurred in his Division.

Further compulsory measures adopted in the Division were few in number and deserve no comment.

*Statement showing demand, collections and outstandings of land revenue  
in the districts of the Southern Division for the year 1911-1912.*

Serial No.	Items.	Belgaum.	Bijapur.	Dhárwar.	Kánara.	Kolába.	Ratnágiri.	Total.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1	Arrears at the beginning of the year—								
	(a) Authorised ... ..	18,202	30,510	50,724	—	4	41,365	1,35,896	
	(b) Unauthorised ... ..	5,909	16,124	36,637	5,666	976	2,025	67,417	
2	Current demand of the year ...	15,79,763	14,64,978	28,57,833	9,96,152	13,42,733	9,01,216	91,42,675	
	Total demand ...	15,99,054	15,11,612	29,45,244	10,01,818	13,43,713	9,41,606	93,46,047	
3	Suspensions ... ..	2,77,302	2,62,535	11,82,228	17,669	341	31,130	17,71,505	
4	Remissions ... ..	14,441	26,091	2,19,536	10,750	2,207	16,718	3,91,652	
5	Collections ... ..	13,03,900	11,93,907	15,20,207	9,71,422	13,40,872	8,95,905	72,31,273	
6	Arrears (unauthorised) at the end of the year—								
	(a) Of current year's demand.	2,326	18,101	16,441	1,799	110	642	39,409	
	(b) Of previous years ... ..	1,185	2,689	7,832	169	183	151	12,268	
	Total arrears ...	3,411	20,879	24,273	1,968	293	793	51,617	

**Extracts.**

**CENTRAL DIVISION.**

L. J. Mountford, Esq., Collector, Sátára.

The chief feature of this year as of last year has been the reality of collections. Indulgent treatment in the past had fostered contumacy to an alarming extent. Mámlatárs did not feel inclined to press ryots, and while the poorer cultivators paid up honestly, the Kulkarni and Pátíl Bhaupana, the Deshpandes and Deshmukhs took no notice of the Kulkarni's demands.

In 1910-11 you drew the serious attention of all officers to the reality of collections. Salutary measures were taken and the result has been to make collections far easier. 1910-11 was a splendid year. 1911-12 was the worst year this district has had for six years and what are the results? Far less coercive measures this year than last and collections practically complete for the first year out of many. The following figures will show what this policy has effected :—

	1910-11.	1911-12.
Arrests ... ..	24	6
Distrain of property ... ..	91	3
Notices issued ... ..	2,361	592
<i>Forfeiture.</i>		
Number of persons affected	571	30
Area ... ..	A. g. 7,759 9	A. g. 522 22
Assessment ... ..	Rs. a. p. 3,059 12 2	Rs. a. p. 323 15 11

The significance of these figures, when one would naturally expect more trouble in such a bad year as 1911-12, is too obvious to require comment. Collections were rapidly developing into a farce, for although our annewari system was meant to check any difficulty in collections, our unauthorized arrears accumulated faster than in the years before the introduction of the system and a feeling had got abroad that the Remission and Suspension Rules were an acknowledgment that the payment of land revenue was a hardship. Concessions breed opposition the whole world over, and there was no exception in the present case. One of my Sub-Divisional Officers wished to relax collections because the ryots were very honest but could not pay and he stated as proof of their honesty that they had paid all their sávkárs' debts. In other words sávkár first and Government not in the running.

Of the arrests this year, one man was detained for ten days and the other five for 18 hours or less.

Late payment was punished with fine in 2,690 cases, fines amounting to Rs. 5,945.10.1

4. *Tagai.*

## Commissioner, Northern Division.

The following statement illustrates the condition of tagai in the Division:—

1. Amounts advanced during the year—	Rs.
(a) Under the Land Improvement Loans Act ...	7,61,713
(b) Under the Agriculturists' Loans Act ...	43,71,993
2. Demand put down for collection during the year ...	2,19,586
3. Amount collected ...	1,75,378
4. Balance outstanding ...	50,992
5. Total outstanding debt (principal) at the close of the year ...	68,96,478

The District Officers quickly became alive to the fact that tagai must be granted with unusual liberality if the people were to be encouraged to help themselves, and Government responded to every call made upon them. It may almost be said that tagai was this year turned into an additional method of famine relief. In the Panch Maháls where famine was declared and relief works opened the advances totalled no more than Rs. 3,60,000, while in Ahmedabad, Kaira and Broach they amounted to 27½, 13½ and 5½ lakhs of rupees respectively. Tagai advances freely given for the purchase of cattle, grass and seed and the construction or repairing of wells not only enabled most of the cattle to be saved but also provided labour for those who would otherwise have had to be provided for on relief works at the expense of the State. In Ahmedabad about one-third of the total was advanced not in cash but in grass which the Collector had imported. In Surat the demand for tagai was small and only about Rs. 29,000 were advanced. The smallness of the demand is ascribed to the growth of co-operative credit in this district and to the easy terms on which agriculturists are able to obtain capital.

About Rs. 3,500 were advanced in Surat and a similar sum in the Borsad taluka of Kaira to landholders desirous of installing mechanical devices for raising water for irrigation. The grant of tagai to Rabáris and Bharwáds either for railing their cattle to distant grazing grounds or for importing fodder was a new departure. The bulk of the advances in the three districts most affected was made not to individuals but to the village community as a whole on joint bonds, so that almost every man in the village is interested not only in the proper expenditure of the money but also in its repayment.

The repayment of tagai due in the year under report was formally suspended along with the suspensions of land revenue in Kaira, the Panch Maháls, Broach and Surat; in Ahmedabad no formal suspension was announced but orders were issued that no rigour in collection should be employed.

Nearly Rs. 24,000—the bulk of it in Kaira—were either remitted or written off as irrecoverable.

A few cases of misapplication of tagai which came to light were dealt with according to rules. One Sub-divisional officer has remarked that the attempt to enforce the immediate recovery of the money is usually ineffective, especially in a bad season, because the land on the security of which the loan has been advanced has practically no selling value. The argument is not altogether sound since the Collector is not bound to sell the land at once irrespective of the amount of the bid made for it at auction.

Tagai works in progress were sufficiently inspected by all officers.

## Commissioner, Central Division.

The following figures show the transactions of the year:—

(1) Amount advanced—	Rs.
Under the Land Improvement Loans Act ...	3,31,459
,,     Agriculturists' Loans Act ...	3,72,654
	<hr/>
	7,04,113
(2) Demand for collection during the year ...	11,39,460
(3) Amount collected ...	11,05,441
(4) Unauthorized arrears ...	53,890
	<hr/>

Outstanding debt (principal) at the end of the year was Rs. 44,09,051, of which no less than Rs. 15,95,664 was in Ahmednagar district.

The amount advanced during the year was Rs. 7 lakhs, of which 3½ lakhs was under the Land Improvement Loans Act and Rs. 3½ lakhs under the Agriculturists' Loans Act. The total for 1910-11 was 6½ lakhs: the excess of half a lakh was due to the character of the season. The demand for the year amounted to Rs. 11,39,460: this, however, did not include a sum of Rs. 4,04,922, which was suspended under rule 19 of the amended rules under the Land Improvement Loans Act. Out of the latter amount Rs. 2,50,695 were suspended in Ahmednagar, Rs. 67,918 in Poona and Rs. 63,737 in Sholapur. Collections amounted to Rs. 11,05,441: and the actual unrealized balance amounted to Rs. 53,890, of which Rs. 32,772 were due in Ahmednagar. As regards voluntary payments made in advance it is to be noted that the Collector of Ahmednagar attributes it to the policy of clearing off small amounts: this is obviously wrong, as the number of small amounts paid off could not make up so large a sum; a more probable cause is the large profits made by the holders of bagayat lands, in which wells have been constructed with the aid of tagai.

A fact is noticed by the Deputy Collector, Sátára (Mr. N. N. Sathe), which deserves being generally known, *viz.*, the unduly long periods fixed under the settlement before the debts will be finally paid off. As Mr. Sathe points out, the period is sometimes forty, fifty or even sixty years; if allowance is made for suspensions due to bad seasons it may amount to eighty years. It is clear that in cases of this sort the settlement should be revised.

As regards the advances in general, those for land improvement were given with excellent effect during the year; in Sholapur and Ahmednagar immense good was done in the way of constructing and deepening wells. There is still, however, need to impress on Sub-divisional officers and Mámlatdárs the necessity of constant inspection to ensure that the work for which the loan is taken is properly done. Where the inspection has been thoroughly made as by Mr. Wadia in Sholapur, it will be found that the money has not been properly spent in 25 per cent. of the cases.

As regards advances for seed and cattle, experience seems to show that these also require careful watching. Mr. Jolly in East Khándesh reports the discovery of a series of cases, in which they had been misapplied wholesale: and Mr. Mountford in Sátára has found it necessary to brand all bullocks purchased with these advances. For the really efficient management of a system of advances of this nature mutual responsibility among the borrowers of each village is necessary: this, however, is not likely to be secured until Co-operative Societies become much more frequent than they are at present.

Name of District.	Amount advanced.		Total Advances.	Amount for Collection.	Collection made.	Unauthorised Balance.	Total debt outstanding.	Remarks.
	Under the Land Improvement Loans Act.	Under the Agriculturists' Loans Act.						
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Nagar	77,900	76,369	1,54,329	3,62,082	3,30,210	32,733	15,95,534	
East Khándesh	45,085	64,235	1,09,320	1,11,410	1,11,200	1,979	2,40,681	* This includes Rs. 1,769 over-collected.
West Khándesh	25,478	57,556	83,031	93,129	87,546	5,583	2,59,048	
Násik	19,066	29,362	48,428	97,601	198,113	11,545	2,45,443	† This includes Rs. 3,540 received as voluntary payment in excess.
Poona	43,813	36,321	80,134	1,79,593	1,76,526	5,581	8,89,223	‡ Exclusive of Rs. 1,233 written off.
Sátára	23,910	7,719	31,629	1,51,598	1,56,476	197	4,89,435	§ This includes Rs. 4,815 received as voluntary payments in excess.
Sholapur	66,180	1,01,092	1,97,272	1,42,648	1,43,040	5,053	6,89,910	This includes Rs. 4,508 summarily recovered as a penalty for misapplication of the loans.
Total	3,31,460	3,72,654	7,04,113	11,39,460	11,05,441	53,890	44,09,051	** This includes Rs. 6,325 received as voluntary payments in excess.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

It will be seen from the accompanying statement that Rs. 2,42,295 were advanced under the Land Improvement Loans Act and Rs. 2,95,192 under the

Agriculturists' Loans Act during the year under report, against Rs. 64,414 and Rs. 1,15,436 respectively during the preceding year. The three Karnátic districts are mainly responsible for the considerable increase due to the unfavourable character of the season. The loans under the latter Act were mostly given for the purchase of fodder, cattle and seed. Kolába also contributes to the increase to a small extent, where a sum of Rs. 445 was granted for rebuilding houses destroyed by fire, and a sum of Rs. 200, to the Forest Department, for advances to Dálhi cultivators. Kánara shows a decrease which is ascribed to the utilization of loans from Co-operative Societies. It is reported that in Ratnágiri there is very little demand for tagái, partly owing to the low rates of interest prevailing there, and partly to wages earned in Bombay and elsewhere, that are sufficient to meet the needs of agriculturists. The poor quality of the soil also appears partly responsible for the existing state of things, land improvement by tagái not being a remunerative business.

The amount put down for collection during the year amounted to Rs. 5,19,867, of which Rs. 4,52,924 were recovered. The year's collection included about Rs. 28,998 on account of instalments due in future years, either voluntarily repaid or summarily recovered as a penalty for misapplication. The outstanding balance was Rs. 11,921. A sum of Rs. 5,339 was written off as irrecoverable or remitted and Rs. 78,681 were suspended. The total outstanding debt was not reduced during the year, as the amount of fresh loans advanced exceeded the year's collection by Rs. 84,634. It stood at the close of the year at Rs. 21,86,747, of which Rs. 20,48,997 and Rs. 1,37,750 were respectively due in the three Karnátic and in the three Konkan districts.

Loans for the purchase of cattle continued to be made freely on the joint bond system in the Belgaum taluka and Chándgad mahál. It has afforded considerable relief to poor agriculturists who have no land of their own. This year it has been introduced in the Bijápúr district for loans for fodder and the results are being watched.

Some cases of misappropriation were detected in the Belgaum, Bijápúr and Kánara districts, in all of which immediate recovery of the whole loan was ordered and effected. In this connection the remarks of the Kolába Collector, made with respect to his district, are worthy of notice. He states that as a rule there is no tendency to misapply tagái grants, and there was no occasion to withdraw any amount on account of its misuse.

- As regards the utility of the new tagái forms, only the Collector of Kánara remarks that they are working smoothly and have diminished clerical labour on the part of village officers.

*Statement of advances, demand, recoveries, and balances on account of tagái for the year 1911-12 in the districts of the Southern Division.*

Serial No.	Items.	Belgaum.	Bijápúr.	Dhárwár.	Kánara.	Kolába.	Ratnágiri.	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 1893 ...	60,906	71,958	75,236	1,460	6,055	600	2,42,295	
	(b) Under Act XII of 1884 ...	37,032	53,640	1,59,565	14,260	25,540	4,950	2,95,192	
2	Demand put down for collection during the year ...	1,02,200	2,17,457	1,34,418	32,423	25,931	7,408	5,19,867	
3	Amount collected ...	1,01,863	1,92,864	94,617	29,974	26,478	7,998	4,52,924	
4	Balance outstanding ...	1,493	6,109	2,276	1,408	325	310	11,921	
5	Total outstanding debt (principal) at the close of the year ...	6,32,241	7,25,908	7,00,817	63,524	55,872	16,344	21,86,747	

**Extracts.**

**NORTHERN DIVISION.**

H. L. Painter, Esquire, Collector, Ahmedabad.

This year's tagái was tagái in the true sense of the word, *viz.*, a loan which supports the industrious, not the idle rayat, and helps him to tide over the time of trouble. There

were no idle rayats, and the State support, conditional on hard work, was accepted and utilized to the full by enterprising Pátidár, industrious but improvident Koli and ease-loving Girássia alike: more than that, it was available, for the first time, to the Rabari, to the "Ubbadia", or landless agricultural labourer, to the Dhed, to the very sweeper himself if he only set about digging a water hole and raising a couple of gunthas of juvári in the village tank: it was advanced not to particular individuals, but to the village community as a whole on its joint responsibility and to such extent, within reasonable limits, as the community itself decided. The system by which this expansion of the power of takávi to reach the most needy was brought about was at the same time the only one under which the work of distributing such enormous sums, whether in cash or in the shape of grass, to such vast numbers of people could have been accomplished. It was that of the Joint Bond, decried in the beginning by the subordinate officials and the rayats themselves, but insisted upon and, in an incredibly short time, acclaimed in the kacheris and the villages alike. Irksome, dilatory and unreliable individual enquiries are abolished; the demand for collateral security, often of doubtful value, is no longer made; the whole village appears on a day fixed beforehand, binds itself, almost as a body corporate might for the proper utilization of and repayment of the advances which it recommends to be made to its members, and the thing is done. Four turns on an average were given to each village: the first for late irrigated juvári, the second for rabi, the third for hot weather juvári and the last for monsoon sowing, and in most cases cash and grass were advanced on the same occasions.

O. Rothfeld, Esquire, Collector, Broach.

There is no question that the distribution of takávi grants was this year the crux of the situation. Any delay in distribution, or any undue restriction of grants must inevitably have made relief measures necessary. As it was, the people were kept in good heart, enabled to save their cattle and filled with confidence in our measures. At the same time, it is quite certain that the distribution was as economical as was compatible with the needs of the situation. One of the main difficulties was to ensure that takávi should not be borrowed in order to pay the revenue demand, but by seasonable distribution and strict supervision of its use, this difficulty was obviated and I believe that cases of this kind hardly at all, if ever, occurred.

#### 5.—*Trade and Industries.*

Commissioner, Northern Division.

Despite the bad season the spinning and weaving mills, most of which are located in Ahmedabad recovered to some extent from the depression of the previous year, and were able to work at a small profit. The price of the raw material which is ruled by the American market was unaffected by the failure of the local crop and the demand for the manufactured article improved as the year wore on.

The cotton gins in the district outside Ahmedabad were closed down for want of a supply of local cotton except one or two which were employed for a week or so on irrigated cotton grown in Káthiáwár territory. The gins in Anand and Umreth of the Kaira district were worked for a short period while those in Broach and Surat worked at a loss.

Next in importance to the spinning and weaving mills come the two iron works and the match factory in Ahmedabad, the Fine Knitting Company at Barejdi which came under the Factory Act only during the year, the iron foundry in Nadiád and the New Mill of the Indian Cotton Oil Company at Vejalpur near Navsári in the Surat district. The brass factory at Nadiád has been closed permanently. The Knitting Company at Barejdi imports woollen yarn from Germany and turns out with the latest German machinery, woollen goods which are said to compare favourably with European articles at about one-third of their cost. The Oil Company at Vejalpur is in full work, though it was handicapped by shortage of the supply of cotton seed. It manufactures refined cotton oil which sells well locally for cooking purposes and the residue of the cake is exported to foreign countries for want of a market in India.

The various industries and trades of which Ahmedabad is the centre thrive as usual, though the trade in grain was to some extent hampered towards the end of the season by the shortage of railway wagons. The cream trade in Kaira continued to flourish; in Ahmedabad it seems to have been found more profitable to sell raw milk than cream. The husking and cleaning of rice is one of the most important industries of Thána; the number of rice mills continues to increase. A small factory at Dáhánu for the manufacture of lamps has recently been established and may possibly prove a success.



The Godhra trade in hides was brisk in consequence of the mortality amongst cattle to which reference has already been made. Manganese mining in the Panch Maháls afforded an ample field for labour and in the beginning of the famine there was a rush of workers to the mines resulting in a considerably increased output; the numbers afterwards for some reason or other fell off. The timber and firewood traffic of the district, which has lost much of its importance since the Ahmedabad mills began to burn coal, suffered to a certain extent by the inability of the railway to supply sufficient waggons.

The extension of Railway communications in the Division has proceeded quite satisfactorily. The Nadiád-Kapadvanj Railway is almost completed, and substantial progress was made with the Godhra-Lunáwáda, the Broach-Jambusar and the Billimora-Kalamba lines, while a new railway has just been opened from Kosamba to Jhankvao north of the Mándvi forests in the Surat district. Sanction has been accorded to the making of detailed surveys for an extension of the Nadiád-Kapadvanj Railway to Modása, for a line from Vasad to Kathana in the Kaira district and for the Bulsár-Dharampur Line which will have branches running up to the gháts near Surgána.

The sea-borne trade of Broach was almost stationary. Loud complaints were made that the B. B. & C. I. Railway were endeavouring by a manipulation of rates to crush competition with the Railway and the reply of the Government of India to the memorial presented to them is awaited.

#### Commissioner, Central Division.

Cotton was generally a poor crop: and the ginning and pressing factories, which depend on it, could not get sufficient material to keep them working for anything like the normal period. To this, however, an exception must be made as regards Dhulia, where the low rates quoted for ginning and pressing and the presence of representatives of a large firm of Japanese exporters attracted a large consignment from Násik and elsewhere. Incidentally the demand for raw cotton for export to Japan is reaching very large proportions and seems to have a very marked effect on prices realized on produce: if it be the fact, as I was informed the other day by a competent authority, that one-fourth of the total outturn of Indian cotton will this year be taken by Japan, the outlook for the local mill industry seems gloomy. Cotton mills generally had only a moderate year, mainly owing to the reduction in the purchasing power of the people. The Karád Match Factory continued to stand out as a conspicuous instance of the apathy of the Indian public towards Swadeshi industry, despite much talking to the contrary. The output of the factory is small and would be absorbed with ease in the Poona and Sátára districts, if there was any support from the people. But the sale in Poona and Sátára is proportionately nil, and the promoters of the factory have to go as far as Gadag to the south and Bezwada to the east to get rid of their products, even at a loss. The only other industry of any importance in this Division, in which machinery plays a part, is flour milling. This seems extending, as there were new mills put up in Poona, Dhulia and Pandharpur during the year.

Turning to trade, the most important event of the year was the establishment of a branch of the Central Co-operative Bank at Bárámati to finance the 29 Co-operative Societies, which have been formed among the sugarcane-growers on the Nira Canal. The experiment has been of very great educational value: and, as things settle down, the Bank will doubtless eventually develop itself into an institution of the highest utility. Another important event of the year was the final settlement by the Secretary of State of the terms on which Branch Railways may be constructed and the consequent grant of a concession for the construction of a branch line from Dhond to Bárámati. It is gratifying to note that operations for the construction of the line are already in full swing, and that, if all goes well, it should be finished by November 1913. Two other smaller projects are being surveyed (Vámbori-Shevgaon and Jámner-Páchora) and a third (Jeur-Karmála-Jámkhed) is under examination, and we may now confidently look forward to the construction of a number of cheap feeder lines, which will at once improve communications and afford scope for the employment of Indian capital.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

Above the gháts the deficiency in crop outturn had a depressing effect on trade and industries, while plague also had an unfavourable influence. There was a marked fall in sales of cotton, oil-seeds and all food-grains. On the coast trade was little influenced by the character of the season, and the exports of timber, fuel and spices from Kánara, cured fish from Ratnágiri and grass and paddy from Kolába continued as usual. Mr. Thomas (Collector of Kolába) strongly urges the necessity of improved communication inland from the coast for the development of trade and industries in the district.

Ginning and Pressing factories were generally short of work with the exception of those in Bijápur where the cotton crop was fairly good. A few new factories were however started during the year and more are under construction. The Gokák Falls Mills imported cotton from America and continued in full work throughout the year. The Belgaum Match Manufactory continued to produce matches. No further development is apparent in the Gulal and Mango Canning industries at Honávar or in the Tile Factory at Kumta.

Mining ventures in the Dhárwár district have proved a failure and Manganese working is no longer profitable; a few prospecting licenses for manganese and other ores have been granted in Dhárwár and Ratnágiri, but have little prospect of success.

Extract.

SOUTHERN DIVISION.

R. C. Brown, Esquire, Collector, Belgaum.

The Belgaum Match Manufacturing Company is now making a profit. Government supply wood free to this Company. It is observed with regard to this factory (what is probably still true of other indigenous ventures of the same sort) that advertisement and other business activities that would increase trade are hardly resorted to. Austrian made matches are imported in large quantities and the local factory seems unable to establish itself even locally against such rivals.

6.—Prices.

Commissioner, Northern Division.

Except in the case of fodder, prices rose to a much smaller extent than might have been expected. Grain was freely imported from Northern India, the Central Provinces and parts of the Deccan and its distribution being easy there was no room for an abnormal rise in price. The most noticeable rise occurred in connection with maize in the Panch Maháls, the staple crop of the district, the price of which advanced fifty per cent. Grain compensation had however to be given to low-paid subordinates in all six districts. The effect of the season's failure on the price of cotton has already been adverted to. Fodder which in a normal year averages from four to six rupees per thousand this year fetched anything from fifteen to thirty rupees.

Commissioner, Central Division.

Prices of food-grains were from 25 per cent. to 50 per cent. above normal throughout the year, partly owing to the contraction of the area sown with cereals and partly owing to the unfavourable outturn of most of the crops: during the hot weather the Division seemed to be living entirely on grain imported from Northern India. The price of fodder rose even higher, Rs. 60, 70 and even 100 being paid towards the end of the year for 1,000 lbs. of kadbi, often by persons who earlier in the year had sold their stock for export to Gujarát at half that price. The great improvement in communication seems to have assured us against any overpowering increase in the price of grain; and on that account the increased cultivation of cotton will not do any material harm: but in the matter of fodder it is difficult to see what is to be done. Kadbi, for which grass will never be a really efficient substitute, is very bulky and travels badly. It seems, therefore, that some scheme for the storage of fodder against a bad season is required, if excessive variations of prices are to be avoided.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

Prices of the staple food-grains ruled high throughout the year and the figures given by Mr. Brown for the Belgaum district are fairly typical for the rest of the Division. The lowest, highest and average prices of the principal grains are quoted by Mr. Brown as follows :—

Jowári (normal 38 lbs.) — 28 lbs. : 21 lbs. : 23 lbs.

Bájri (normal 37 lbs.) — 29 lbs. : 20 lbs. : 23 lbs.

Rice (normal 23 lbs.) — 17 lbs. : 13 lbs. : 15 lbs.

Prices in India are no longer mainly affected by local conditions but naturally rise, irrespective of the foreign demand, if there is anything approaching general scarcity. The middle classes and persons drawing fixed incomes suffer from high prices. The agriculturist benefits and the labourer demands successfully a wage which compensates him for the increasing cost of commodities.

7.—*Labour and Wages.*

Commissioner, Northern Division.

Everywhere in the Division, except in the Panch Maháls, the demand for labour, skilled and unskilled, was as keen as ever, and notwithstanding the high wages offered, the almost general complaint was that labourers in sufficient numbers were not obtainable. In the Panch Maháls those in need of work were employed on relief works, on the Bamankua and Shivrájpur mines and on the earthwork construction of the Godhra-Lunáwáda Railway. In Ahmedabad and Kaira it was not until late in the hot weather months when field work grew scarce that people resorted in small numbers to specially provided Local Fund Works on which little more than famine wages were paid. The usual influx of strangers from Káthiáwár and elsewhere did little to satisfy the employers' demand for labour and it was found that Local Fund and Government Irrigation Works, as also the railway earth-works, were dependent to a great extent on immigrant labour. The reason of this phenomenon in a year of scarcity when labour should have been plentiful is differently explained in different districts, but there can be little doubt that the employment which tagái for the raising of irrigation crops provided, together with that furnished almost throughout the year by digging of grass roots and "bid" and gathering leaves to be used as fodder for cattle can account for much of it. One reason assigned in Kaira for the scarcity of labour is that the Pátidár population is decreasing and that Dharalas, who can hold land on the restricted tenure, are taking to cultivation on their own account instead of as tenants. The "Hali system" in Broach and Surat and the similar system prevailing in Thána are fast breaking down. With the inducement of high wages constantly being held out to him, the labourer in these districts is continually striving to free himself from the bonds of his contract. To such an extent has this tendency increased that in the Surat and Thána districts the land owners are clamouring for the enforcement of contracts by the application of the Workman's Breach of Contract Act.

Commissioner, Central Division.

Despite the failure of the harvest and the large number of persons seeking work, wages showed no tendency to fall: even in Sholápur and Ahmednagar they remained stationary: in West Khándesh owing to the demand for grass there was a marked rise. In the latter district the Bhils in particular benefitted greatly from the large amount of labour of this sort available. It is evident that in the near future the demand for labour will largely exceed the supply: at the time of writing, despite a second bad harvest, the Tata Works at Lanowli and the Railway works at Dhond have not succeeded in attaining two-thirds of the labour required by them and the Nira Right Bank Canal, which requires 25,000 workers, has only 5,000: what they would have done, had the harvest been normal, it is difficult to imagine.

Apart from the question of labour and wages in general the position in West Khándesh deserves a passing comment. Here it appears from Mr. Madan's

report it is the practice for the cultivator to engage one or more Bhils as his "Saldar" paying him an advance, which is usually one year's pay. The Bhil, having received his advance, spends it in drink or otherwise and then levants, leaving the cultivator with no remedy but a Civil Suit, which is of course worthless. Mr. Madan thinks that "in the interest of agriculture as well as fair play," the employer should be allowed to prosecute the fraudulent labourer under Act XIII of 1859. The remarks are interesting; students of the Bhil question will remember that the literature of less than 20 years ago was full of the tyranny of the cultivators and their oppression of the poor down-trodden Bhils, whose conditions are generally pictured as one of practical slavery. Now all is changed: the Bhil is practically master: the cultivator the servant, and we are asked to apply the Criminal Law to force the former to keep his engagements. Needless to say, it is not necessary to resort to an extreme step of this nature: supply and demand will ultimately adjust themselves, but the remarks do raise the question whether the policy of turning Bhils into independent cultivators on the new tenure has not gone too far. The Bhil at his best is a bad cultivator, and if the process of making him one results in a reduction of the supply of labour, it is obvious that very considerable injury to the community may ensue.

#### Commissioner, Southern Division.

The rates of wages rose during the year in all the districts of the Division except Dhárwár where they remained constant though the season was unfavourable. The rise is ascribed to the high prices of food-grains, the loss due to plague, the growth of industry and the higher standard of living even among men of limited means. There is however no corresponding increase in efficiency. The Collector of Kolába reports that the higher rates of wages have increased the cost of cultivation and many non-agriculturist landholders have given up cultivating their lands through labourers, and leased them out to tenants. Labour is reported to be scarce in Belgaum, whereas in other districts the supply seems to be equal to the demand.

#### Extracts-

##### NORTHERN DIVISION.

H. L. Painter, Esquire, Collector, Ahmedabad.

The agricultural labourer, hitherto the first to go down, was really in a better way than the comparatively well-to-do cultivator, who had his cattle to maintain, and it is a fact that until late in the hot-weather many farmers, even in the worst affected parts of the district, could not get labourers to work at their irrigated crops for less than the usual wages of three annas a day and two meals, and sometimes failed to secure them even at this rate.

J. A. G. Wales, Esquire, Collector, Thána.

The antiquated system of bondage for a term of years is breaking down and the land-owners are slow to recognise the fact that they must revise their methods and give a fair day's wage for a fair day's work. Service bonds are in the present day frequently treated as so much waste paper by the ignorant Warli or Thákur when the temptation of a daily wage is dangled before his eyes by the forest contractor; sometimes, the bulk of the labouring population of a village is enticed away in this way and when the harvest season comes round, the labour is not forthcoming to reap the crops at the proper moment and much loss is caused.

##### SOUTHERN DIVISION:

E. Maconochie, Esquire, Collector, Dhárwár.

Considering the character of the season, the rate of wages remained remarkably constant. In Hubli and Gadag an able-bodied labourer could earn at least five annas throughout the year. In the villages the rate was less, but there was no wandering in search of labour. In Navalgund where there was hardly any crop at all, no one would come to work on Local Board Tank works except at exorbitant rates and most labourers were content to do half a day's work at *nut* digging for 2 or 2½ annas. The labouring class had evidently accumulated resources and were in a comparatively independent position. The reduction of the labouring population by plague has no doubt had its effect.

### 8.—*Emigration and Immigration.*

#### Commissioner, Northern Division.

There were the usual seasonal movements of labourers from one district to another and of Káthiáwáris into the northern districts for harvesting, cotton picking, ginning, employment on public works, etc. Rabaris and Bharwads from Ahmedabad, Kaira and to a small extent from the Panch Maháls and Broach emigrated with their herds to Rájpipla, Bándsa and the Dángs forests in search of pasture. The emigration to South Africa from Surat and Broach continues; from the former district there has in addition been a steady flow of emigrants to America for the ostensible purposes of studying agriculture and of trading.

#### Commissioner, Central Division.

Owing to the failure of the harvest the annual exodus from the drier tracts of Poona, Sholápur and Sátára to centres of industry reached unusually large proportions. There is no question now of the willingness of the Deccani to move to places which he knows. Efforts, however, to attract labourers to the grass-cutting operations in Thána and West Khándesh failed, more from the unsuitability of the class of men sent than from any other cause. Immigration seems to have been confined to two particularly undesirable classes, *viz.*, Pathaps from the Frontier provinces and a large number of Kanjar Bhats and similar vagrants driven out of Gujarát by the famine. The former seem to be settling in these parts in increasingly large numbers, and it is a question whether some general action should not be taken to get rid of them.

#### Commissioner, Southern Division.

As usual, labourers from Kolába and Ratnágiri visited Bombay and other places of industry during the fair season and some from Goa and south Kánara, the spice gardens of the above-ghat talukas of the Kánara district.

About 67 Mahomedans from the Mangaon, Roha and Mahad talukas and the Khálápur petha of the Kolába district, and many others from the northern parts of the Ratnágiri district went to South Africa during the year. About 62 persons returned from there to Kolába and some must have also returned to Ratnágiri. The Collector of Kolába reports that a sum of Rs. 1,87,562 was received during the year from the persons settled in Africa, a circumstance testifying to the lucrative nature of the employment found there. The money amassed by these emigrants is usually invested at home in landed property and in loans to cultivators at low rates of interest.

### Extracts.

#### NORTHERN DIVISION.

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

Apart from the steady emigration of labour to Bombay we have also to suffer from a stream of emigration to South Africa and an increasing stream of emigration to America.

Indians proceeding to America are bound to have the certificates of identity prescribed for "students and merchants". A large number of young men are coming to me for these certificates, though really they are emigrating to the United States as labourers only. They come prepared to answer any enquiry as to their object, etc. They always say they are going to "study agriculture" or "to be merchants". The agriculture they wish to study seems to be the cutting of asparagus at about a dollar a day and the mercantile enterprises they have in view is usually the hawking of fruit in the street. Although enquiries have been made and nothing discovered I still cannot resist the conclusion that some persons are recruiting these emigrants and instructing them how to answer questions.

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

224 persons are reported to have emigrated to South Africa, but a number of these have sailed for the second time to that Continent. The Mámlatdár of Bulsar believes that the number of emigrants has decreased owing to restrictions enforced against Indians in South Africa, but I am disinclined to accept this belief at any rate as regards the subdivision as a whole. I have talked with not a few returned emigrants, nearly all of whom greatly prefer South Africa to their native country and have since returned there or intend doing so. These emigrants chiefly consist of Mahomedans, Mochis, and Suthars.

## SOUTHERN DIVISION.

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

As usual, no emigration is reported to be taking place in any táluka of the Sub-division, but since the last census revealed great fluctuations of population, especially on the negative side, which were wholly unaccounted for by the vital statistics, it appears that no reliance can be placed on the Mámlatdár's report. Mention has been made of the dependence on labour from Goa, and the fact that Goa, a tract very similar to Kánara but far less in area, can actually send out a large supply of surplus labour to do work which Kánara is unable to do for itself seems to suggest that what should correspond to that surplus here emigrates to somewhere else; but if that is so, the fact has entirely escaped notice for a number of years, and the destination of this emigration remains unknown.

9.—*Public Health.*

Commissioner, Northern Division.

The public health was on the whole exceptionally good when the character of the season is taken into account. Both the Panch Maháls and Broach were free of cholera and plague, in the former probably because although relief works were opened none of the workers resided on them or would leave their villages. Cholera appeared in short bursts in the other districts but not until the monsoon was well-established and famine conditions had disappeared.

A few sporadic cases of plague occurred in Ahmedabad, while in Kaira there were only 165 deaths from this disease against 1,955 in the previous year; in Surat deaths from plague numbered only 798 against 1,424 in 1910-11. Plague overran the whole of the Thána district except Murbád and Umbargaon, but was severe only in Sálsette and Bhiwndi.

Malaria was less prevalent than usual, probably because of the deficient rainfall; Thána, however, formed the exception to the rule for there the mortality from fever was above the average of the last five years. The system of distributing quinine through the agency of resident landlords in the Dahanu and Umbergaon tálukas of the Thána district, mentioned in last year's report, is said to have met with fair success. In the Panch Maháls where a staff of medical officers moved about from village to village, treating the sick in their own homes and freely distributing quinine, and where a large proportion of the people were given healthy daily exercise and enabled to procure a simple and regular diet, the death rate was actually below the normal. It is perhaps not unreasonable to claim that we have in these facts, cause and effect and that the prevalence of famine conditions in the district was of advantage to the general health. In the Dohad táluka the prevalence of guinea-worm attracted special attention and in June an officer from the Bombay Bacteriological Laboratory was deputed to investigate its causes. The result of his investigation is not yet known.

Commissioner, Central Division.

The history of the year in this respect cannot be said to be satisfactory. Plague appeared in portions of all the districts, and lingered for an unusually long time: fortunately the disease was not as virulent in its intensity as usual. Vigorous efforts were made in Poona to popularize inoculation: a special Deputy Collector and staff being appointed by Government for 6 months; but it does not seem that much permanent success resulted from their efforts. In Sátára also a vigorous inoculation campaign was carried on and for the first time a number of residents of Tasgaon and Walwa were induced to submit to it. In Wái also I found people readily submitting to its operation. Rat-trapping was also practised in this district, and it is notable that the large village of Kasegaon, which went in for it thoroughly last year and this, was again free from the disease. Elsewhere evacuation seems to have been the only remedy availed of; as experience at Chalisgaon shows, it must be thoroughly carried out, if it is to be efficient.

Later in the year cholera appeared and, doubtless, owing to the defective nature of the water-supply, spread far and wide and did not finally disappear till the rising of the rivers with the heavy rains of the last few days of July. Owing to the danger of the epidemic being carried by pilgrims to Northern and

Central India the big Ashadi Fair at Pandharpur had to be forbidden: an unusual occurrence, which roused some resentment at the time but is now recognized to have been a wise step.

Small-pox again made an appearance in sporadic form: in all districts it was very virulent and in Málegaon the mortality rate among the Momin or weaver community during the year from this disease alone worked out to 36 per 1,000: for cases of this sort an extension of the Compulsory Vaccination Act seems urgently necessary. Malaria, owing to the drought, seems to have been less prevalent than usual: the usual staff of Assistant Surgeons was engaged in tracts specially subject to this scourge, throughout the year.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

Public health during the year left much to be desired. None of the districts escaped from the ravages of plague. The epidemic was more virulent than usual and was most serious in Dhárwár where it was the cause of 33,178 deaths, *i. e.*, 3.23 per cent. of the total population of the district. Belgaum and Bijápúr also suffered heavily, the number of deaths from plague being 12,156 and 13,294 against 4,699 and nil during the preceding year. In Kánara, Kolába and Ratnágiri plague claimed 365,344 and 150 victims respectively. It is a matter of satisfaction that inoculation is gaining in popularity in those tracts where the ravages were severe. Special efforts were made in Dhárwár where alone the remarkably large number of 44,400 inoculations were performed during the year. About 5,000 persons were inoculated in Belgaum. In Bijápúr also the inoculation campaign was conducted with vigour and a fairly large number of persons submitted themselves to the operation. In the coast districts, however, inoculation is still unpopular and does not commend itself to the people. Efforts for the destruction of rats were continued by the Belgaum, Alibag, Pen and Panvel Municipalities and it is satisfactory to note that Alibag remained entirely free from plague.

To add to the havoc committed by plague, cholera and small-pox appeared in all the districts in epidemic form. Again Dhárwár suffered most of all the districts, the deaths there due to cholera and small-pox being 4,915 and 462 respectively. In Belgaum, too, no less than 4,434 souls were swept away by cholera. Insufficient and bad supply of water is the apparent cause of these epidemics and every effort was made to remedy this and check the spread of the disease. Small-pox fortunately was not very virulent and the mortality was insignificant except in Ratnágiri and in Dhárwár where about 444 and 462 persons succumbed to it.

Anti-malarial measures were continued during the year in parts of Belgaum, Dhárwár, Kánara and Kolába. The work is reported to have been appreciated by the people in the first two districts. In Kánara the results were indefinite. The establishment of five new dispensaries, one in each of the districts of Dhárwár and Kánara and three in Ratnágiri, has been sanctioned. A few more are likely to be constructed in the near future. One sanitary board was established in Kánara. Efforts are being made to improve the sanitary condition of big towns with the aid of Government grants. A scheme for opening up the congested area of Belgaum town has already been framed and will it is hoped be carried out in the near future. That of Hubli town is in progress. Steps are being taken to start a District Sanitary Association in Dhárwar with a view to diffusing an elementary knowledge of sanitation among the people. The proposal to establish a Sanitary Association in Kolába referred to in the last year's report was abandoned as the district was not considered ripe for such a scheme. The Collector, however, intends to introduce sanitary panchayats in selected villages.

#### Extracts.

##### NORTHERN DIVISION.

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

Owing to the much reduced incidence of malaria the demand for quinine was not so great, but we distributed by sale through school masters at cheap rates (*not free*)—22,240 tablets of 4 grains each against 30,180 in the preceding year. There are distinct signs of a

lightening of the incidence of malaria in the east of the district and this year we have two Sub-Assistant Surgeons on special duty in Mándvi and Párdi and far more quinine is being distributed in the Dángs.

#### SOUTHERN DIVISION.

A. R. Dalal, Esq., Assistant Collector, Dhárwár.

I have found the people very ready to take Government medicines for cholera, there being absolutely no such prejudice as exists in the case of inoculation. So far as I am aware, the treatment by means of one grain tabloids of permanganate of potash has met with remarkable success and is growing in popularity.

#### 10.—Education.

Commissioner, Northern Division.

No very marked advance in the progress of primary education during the year can be recorded, but on the other hand there has been no retrogression and encouragement is being offered more freely than before. The number of primary schools increased to a moderate extent; but the number of schools opened is no true criterion of progress. In many of our schools there are still far too many untrained men among the teachers; the pay has even yet not been raised to the full extent required, and many of the school buildings are dilapidated and unsuited for the purpose to which they are put.

It is in connection with the special schools for backward classes that progress is most in evidence. The Central Bhil School at Dohad, to which the class from Garbada was transferred during the year and which now has an average attendance of 25, passed five boys for the Vernacular Final Examination, four of whom were given appointments as Assistants in Dohad or Jhalod schools. The schools for depressed classes in the Páñch Maháls, the Kaliparaj school in Surat and the schools for wild tribes in Thána improve steadily if slowly. It is unfortunate, considering the object with which the Mokhada training school was established, namely, the training of suitable masters for these special schools, that many of the pupils after training abandon their teaching career and accept better paid posts in the Revenue and Police Departments as soon as they can.

Secondary education obtains a greater share of public interest and on that account makes greater way than primary education. Perhaps the greatest development is in respect to the provision of hostels the need for which in most of the larger towns has been realised. One in connection with the Ranchodlal Chhotlal High School in Ahmedabad is now in course of construction; another to serve the Broach High School is almost completed; a third connected with the Surat High School is not far from completion. For the use of Girassia boys from the neighbouring villages who attend the schools in Dhandhuka (whence a request to convert the Anglo-Vernacular school into a High School has been received) the King Edward Memorial Tálukdári Hostel in that town was opened in March last.

Two private Anglo-Vernacular schools in Kaira and Nadiád were raised to the status of High Schools, while at Borsad, in the same district, the buildings for another High School are being constructed at the expense of the leading men of the town.

The Gujarát College, Ahmedabad, has now become a Government institution, having been made over to Government last July by the Society for Higher Education in Gujarát. His Excellency the Governor of Bombay was pleased to inaugurate in February the new Science Institute which is attached to the College and which owes its existence to the munificence of Sardar Sir Chinubhai Madhavlal, C.I.E.; the buildings are nearing completion.

The Ranchodlal Chhotlal Technical Institute, another of Sir Chinubhai's creations, has entered on the third year of its existence and now teaches the



full course. The only other matter in connection with technical instruction worth recording is the grant of a scholarship of Rs. 12 per mensem by the Kaira District Local Board to enable a boy from Kaira to attend the Bombay Victoria Technical Institute to be trained in weaving.

Commissioner, Central Division.

A number of new schools were opened in all the districts of the Division except Sholapur, East Khándesh heading the list with 52 and Ahmednagar coming second with 41. The attendance was perhaps not as good as usual, as the prevalence of cholera and plague necessitated the closing of a number of schools for long periods and the failure of the harvest made many families emigrate. Notwithstanding the increase in the number, the demand for new schools still continues, perhaps to an unreasonable extent, as it is abundantly clear from the reports that in many cases the existing institutions are not fully utilized. The Collector of Sátára is so impressed with this fact that he records his opinion that no more schools should be opened in his district for the present.

With the increase in the demand for education, there is an increase in the difficulty experienced in securing suitable buildings for the accommodation of the schools: but with the assistance of the liberal grants made by Government a fair number of new school houses were built during the year. It is to be noted that in East Khándesh Mr. G. V. Joglekar, who has taken a great interest in the subject, has evolved a new and cheaper type of buildings which has apparently received the approval of the Public Works Department; it will be interesting to see whether it stands the test of time.

The reports continue to contain numerous references to the unfitness of many of the masters for their responsible positions—the worst case of this nature being reported from the town of Umbraj in Sátára, where it was brought to notice, through several parents withdrawing their boys, that the second master was a dangerous seditious and that the Head Master, if not entirely conniving, was at any rate permitting his assistant to preach disloyalty unchecked. The offenders were suitably punished: but there is only too much reason to fear that this is not an isolated instance of misconduct on the part of the teaching staff. As was remarked last year, there would seem to be a danger lest in the movement to extend education quality should be sacrificed to quantity: it would seem preferable to accept a rather slower rate of progress and to provide a staff of trustworthy and contented teachers, whose proceedings can be subjected to a reasonable amount of supervision.

As regards female education progress is slow, the main obstacle being the lack of proper female teachers. In this connection Mr. Swifte's remarks are opposite.

"Female education evinced unmistakable signs of progress, but competent women teachers are still few and far between. Consequently a large proportion of males has to be employed in the instruction of girls, a system the objections to which are well known. Laudable efforts are being made to foster the cause of female education by the National Indian Association which offers scholarships and grants-in-aid in this connection, while special mention must be made of Mrs. Ranade's work in connection with the Seva Sadan, an institution for the instruction of adult (mostly Hindu) women, many of them widows, in Poona City.

"The advantages and conditions of female education appear to be little understood by mothers in lower and middle class Indian families, who are consequently too apt to regard all efforts in this direction with apathy if not with actual hostility. If the good will and co-operation of such mothers were to be enlisted and steps taken to remove the difficulties at present experienced in this connection by conferences of teachers and parents good results might be confidently anticipated."

My own experience (and I notice that several officers, such as Mr. Madan, I. C. S., and Mr. K. V. Joshi, bear me out) is that a competent mistress can generally fill her schools; but that such mistresses are very difficult to procure.

As regards the education of special classes, the Bhil schools in West Khándesh are said to be doing well and Mr. Bomanji foresees the time when the Bhils will qualify as pleaders. The Kolis in Poona are also said to be taking kindly to education and a few teachers from the caste are now stated to be forthcoming. Mahárs and others of the degraded classes are also sending more boys to school than they did, but are still, it appears from the report of Mr. Rodgers and others, not receiving much encouragement from Brahmin masters. The night-schools for agriculturists in Poona have not been a success.

The Mahomedan community generally continue to show a good deal of keenness in fostering Urdu education : a keenness which, though in a way creditable, is in my opinion the result of a mistaken policy. Urdu is not and never will be of any practical use in business or administration.

#### Commissioner, Southern Division.

New Primary Schools were opened in all the districts during the year and the number on the school registers increased considerably ; the attendance however, in Dhárwár and Bijápúr was adversely affected by the prevalence of plague. The steady progress of primary education throughout the Division and among all the classes is an indication of the general recognition that a knowledge of the three 'R.s' is essential in every pursuit of life. Some of the officers, however, again comment on the attitude of the boys of the agricultural and other backward classes, who after receiving the kind of education imparted in our schools, think it beneath their dignity to pursue their own profession of manual labour and hanker after Government service. On the other hand, the new curriculum recently sanctioned by Government will, it is hoped, prove of great help to agriculturists' children when they grow up in their dealings with savkars and render them more disposed to improve their old methods of cultivation. In this latter particular the majority of cultivators are already taking much interest as is evident from their attendance at agricultural exhibitions, cattle shows and the like. A special school for boys of purely agricultural classes was opened during the year at Veshvi near Alibag out of a donation of Rs. 5,000 given for the purpose by Sardar P. K. Bivalkar. The working of the school will be watched with interest as the establishment of similar institutions elsewhere in future will largely depend on the success or failure of this school.

The education of the criminal and the hill tribes is receiving due attention in Bijápúr and Dhárwár and the number of boys of these classes attending schools rose from 64 to 129 during the year in the latter district. There has also been a considerable increase in the attendance of the Katkari children in Kolába where there is a special Educational Superintendent for these boys.

The continued rise both in attendance and in the number of special schools for the boys in the depressed classes shows the increasing interest which is being taken in this question. This may be partly due to the exertions of the Depressed Classes Mission. It is hoped that the special Middle School Scholarships sanctioned by Government lately will be fully utilised. The education of Mahomedans is advancing rapidly, especially in Belgaum and Dhárwár.

Female education continued to receive encouragement, but the want of trained mistresses (which is still felt) on the one hand and the apathy of the rural population on the other retard its progress.

The additional special grants sanctioned by Government were of the greatest help to all local bodies in meeting the increasing demand for primary education. More and better buildings and suitable trained teachers are much needed almost everywhere and it appears that the time has come when all the available funds should be concentrated in providing for accommodation and efficiency in the existing schools rather than in adding new ones.

Secondary education is much in demand among the higher and middle classes. The Government High Schools are all being fully utilised and many boys have to be refused admission for want of accommodation. Missionary

and private institutions, however supply all further wants. A new High School was opened at Málvan and a few more English teaching schools are likely to be started shortly.

The establishment of an Arts College in the Karnátic has engaged the attention of the educated classes; but the apparent unwillingness of these classes to contribute towards its establishment has hitherto been the obstacle in the way of the materialisation of the idea.

### Extracts.

#### CENTRAL DIVISION.

A. O. Koreishi, Esq., Deputy Collector, East Khándesh.

A passing word seems necessary as to the condition of Urdu Schools which is not quite satisfactory. Most of these are undermanned and a very large number of teachers are untrained. Even the number warranted by the rules of the Department is often not given, with the result that a good trained man not armed with efficient assistants can do little or nothing and education suffers. Khándesh is perhaps one of the few districts of the Presidency where Urdu is more general among Mahomedans than in any other place. There are only a few Urdu schools and there is a demand for more, as I understood in the course of my tour, but few seem to have been given.

There have been indications of an awakening amongst Mahomedans for education in this district. It is gratifying to note that this awakening took a concrete form in the establishment under the Presidency of the Collector of an educational society called 'The George Anjuman-e-Islam' on the occasion of the Coronation Darbár of Their Imperial Majesties at Delhi. A very large portion of the community is poor and many promising lads are prevented from prosecuting their studies owing to poverty. This institution has, therefore, been started to help Mahomedan boys with books, fees and stipends out of the subscription that may be collected. Although help has not yet begun to be given, yet a nucleus of a fund has been created which is likely to assist in the intellectual advancement of the community, and assistance will shortly be given to children as soon as some preliminaries are settled.

Ráo Bahádur V. N. Khopkar, Deputy Collector, Násik.

The difficulty which, it seems, is hampering the spread of education among the masses, is want of suitable teachers evincing sympathy for the people, explaining benefits of education to them and persuading them to send their children to school. In May 1912 a visit to a village, having a population anxious to secure education for their children, showed an abnormal increase in the attendance in the school there. The past history of the school revealed the fact that recommendations had often been made for closing it on the score of small attendance. Further enquiry brought to light the fact that the village had been lately fortunate in securing a teacher of the right sort and it was to his exertions that the attendance had increased and maintained a steady number on the rolls for more than 10 months. Commonly the fall of attendance is attributed to the apathy of the backward classes. This might be true, but it appears to me to be equally true that that apathy has much to do with the teachers who, when they see that some means should be devised to get away from places considered undesirable by them, set the people by the ears and try all possible means to reduce the attendance. The Educational Department is doing all that it can for spreading education among the masses. What seems to be wanted is a little more sympathy and a little less haste in recommending the closing of schools. A real desire for female education has yet to be created. There are girls' schools but they appear to be more of the nature of pens intended for preventing harm to children roaming in streets when their parents are otherwise engaged and not able to attend to them. Mahárs seem to be much interested in educating their children and applications for schools is not an uncommon feature when one is touring in the district. So long however as the upper Hindu classes consider them untouchables, it is not possible to extend much help to them in this direction.

#### 11.—*Public feeling and the Press.*

Commissioner, Northern Division.

It has been said before that the prevailing temper of Gujarát is one of genuine loyalty; and the events of the year under review have only tended to strengthen and confirm this view. Public feeling in Thána has undergone a noticeable change for the better, and the relations between Government officials and the public are no longer characterized by that lack of cordiality

which once marked them. The extraordinary enthusiasm manifested on the occasion of the visit of Their Imperial Majesties, the King Emperor and Queen Empress, and the united efforts of all classes to make the widespread celebrations of Darbár Day a success afford striking testimony of the good-will of the populace towards the British Ráj. To no small extent have the various measures, which Government undertook to relieve distress in a year of scarcity, helped to bind the people to the Government in feelings of gratitude.

Except for a few instances in Ahmedabad, one in Kaira and one in Surat in which the Press was either called upon to furnish security or warned for offences which in no case amounted to or savoured of sedition or as in the case of Kaira for publishing seditious publications, the tone of the public press was one of moderation. The Collector of Broach brings to notice two instances in which it has exercised its influence for the public good.

#### Commissioner, Central Division.

So far as could be judged from external evidences the state of public feeling during the year was one of tranquillity and ready obedience to law and order. The visit of Their Imperial Majesties to India and the Coronation celebrations at Delhi evoked a genuine wave of enthusiasm and rejoicing in both town and village and although feelings of sullen hostility towards Government undoubtedly pervade a small section of the inhabitants of this Division, whose minds are continually dwelling on the glories of a past regime and their own former greatness, these feelings found no open expression either in speech or writing. The tone of the local press continued on the whole moderate, though it must be admitted that the two principal newspapers of Poona formed a regrettable exception to this rule.

#### Commissioner, Southern Division.

The Coronation Darbár of December 1911 was celebrated throughout the Division with every sign of loyalty and enthusiasm for the Throne and was everywhere a great success. Generally the public feeling was good and feelings of loyalty to Government and Their Majesties were everywhere noticeable. There were instances of local friction between Bráhmíns and Lingáyats due mainly to jealousy in religious matters, but these were nowhere serious and the two communities are now on friendly terms. Some agitation on Forest matters is reported from Kánara, where enquiries have disclosed that the people have no ground for complaint.

The press as a whole is insignificant throughout the Division and has shown no signs of misbehaviour.

#### 12.—*Summary of material prosperity and prospects.*

#### Commissioner, Northern Division.

The manner in which the people stood up to the troubles of the past year indicates fairly well the extent to which they have recovered from the effects of the famine of 1899. Conditions were such that it seemed as though nothing could prevent the formal declaration of famine in Ahmedabad, Kaira and the Panch Maháls; the crops had failed and there was no grass for the cattle and very little drinking water in many places. And yet it was only in the Panch Maháls, where the people to be dealt with were childlike and backward and unable to provide for themselves in unusual circumstances, that famine was declared and relief works opened. The test works opened in Ahmedabad and Kaira never filled properly; labour was able to demand and to obtain fair wages which employers were in a position to pay. Tagái, freely given for the sinking of irrigation wells as well as for the purchase of grass, was largely taken advantage of so that labour was in considerable demand but the help thus offered by Government was not of itself sufficient to stave off the necessity for relief works. It is a fair inference that the people had resources of their own on which to draw and that they were sufficiently self-reliant and sufficiently confident of the future to draw on those resources rather than resort to relief

works. Anticipations of a rise in crime were not realized, and even in the Panch Maháls crime was normal. Grain was everywhere procurable in abundance but prices ruled high. The agriculturist probably benefitted little from the rise in the price of grain but the trader made his harvest; the fortunate holders of stocks of grass made very large profits and even the trade in hides in Godhra became very profitable. The report from every district seems to show that the general standard of comfort which in recent years has exhibited a marked rise has been fully maintained. Wherever revenue was due for collection it was collected with comparative ease, and this was specially the case in Surat. The Ahmedabad Spinning and Weaving Mills which had given much cause for anxiety began to improve during the year under report, the demand for the manufactured article having improved while the price of raw cotton fell to a small degree.

The fodder difficulties continued until very late; good rain fell last June, but the prolonged break until about the second week of July, before grass could grow sufficiently to relieve the tension, gave considerable cause for anxiety. The almost continuous rainfall from about the second week of July, however, relieved the situation and gave promise of a fair harvest in the coming year. The prospects for the future are hopeful.

#### Commissioner, Central Division.

The season was a poor one and the wave of prosperity, which had set in with the good harvests of 1909-10 and 1910-1911 received a bad check. Fortunately the effects of the year on the economic condition of the people were not nearly so serious as would have been the case fifteen or twenty years ago. The agriculturist of the Deccan has now learnt to leave his home in search of labour: and when his harvest fails him, he now goes off to one of the many centres where labour is available and reaps the advantage of the very high rate of wages there offering. The crop failures of the past 13 years have in fact taught him self-help and self-reliance: and if they have caused much distress they have at least raised him from the status of a "serf" *adscriptus glebae*, the miserable being who clings to his patch of land till death overtakes him, to that of the labourer dear to the economist of the Victorian era, an independent being, who knows his value and is ready to move to any point where wages are highest. We have in fact reached a point in several districts of this Presidency, (the eastern talukas of Sholapur, and the west of Sátára and Poona are instances) at which agriculture, once the staple or only pursuit of the bulk of the population, has become their "*parergon*," their pastime for the rainy months of the year, their real means of livelihood is derived from labour in mills, docks and railway works in Bombay, Karáchi and elsewhere. An economist of some repute has recently in a publication dealing with the labour question in the United States of America, established a direct connection between short harvests and heavy taxation in Spain, Italy and the Balkans, and the supply of cheap labour, on which the industries of America so largely depend. It does not require much prescience to foretell that the historian of the twentieth century in India, while he notes with approval the complete suspension of taxation in a year of crop failure, will be further led to record that such failure, if it caused suffering in isolated cases, was at least of service to the cause of industrial development in providing the army of workers, without whom progress was impossible.

#### Commissioner, Southern Division.

Material prosperity received a check in the year under report due to the poorness of the harvest, the rise in prices, and the heavy mortality from plague. This however is only a temporary set-back and the improved conditions consequent on the plenty of the previous few years were sufficient to prevent any deterioration. The people therefore will move ahead again as normal conditions once more assert themselves.

## Extracts.

## NORTHERN DIVISION.

H. L. Painter, Esq., Collector, Ahmedabad.

To Mr. Bharucha, District Deputy Collector, in charge of the worst affected part, belongs the credit of a most successful innovation known as the Dharmada dole, which was adopted all over the district. It consisted in the distribution of relief to helpless persons at the cost, not of Government, but of the village communities backed up by the central charitable funds the collection of which by committees formed at the head-quarters of each taluka was begun in September when the Sub-Divisional Officers went out into their charges. About four thousand persons were relieved in this way, by grain or cooked food and by clothing, and part of the funds subscribed was also utilised in helping destitute pardanashin women, and, in the District Deputy Collector's charge, in buying fodder for the cattle of the very poorest and in providing materials for destitute weavers. Apart from its practical results this system has taught the people a valuable lesson of self-help.

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

I feel quite confident that if we could ascertain the full export of grass and juwari fodder from this district last year we should find that the price obtained for it completely covered the full revenue of the district, that is to say, the land revenue as well as the Excise, Stamps, Income-tax, etc. In spite of the bad year there is hardly a village in which new houses are not under construction and in the City there is much activity in building. I can say that it is now established beyond doubt that the standard of comfort of the lower classes is rising.

## CENTRAL DIVISION.

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

The year has furnished further proof, if such indeed were needed, that the agricultural classes of the district as a whole do not depend solely on agriculture as a means of livelihood, but are quite ready to resort to the labour markets afforded by large industrial and similar centres when their primary means of sustenance fails. They cling however with much tenacity to their ancestral villages and always return to them when the break of the monsoon affords the hope of a subsequent harvest—a hope which in some tracts is often doomed to disappointment.

As above remarked trade suffered during the year in consequence of a poor agricultural season combined with a series of epidemics which adversely affected the public health. But the general disorganisation of industry and set-back to the prosperity of the people formerly caused by crop failure and sickly seasons seem to have passed away. Such misfortunes are now faced with confidence and self-reliance, and the sufferers are buoyed up by hopes for better times.

## II.—INSPECTION.

## 1.—General Inspection.

Commissioner, Northern Division.

Changes of personnel among the Collectors were very few. In Broach and Surat, for brief periods of 42 and 15 days, respectively, in the absence of the permanent incumbents on leave, an Assistant Collector attached to the district held charge of it. There was a longer interregnum in Thana where Mr. Henderson held charge for four months pending Mr. Wales' arrival. Amongst the Sub-Divisional Officers there were frequent changes in Thana, with reference to which the Collector remarks:—"None of the officers who have written the Sub-Divisional reports has been in charge longer than five months. Mr. Knight who has had longest experience of the sub-division in his charge was in the Kalyan Sub-Division for less than three months of the touring season, the other Sub-Divisional Officers have less than six weeks' acquaintance with their charges. The Bassein Sub-Division had four changes in the touring season, a state of affairs far from conducive to good administration." In Ahmedabad and Surat changes were necessitated by the retirement of two Deputy Collectors during the year.

The Collector of the Panch Maháls was given the services of a Personal Assistant from 1st November 1911 who not only held charge of a táluka but also relieved the Collector of routine duties and enabled him to devote full attention to famine administration. The Collector of Kaira was also given a Personal Assistant and his staff temporarily strengthened by the appointment of an additional Deputy Collector in view of the prevalence of semi-famine conditions as well as of serious crime in his district; the two officers were respectively employed from 6th November 1911 to 25th July 1912 and 8th June 1912 to 31st July 1912.

Except in Thána, the frequent changes in which have already been referred to the tours of District Officers were satisfactorily comprehensive. Mr. Ghosal, the Collector of the Panch Maháls, was actually on tour for only 89 days including his trip to Delhi; this period was not inadequate under the circumstances, for it must be remembered that when famine is abroad the Collector can often work at head-quarters more efficiently than in camp. Moreover, Mr. Ghosal who keeps two motor-cars was constantly visiting distant parts of his district from head-quarters. Mr. Wales, for reasons which he has fully explained, was unable to commence his tour as early as usual.

The Collectors' inspections of táluka and mahál offices were sufficient except in Kaira where the Collector inspected only one of the seven tálukas. In the the Panch Maháls there was of course no routine inspection of villages. The Collectors of Kaira and Surat omitted their inspection of the Huzúr Account Office; the former report assigns as a reason the press of work through semi-famine conditions and the preparation of the criminal tribes' register, while the latter offers no explanation. The Collector of Kaira whose staff had been considerably increased and who examined only one táluka office might have been expected to examine the Account Office and his attention is being drawn to the orders of Government in paragraph 5 of their letter in the Revenue Department, No. 3113, dated the 28th March 1911.

The Sub-Divisional Officer of Bassein in Thána left one Kacheri uninspected through no fault of his own. The inspection of rayats' receipt books and of Record-of-Rights entries in villages was bound to suffer somewhat in the northern districts from the conditions of the season. The amount of inspection of Sub-Registrars' offices, schools, dispensaries, liquor shops, etc., was about the average.

The Commissioner inspected all the Collectors' offices except the Panch Maháls, all the Huzúr Account Offices and four Táluka Kacheris. The inspection disclosed no serious irregularities.

#### Commissioner, Central Division.

Changes in the personnel of the Collectors and their staff were fortunately few. In five out of seven districts (Poona, Sholápur, Sátára, East Khándesh and West Khándesh) except for short privilege leave vacancies there was no change in Collectors during the year: the sixth and seventh Collector (Ahmednagar and Násik) merely changed districts. And among Sub-Divisional Officers no less than eleven of those, who have submitted reports, were in charge throughout the year.

Except in Ahmednagar, where the Collector's tour was badly arranged and insufficient, the amount of inspection performed was fairly adequate. The remarks in the Government Resolution on last year's reports, regarding the desirability of Sub-Divisional Officers starting their tours in time to test the ánnewári properly, appears to have had some effect in the case of Sholápur, Nagar, West Khándesh and Poona. In Násik (except the Deputy Collector's charge), Sátára and East Khándesh little was done before November 1st. Indications are however not wanting that the importance of estimating the ánnewári is gradually being realized: though the reduction of one Mámlatdár and the unfavourable comments passed on the work of several others in this connection shows that this class of officers have in some cases still a good deal to learn. The efforts made to render the inspection of táluka kacheris more

searching and thorough are, as far as Collectors are concerned, bearing fruit. As regards Sub-Divisional Officers there is still a very marked tendency to confine attention to minute defects of Treasury procedure discovered by the Shiras-tedár. Few of these officers yet realize the saving of time and trouble which a careful examination of papers awaiting treatment will effect. Decree work shows a great improvement, and the Record-of-Rights is receiving adequate attention.

#### Commissioner, Southern Division.

*Huzúr Account Office.*—The accounts of all the Huzúr Treasuries in the Division except those of Belgaum and Bijápur were examined by the Collectors. No serious irregularities were discovered. The Commissioner's inspection in the case of the latter was the cause for non-inspection by the Collectors.

*General Inspection.*—All the Táluka and Mahál Offices with the exception of two tálukas in the Bijápur district, one táluka in the Dhárwár district and one táluka and one petha in the Kolába district were inspected by the Collectors. Out of eleven Mámlatdárs' and Mahálkaris' Offices in the Kánara district, the Collector has inspected only five. The reason for not visiting other offices has not been stated.

The Sub-Divisional Officers inspected all the Táluka and Mahál Offices in their respective charges.

The number of villages visited and the number of days spent on tour by all the Collectors except the Collector of Kolába were adequate. Mr. Thomas reports that the small number of villages visited, namely 49, was due to the fact that no touring was done until the second week of January, the Collector's presence at the head-quarters being apparently necessitated by the Darbár celebrations and the Agricultural Exhibition and that the time thus lost could not be made up later; and although by rapid touring every táluka and mahál was inspected, village inspection suffered.

The number of days spent on tour by the Sub-Divisional Officers appears to be small in the following cases :—

Charge.	No. of days.
Southern division, Kolába ...	108
Northern division, Ratnágiri ...	94

The small amount of touring in the former case is due to the sub-division having been without a separate Prant Officer for nearly half the touring season and in the latter, to the frequent changes in officers, with other causes necessitating repeated return to and long stay at head-quarters.

The amount of village inspection and test done by these officers is satisfactory except in a few cases, namely, in central division in Bijápur and southern division in Kolába and northern and southern divisions in Ratnágiri. In the first case, the insufficiency is ascribed to the year's scarcity and plague. Mr. Hiremath reports that his time till the end of November was taken up in verifying the crop estimation of the táluka officers and also in ascertaining where the scarcity really prevailed and that he had to repeatedly visit the affected portions to ascertain the demand for labour and fodder. In the next two cases, the same cause as is given for the inadequacy of the number of days spent in camps also explains the insufficiency in question. In the last case, Mr. Sakhalkar reports that it is due to the fact that in the early part of the season much of Mr. Hardy's time was occupied by enquiries in connection with the revision settlement of the Málvan táluka, that after he proceeded on leave on the 20th March 1912, he (Mr. Sakhalkar) held charge of the division in addition to the Huzúr Deputy Collector's office till the 20th April 1912, and that thereafter he was solely engaged for a month in testing the work of revision of the Record-of-Rights in the Málvan táluka. It is a matter of satisfaction to note that the administration by all the Sub-Divisional Officers of their several charges was efficient.



The Commissioner inspected one Collector's office, one Sub-Divisional office, six taluka offices and all the Huzur Account offices except Belgaum during the revenue year 1911-12. The Belgaum Huzur Account office was inspected in August 1912. The Mátherán Superintendent's office was also inspected. The irregularities and defects in the system of working noticed during the inspection were brought to the notice of the officers concerned.

## 2. *Destruction, indexing and sorting of records.*

### Commissioner, Northern Division.

Of the Rs. 20,000 which Government allotted for the entertainment of establishment for sorting and indexing the English records in the Sub-Divisional and taluka offices, about Rs. 14,000 have so far been expended. The work in Kaira and Broach is now complete; in the other districts it is being pushed on as fast as possible and is expected to be finished before the end of the financial year 1913-14.

Some progress was made with the destruction of records prior to 1857, but it is very slow. The orders of Government will be complied with in due course, but it is not as easy as it might seem for superior officers to find leisure even roughly to examine all the old files and destroy those which are not worth keeping.

### Commissioner, Central Division.

The indexing and sorting of vernacular records is believed to be up-to-date everywhere. As regards the same work connected with the English records definite instructions have been issued and the work is receiving attention.

In accordance with the orders contained in paragraphs 4 and 5 of Government Resolution, General Department, No. 3117 of the 24th May 1911, the Collectors were requested to undertake the work of destruction of all records—English as well as vernacular—prior to 1857. The work has been entirely completed in East Khándesh, Sátára and Sholápur; in the remaining districts it is partly done and it is hoped to finish it before the close of the current year.

Owing to the indexing and sorting of English records in the taluka offices and the destruction of records prior to 1857, a good deal of space has been cleared in the record rooms, which should be further increased when the revision of the A and B lists of papers now entrusted to Mr. F. G. H. Anderson, I. C. S., is completed. It is to be hoped that this clearance will obviate any extension of record rooms except in special cases for many years to come.

## Extract.

### CENTRAL DIVISION.

#### P. R. Kapadia, Esq., Deputy Collector, Sátára.

Records have been brought up-to-date in all Mámlatdars' offices. All records previous to 1857 in my own office and Mámlatdars' offices were scrutinized and destroyed by Mr. Brayne personally. This involved some time and trouble as the bulk was heavy. In Karád alone there were over 1,100 rumals to be dealt with under the Government Resolution. He retained very little, only survey papers (Adam's survey) for alienated unsurveyed villages, and some other papers of economic or historic interest. The result is that the congestion in the record rooms has been removed and is not likely to occur again for many years.

## III.—Revenue Establishments, including Village Officers and

### Land Records Staff.

#### 1.—*Land Revenue Staff.*

### Commissioner, Northern Division.

With a few individual exceptions the work of the Mámlatdars and Mahálkaris is everywhere favourably commented on; many have been singled out for special commendations which were doubtless well deserved. Punishments of all kinds were reduced almost to the minimum.

The Ahmedabad and Kaira Huzur Account and táluka offices were strengthened temporarily by the addition of one or more kárkúns to cope with the heavy tagai and grass work. The Kaira Huzur Account office, which was greatly under-manned was given three additional permanent hands. The services of Mr. L. H. Barford of the Northern Frontier Salt and Customs was lent to the Collector of Ahmedabad, but throughout the period of his deputation he worked under the Tálukdári Settlement Officer, Gujarát, in connection with the deportation of cattle to the Gir, which has formed the subject of a separate report. Three additional tagai Aval Kárkúns and three Circle Inspectors were employed temporarily in the Broach district. The situation in the Panch Maháls necessitated the appointment of a number of temporary Aval Kárkúns and Circle Inspectors. The question of increasing the establishments in the Sálsette, Bassein and Máhim tálukas of the Thána district is under consideration, but proposals have not yet been received.

Complaints as to the insufficiency of establishments are repeated, but the tendency is to overlook the fact that at the root of the trouble is not so much paucity of number or excess of work as inaptitude and lack of method amongst the men already employed. It is probably the daily experience in most offices that a varying proportion of the work turned out is useless and entirely unnecessary. The general standard of efficiency in the Subordinate Revenue Service was undoubtedly lowered in the case of candidates employed just before the new rules were passed. For the Upper Subordinate Service it is now comparatively easy to obtain good recruits, but it is not yet certain that the new rules will work satisfactorily with regard to the Lower. In this Division it has been reported by more than one Collector that owing to the limitations of that Service it is becoming impossible now to obtain candidates of any sort. With regard to his difficulties in this respect the Collector of Thána writes:—"I can scarcely get men with a knowledge of English at all and it is often only with great difficulty that I can arrange for each táluka to have even one English knowing Kárkún." In Ahmedabad and the Panch Maháls the superior officers were relieved of magisterial work to some extent by the investment of the subordinate judges in the districts with First Class Magisterial powers. After a six months' trial Government were pleased to extend the period of the First Class Resident Magistrate's appointment at Nariád for a further period of one year and proposals for still further extending the period are now before them.

Government order sanctioning the partition of the Daskroi táluka into North and South Daskroi were received during the year but were given effect to after its close.

#### Commissioner, Central Division.

Generally speaking the work of the Land Revenue staff has improved. The failure of the harvest and resultant distress imposed a good deal of additional work in some places: but the work was generally cheerfully done. As regards work generally, the past year's experience has convinced me that it has not increased as much as is generally supposed: where method and discipline are enforced, the existing establishments are as far as numbers go more than sufficient to deal with it. As a proof of this I may mention that I have kept the work of the Haveli Kacheri, the heaviest in the Division, under my personal observation for some time past. At the present moment all arrears have been cleared off, work is thoroughly up-to-date, and it has been possible to reduce the staff by one Mámlatdár, one Aval Kárkún and seven kárkúns costing Rs. 500 a month. Similar results have been secured in Sátára, notoriously a heavy district, under Mr. Mountford's competent management. The revenue of all lands was for the first time for many years collected without arrears: the offices have been cleared of practically all old correspondences: and the district is now thoroughly in good order. I note that in one of the reports submitted herewith an Assistant Collector writes:—

"Returning to the Mofussil after an absence of nearly five years I had necessarily a good deal to learn and unlearn. I was chiefly impressed with the growth of the power of the Mámlatdár and the concomitant

weakening in the position of the Assistant Collector. The latter officer is practically powerless. His every action is subject to revision and reversal."

I entirely agree with this officer's description of the relative importance of the Mámlatdár and Sub-divisional Officer: but I differ as to the cause. The plain fact is that the Pránts' powers have not been restricted: if anything, they have been increased: but that he will not take responsibility and use them. Everything is sent on for orders: the result is that the Pránt's office becomes a mere post office, and the Pránt himself degenerates into a mere signing machine. If Pránts would only realize that they can do practically everything that a Collector can do and if Collectors would encourage them to act on this principle, it would be far better for the staff and for the work as well. It is the Pránt's own fault, if he finds himself disregarded. Turning to the inferior staff, there are universal complaints of the poor quality of recruits: and it is becoming obvious that the scale of pay must be raised. But I do not think that any actual increase of expenditure is called for: the funds can be provided almost entirely by the eradication of useless posts.

\* Extract sub-joined. As an instance of what I mean I would draw attention to the report\* of Mr. Kapadia, District Deputy Collector, Sátára, in which he mentions that he found eight kárkúns on Rs. 15 in Karád Kacheri. It must, I think, be obvious to any one conversant with the qualities of a 15 Rupee kárkún that eight of them in one office are likely to be more of a burden than a help: and that one man on Rs. 3<sup>1</sup>, two on Rs. 25 and two on Rs. 20 would cost no more and would be of far more real assistance. As Mr. Baker points out, the biggest táluka in Sind is managed with half the staff of an ordinary Bombay táluka: the same is the case, I am informed, in the Berars: and there seem good grounds for holding that with more methodical working, we can secure better results from a smaller but more highly paid staff than we do with our present cheap but overgrown establishments.

#### Commissioner, Southern Division.

The work of the Mámlatdárs was generally satisfactory throughout the Division, but in certain cases the disposal of their work as Magistrates is unfavourably commented on. This seems to have been particularly the case in the Bijápur district where Mr. Kabraji complains that his Magistrates are dilatory and unable to discriminate between Civil and Criminal complaints.

The strength of offices is reported to be sufficient except in the following cases:—

(i) Mr. G. G. Desai, District Deputy Collector, N. D., Bijápur, repeats the request for an additional hand for his office and urges the necessity for the entertainment of a Local Fund Kárkún in each táluka office for the disposal of Local Fund work. It may be noted with regard to the first request that the present arrangement made by the Collector, viz., the entertainment of a temporary hand for that office, seems to be suitable pending the final solution of the question whether a third Sub-divisional Officer should be permanently posted to the Bijápur district. With regard to his second requisition, proposals for the entertainment of eight kárkúns on Rs. 15 per month one for each Mámlatdár's office and the payment of pension contribution from Local Funds have been submitted to Government in the General Department under the Commissioner's endorsement No. 4124, dated 12th November 1912.

(ii) Mr. Mardhekar, District Deputy Collector, Kánara, speaks of complaints from all tálukas to the effect that the existing establishments are insufficient to cope with the additional work thrown on them by the rewriting of Record-of-Rights, introduction of new village forms, transfer of Civil Court decrees for execution to the Revenue Department and the new system of repairing boundary marks. He further states that particularly in Sirsi there are good grounds to believe that the establishment is inadequate. A separate report will be called for from the Sub-divisional Officer on this point.

(iii) Mr. Jayakar, Sub-divisional Officer, Kolába, supported by Mr. Thomas, Collector of the district, complains of the insufficiency of the establishment sanctioned for the Mahálkaris' offices at Khálápur and Nágothna. Administrative approval has, however, been since received to strengthen the establishment of an additional Kárkún on Rs. 15 in each of the Mahálkaris' offices.

The work of the subordinate revenue staff may be regarded as satisfactory on the whole. But signs are not wanting in the Collectors' and Sub-divisional Officers' reports to show that low pay and high prices combined with the introduction of the new rules tend to affect materially the efficiency of the lower grades. Mr. Hiremath, District Deputy Collector, Bijápur, sees a tendency on the part of good hands to do their work reluctantly, there being no incentive for them to work hard. Mr. Maconochie, Collector of Dhárwár, complains that the elder men unqualified for promotion work with a few creditable exceptions no better and no worse than can be expected from men with no prospects and remarks that the kárkúns of the lower grades suffer from low pay and high prices and their condition naturally affects their work. Mr. Namjoshi from Dhárwár and Mr. Mardhekar from Kánara corroborate the statement made above. Mr. Mardhekar summarises his opinion as follows :—

“The prospects in pay and promotion offered by the Subordinate Revenue Service under the new rules can scarcely be said to be attractive. A graduate or School Final man, if employed as a kárkún, cannot expect to get more than Rs. 45 at the time of retirement. The case is different with those graduates who are appointed probationers by the Commissioners. In comparison with these prospects, those in Abkári and Forest Departments are decidedly better. Many intelligent kárkúns try to enter those Departments. The system of annual incremental promotion adopted in the Forest Department is considered a very attractive one. Besides the quality and quantity of work in those Departments is not of exacting nature. There is a feeling of discontent in the rank and file of the Revenue establishment that their prospects are worse in comparison with those in other Departments. Cost of living has considerably increased. A young intelligent man prefers private service in Bombay and other commercial centres to Government service in the Revenue Department. No graduate is willing to accept service in this district and School Final men are hard to find. Vacancies have to be filled in by unpassed men which reflects adversely to the efficiency of the táluka establishment.”

Complaints regarding the difficulty of recruitment of the lower grades of the Revenue Department are also received from Kolába and Dhárwár.

Mr. Maxwell, Assistant Collector, Kánara, makes the following observation with a view to lessen the unattractiveness of service in above-ghát tálukas of the district :—

“A fact affecting Revenue establishments above-gháts more perhaps than is usually allowed for was brought to my notice during the past season, viz., that the unwillingness of kárkúns to serve above-gháts and their frequent illness during service there, is largely due to the impossibility of obtaining decent accommodation in the villages which there do duty as táluka or petha head-quarters. This want has been recognised in Supa, but it applies also to Yellápur and Mundgod and to a less extent even to Haliyál where the Mámlatár should certainly be provided with a Government bungalow. The Revenue Department is at a great disadvantage compared with other Departments in the matter of housing its officers and establishments and the problem of the clerical establishment above-gháts would at least partly be solved by suitable action in the matter.”

There is much force in Mr. Maxwell's observations ; necessary action thereon will be separately taken.

The need of reorganising the Subordinate Revenue Establishment has been fully recognized by Government who have pronounced their opinions on more than one occasion. While framing the Budget Estimates of the current year, Government hoped that the revision proposals could be brought into force with

effect from 1st November last. But it appears from a recent reference from the Accountant General that the necessary consolidated statistical information has not yet been prepared in his office. Too much stress cannot be laid upon the necessity for sanctioning the revision proposals at an early date.

### Extracts.

#### CENTRAL DIVISION.

C. M. Baker, Esq., Collector, Násik.

As regards the subordinate staff there are good and bad, and it is impossible to criticise them as a whole. The Head Kárkúns are usually men who have no hope of promotion (several are graduates who have failed in the Higher Standard) and have little incentive to work. There are the usual complaints of the taluka offices being short-handed; but they do not impress me, since I have seen the biggest talukas in Sind run with less than half as many men. The pay and prospects of the Department are not good enough to induce many men of superior attainments to enter it. We now get no School Final candidates at all: if one comes he does not stay. In a few years there will be no English knowing men left in the taluka offices. Unless the expected reforms greatly improve matters we shall have to take the rather reactionary step of abolishing English correspondence with Mámlatdárs altogether. It is still prohibited in Sind.

P. R. Kapadia, Esq., Deputy Collector, Sátára.

At my first visit to Karád in July last I was struck from an inspection of the Mámlatdár's office that there were more men on the establishment than were really needed, and that the proportion of the men in the lowest grade (Rs. 15) was very large, 8 out of 15. The total number of prakarnas in the office was not large and the establishment was susceptible of material reduction in number with the ultimate aim of using the savings for the improvement of the pay and prospects of the kárkúns. In my

1 English Kárkún, 2 Jamabandi, 3 Nágdi, 4 Shroff, 5 Revenue Correspondence, 6 Magisterial, 7 Assistance and possessory suits, 8 Record and Darkhást, 9 Barnishi, 10 Tagai, Local Board and other miscellaneous work.

humble opinion ten kárkúns and a Head Kárkún are quite enough for a taluka of moderate size and importance. I have placed the matter before you and have personally discussed it, and as then settled I shall submit definite proposals on the lines adopted in the Haveli taluka of the Poona district, after visiting Karád again in a week or ten days. In the Sátára Taluka office the establishment is still larger than at Karád, but it is not in my charge. Even Jaoli and Pátan establishments are susceptible of reduction and at my suggestion the Mámlatdár of Pátan has agreed to reduce two kárkúns out of 11.

### 2.—Land Records Staff.

Commissioner, Northern Division.

The work of the District and Assistant District Inspectors of Land Records was satisfactory. In Ahmedabad twenty-one long-standing boundary disputes with Baroda, Bhávnagar, Cambay and Idar and other Mahi Kántha States and with talukdári villages were finally settled; only two remaining undisposed of at the close of the year. The more serious boundary disputes were settled personally by the District Inspector Mr. Kavi who also performed much useful work in the west of the district in the hot weather in connection with the prevailing scarcity. In Kaira the District Inspector effected an amicable settlement of three disputed cases and also rendered considerable assistance in watching the condition of the people and the cattle while on tour and checking the grass accounts at the various depôts. The Panch Maháls Inspector supervised and tested the measurement and classification work in connection with the survey and partition of the three inám villages of Salia, Khabda and Kotda. The measurement of terracing and field embankments in two villages of Godhra and Dohád and the theodolite survey of eight villages of the Narukote State in the Rewa Kántha Agency were also carried out under his supervision.

The work of the Circle Inspectors seems to have been good on the whole except in Thána.

The Circle Inspectors' staff was strengthened temporarily in Kaira, Panch Maháls and Broach. In the Panch Maháls it was raised from 14 to 36, the whole establishment being employed on famine duty to the abandonment of the ordinary routine work. In Broach only two additional men were employed. The repairs to boundary marks which are provided for by rules had to be

dropped in Ahmedabad, Kaira and the Panch Maháls. In Surat the Circle Inspectors are beginning to enforce the rules systematically, and it is worthy of note that in that district of nearly  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lákhs of marks repaired as many as one lák and thirty-seven thousand were restored by the occupants themselves under the Circle Inspectors' directions. In Thána the re-writing of the Record-of-Rights in one circle of each táluka resulted in neglect of boundary mark repairs and other routine duties in that táluka, all the Circle Inspectors being employed on testing the entries. The re-writing of the Record in selected villages of the Kaira district had to be postponed.

The experiment of carrying out the whole measurement work of a táluka by a special Circle Inspector was tried in Ahmedabad and Broach and proved a success. In Kaira the work of the whole district was entrusted to a special Circle Inspector whose work apparently satisfied the Collector. In the Panch Maháls the General Duty Inspector deals with most cases, while in Surat the employment of special men remunerated by fees paid by private parties has again worked quite well.

#### Commissioner, Central Division.

Changes in the personnel of the District Inspectors have been unusually frequent: one retired (Mr. Lele, Násik), one died (Mr. Bere, Nagar) and one had to take long leave owing to serious illness (Mr. Gadnis, Sátára). Owing to the definite adoption by Government of the policy of measuring sub-divisions of survey numbers recorded in the Record-of-Rights considerable additions were found necessary to the surveyors employed under the Superintendent, Central Division: and eventually two new parties were formed, which worked in

15 villages of the Poona district;

1 táluka of Nágár district; and

part of one táluka of the Sholápur district.

Parties of trained village accountants locally recruited were also working in two tálukas of East Khándesh and three tálukas and one petha of West Khándesh.

The work is now completed for the whole of the West Khándesh district, the district in which operations were begun.

With the extension of phalni operations it has been found necessary to systematize and regulate work. The status of the Head Surveyor has been improved, a manual has been prepared and printed, and the whole transaction placed on a sound and businesslike footing. The Superintendent, it will be noted, states that the development has doubled the work of his office, and that if a proper control is to be maintained he should have an Assistant for field work and an Accountant for the financial side of the work. The request seems reasonable and will, if the Settlement Commissioner and Director of Land Records agrees, be made a subject of official representation.

The work of the Circle Inspectors as usual has come in for a good deal of criticism. I see no reason to alter the opinion that when they are bad the fault is with their superior, the Mámlatdár. When the Mámlatdár looks after his men and examines their daftars once a week or so, their work is good: when they are left to their own devices, as they generally are, they naturally take no trouble. Orders were issued from this office during the year that the Circle Inspectors were not to draw their permanent travelling allowance unless they had obtained a certificate from the Mámlatdár that their work was thoroughly satisfactory. It appears from several of the reports that these orders have had a good effect: it is hoped that in future they will be rigidly observed.

The outstanding balance of measurement cases shows a decline (688 against 889 last year) mainly owing to a large reduction in Sátára (198 against 351). There is, however, a marked increase in East Khándesh and Násik. The repair of boundary marks hardly seems to have received adequate attention. In Poona Mr. Swifte notices that there is a tendency to postpone the repairs on the slightest pretence. In Násik Mr. Khopkar notes that it seems to have been neglected. Under the new system the work is not heavy if it is regularly and properly done: but if it is scamped very serious results must ensue.

## Commissioner, Southern Division.

The District Inspectors are reported to have worked satisfactorily during the year.

Opinions about the work of Circle Inspectors are divided, but a majority of the district officers have reported favourably. The bad work of the Circle Inspectors is attributed by the Collector of Bijapur to the fact that untrained and unqualified men on Rs. 15 and 20 were appointed to the posts. This has presumably been done under the personal pay system. The matter will be set right after consulting the other Collectors.

The Collectors have been instructed at the suggestion of the Settlement Commissioner to have the duties of Circle Inspectors during successive periods of the year more accurately prescribed than is now done. The Collectors are doing this in consultation with the Superintendent of Land Records.

*Boundary Marks.*

This work was suspended in the Dhárwár district and also in a few villages

District.	Number of villages selected.	Number of villages done.
Belgaum ... ..	126	94
Bijapur ... ..	91	91
Dhárwár ... ..	.....	.....
Kánara ... ..	104	104
Kolaba ... ..	162	45
Ratnágiri ... ..	57½	46

of the Belgaum district owing to scarcity and partially suspended in Kolába in order to free Circle Inspectors for the re-writing of the Record-of-Rights. The Superintendent of Land Records had last year suggested a system of double inspection under which the Circle Inspector has to mark the places where he

finds the marks out of repair and re-inspect the marks after giving about a month's time to the rayats to repair them. This system was tried in Kánara and is reported to have worked well and to have proved less extravagant of the Circle Inspector's time.

Penal rates have been effective as the Rayats are reported to have restored the marks out of repair more promptly than before.

*Measurement Cases.*

The system of employing special Circle Inspectors for measurement work only is proving successful. It has now been adopted in Bijapur, Belgaum Ratnágiri and Kánara with marked success; and the Collector of Dhárwár promises to introduce it in his district next season. The Superintendent of Land Records thinks that if the system is to be universally adopted, it will be certainly unnecessary to give the elaborate training to all Circle Inspectors which we give at present, as a majority of the men will never have to do any original measurement work again. The Commissioner, however, does not accept this view inasmuch as it is essentially necessary that a Circle Inspector should have a sufficient knowledge of survey to enable him to perform his ordinary duties and to deal with encroachment cases and boundary mark disputes and the like. The training in survey which is now given to the Circle Inspector for six weeks cannot be said to be elaborate and the period of instruction cannot be shortened without running the risk of making the instruction imparted too superficial for any practical use.

District.	Opening balance.	Fresh cases received.	Total.	Disposed of.	Balance.
Belgaum ... ..	153	485	638	423	215
Bijapur ... ..	252	321	573	366	207
Dhárwár ... ..	170	337	507	221	286
Kánara ... ..	327	266	593	310	283
Kolaba ... ..	125	105	230	182	48
Ratnágiri ... ..	36	144	180	124	56

The table in the margin shows the total number of measurement cases received and disposed of during the year in this Division.

## Extracts.

## NORTHERN DIVISION.

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

The progress made in repairs of boundary marks has been very great. Every year occupants are learning to do the work themselves as soon as the notices are issued, in order to avoid the restoration by the Circle Inspector and the consequent payment. Even of the marks noted as restored by the Circle Inspectors most were done by the occupants working under the Circle Inspectors' directions. The total number of marks restored by the occupants is reported as 187,001 against 67,727 in the previous year.

## CENTRAL DIVISION.

L. C. Swift, Esq., Collector, Poona.

Repairs to boundary marks were effected in 120 villages and out of 122,569 marks found to be in disrepair 95 per cent. were set right, 7½ per cent. by the occupants and 21 per cent. by the Circle Inspectors. Last year these percentages were 93, 72 and 21 respectively. Extra Circle Inspectors were entertained for the work of repairing boundary marks out of repair. The charges were met from recoveries made from the owners of lands whose marks were repaired by charging when necessary a penal rate as sanctioned by the Commissioner, C. D. This measure was resorted to in order to induce occupants to repair their own marks within the time allowed by the notices issued by Mámlatdárs. A tendency has been noticed to let boundary marks repairs be postponed indefinitely on the smallest pretence. Under the present system each village comes up for boundary marks repairs only once in ten years and if the scale is not most strictly adhered to it is practically certain that many marks will disappear altogether, causing endless trouble to all concerned. This tendency has been rigidly suppressed wherever noticed. It is even doubtful whether the standard 10 years' cycle is not too long in some localities.

3.—*Village Officers.*

Commissioner, Northern Division.

Punishments among village officers were over normal, 109 men being suspended, 24 dismissed and 3 reduced, 45 per cent. of the punishments being inflicted in the Kaira district. The record of that district is worth noting—forty-one patels were suspended, and four dismissed, while one was imprisoned for failure to give security for good behaviour and three were under trial in the criminal courts at the close of the year. Thirteen talátis were suspended and three dismissed; two others were being tried criminally at the close of the year. The majority of the punishments in this district were in connection with the screening of offenders or the hushing up of crime.

Rewards in the shape of medals, shawls, pagris, etc., or in cash were granted for approved service to 479 village officers, of whom nearly 50 per cent. were talátis and to 53 inferior village servants. One patel in Broach was given a sword for conspicuously good work.

Not only were no complaints received against any of the Police patels exercising special powers under the Village Police Act but reports of their having done good work have come from more than one district. The patel of Traj in the Mátar taluka of the Kaira district alone tried as many as 112 cases.

The poorer patels in the Ahmedabad district except in Daskroi, Parántij and Gogha were given such additional pay as was necessary to bring their cash emoluments up to Rs. 4 per mensem temporarily from November 1911 to July 1912. In the same way the Rawániás of the Kaira district and a certain number of inferior village servants in the Ahmedabad district were granted increased emoluments up to Rs. 4 and Rs. 3 per mensem respectively.

Thirty out of thirty-one cases of alienation of service lands in the Kaira district have been disposed of—the remaining one awaits a Civil Court decision.

The reorganization of inferior village servants in the western maháls of the Panch Maháls sanctioned by Government, could not be given effect to during the year; revised proposals for the eastern maháls have been submitted to Government.



## Commissioner, Central Division.

The following statement shows the percentage of punishments inflicted on village officers during the year under report :—

District.	Patels.		Kulkarnis.		Remarks.
	Suspended.	Dismissed.	Suspended.	Dismissed.	
Násik ... ..	1.05	.3	3.00	2.00	
Sholápur ... ..	2.7	.2	3.1	.4	
Sátára ... ..	2.01	.1	2.8	.1	
East Khándesh ... ..	2.24	.14	5.4	...	
West Khándesh ... ..	.5	.1	2.1	.7	
Ahmednagar ... ..	4.9	.07	4.3	.6	
Poona ... ..	2.4	.2	6.6	.4	
Total ... ..	2.25	.16	3.9	.6	

Prosecutions of village officers for various offences, usually misappropriation of Government money, were rather more numerous than usual. On the other hand rewards for good work were granted to village officers and servants in all the districts except Sholápur.

As the scheme for the training of village accountants has been suspended by Government, no survey classes were held during the past year.

A small staff of talátis was sanctioned for work in villages of Ahmednagar, of which the watan right belongs to Government, and proposals for a similar staff for Násik are in course of submission to Government. Otherwise no steps have been taken to limit the operation of the watandárs' system. Disputes between cultivators and Mahárs regarding the latter's perquisites have been frequent : but in accordance with the decision in 9 B. H. C. R. the parties are generally referred to the Civil Court, unless there is a clear entry as to the right in the Watan Register.

## Commissioner, Southern Division.

The following statement shows the punishments inflicted on village officers in the Southern Division :—

District.	Kulkarnis including Talátis and Shambhogs.				Patels.			
	Total No.	Number fined.	Number suspended.	Number dismissed.	Total No.	Number fined.	Number suspended.	Number dismissed.
Belgaum ... ..	718	...	22	5	1,202	...	20	4
Bijápur ... ..	778	...	27	2	1,256	...	33	6
Dhárwar ... ..	880	...	37	3	1,486	...	50	12
Kánara ... ..	307	...	9	3	865	...	17	2
Kolaba ... ..	227	...	3	1	1,774	...	20	5
Ratnágiri ... ..	291	...	4	1	1,311	...	12	...
Total ... ..	3,141	...	102	15	7,893	...	152	34 = 303
Total for 1910-11 ... ..	...	...	101	26	...	1	143	34 = 305

It may be seen from the above statement that the number of punishments inflicted during the year shows a decrease of two from that inflicted during the previous year. Out of twelve pátils and 8 kulkarnis who were prosecuted, 8 pátils and 5 kulkarnis were convicted, 2 pátils and 1 kulkarni were discharged, while there were cases pending against two pátils and two kulkarnis at the end of the year under report.

Mr. Desai repeats his opinion given last year that much improvement can be effected in the tone of village officers by a firm but sympathetic attitude from the higher officials. He considers that with all the faults laid at their doors the watandár village officers who have a stake in the country and

command considerable influence in their villages form a cheap agency through which a great deal of difficult and complicated as well as varied work of Government can be got done. If all the watandárs of a district or of a division combine and start a training school for men of their class, with the help of Government, the scheme is likely to be successful and would certainly provide Government with much better officiators for the posts of pátils and kulkarnis than are at present available. Spread of education can, in Mr. Desai's opinion, go a great way in fostering a spirit of co-operation of this type. Mr. Maconochie, Collector of Dhárwár, while emphasising the necessity for prompt and severe punishments in gross and proved misconduct, advocates a policy of direction and encouragement from sub-divisional and táluka officers in the treatment of village officers. He does not join his sub-divisional officers in deploring the incompetence and moral obliquity of the village officers and their inadequacy to cope with the ever-increasing demands on their time and intelligence. The backwardness of this class of officers is, in Mr. Maconochie's opinion, due to the fact that village education does not keep pace with the development of the administrative machine by highly educated and ingenious specialists. Mr. Maxwell, Assistant Collector, Kánara, recommends the restoration of the power to inflict fines on village officers. His attention will be invited to the orders contained in Government Resolution, Revenue Department, No. 10431, dated 14th November 1912. Mr. Mardhekar complains of the insufficiency of the Ugrani establishment. Proposals to strengthen the establishment have been submitted to Government under the Commissioner's No. 4237, dated 22nd November 1912. There is another complaint from that Sub-Divisional Officer that the strength of village accountants is not adequate in the coast tálukas and their pay is scarcely adequate and stands in need of revision. Necessary action will be taken in the matter when the proposals are received in this office from the Collector.

Rewards for good work were granted to village officers in all the districts of the Division. Besides this a gold ring and a sum of Rs. 15 in cash were presented in the Belgaum district, the former to a non-officiating pátíl for good assistance to the temporary Assistant Surgeon on inoculation duty and the latter to a rayat for helping to put out a fire—a burning house. The Collector is being requested to quote the authority for granting the rewards in question. In the Kolába district eleven pátils were rewarded for the preservation of talah and one for helping the Police. In Ratnágiri special rewards amounting to Rs. 132 were sanctioned by the Director of Land Records from the funds at his disposal to three Circle Inspectors, eight kulkarnis and talátis, three Police pátils and Mahárs of five villages for conspicuous service in the work of revision of the Record-of-Rights in Málvan táluka.

No classes were held to train village accountants in survey during the year under report.

The work of pátils exercising special powers under the Village Police Act is reported to be fair.

*4.—General remarks on progress in training of village accountants in survey and on measurement of sub-divisions of survey numbers.*

*Commissioner, Northern Division.*

None of the classes for training village accountants in survey were reopened during the year nor was any regular measurement of sub-divisions done except in Surat and in the Sálsette táluka of the Thána district. In the latter a special survey party of ten measurers selected from among the talátis of the district and employed for three months completed all but five villages. Mr. Anderson, Collector of Surat, has a staff of 40 surveyors and 5 Circle Inspectors (Nimbandars as he calls them) working on the plane table measurements of sub-divisions and the results have proved far more successful than he predicted last year. No fewer than 62,510 shares were measured in 151 villages at a cost of less than 4½ annas per sub-division, including the cost of a copy of the map for the taláti and another for the occupant. The work has now been completed over one-third of the whole district.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

Survey classes for training village accountants have been discontinued, but a central survey class for Circle Inspectors was held at Belgaum and a new system of training, less wearisome and more efficient, was introduced.

The measurement of sub-divisions was begun and completed in the Ron taluka of the Dhárwár district by 27 measurers under 3 supervisors, the number of sub-divisions measured being 20,676. Six measurers under a supervisor completed the work begun two years ago in the Hungund taluka of the Bijápur district. Experiment in one village of the Vengurla taluka has given considerable experience of the special conditions prevailing there, and in this connection the Superintendent of Land Records remarks that sufficient experience has now been gained to render possible operations on a larger scale; and instructions and estimates have already been prepared with this intent. There is reason to believe that the expenses will keep well under 12 annas per hissa, but the collection of the fee has been and is likely to prove a serious obstacle until the law is amended. A Survey Mámlatdár has now been appointed specially on the work of measurement of sub-divisions in this Division.

IV.—Special Matters.

1.—Record-of-Rights.

Commissioner, Northern Division.

As previously observed the Record remains to be completed in the majority of alienated villages in the Division. In Surat the preparation of the Record was commenced in two sharakati villages; the rough copy is complete and has been in a large measure tested. The introduction of the Record into the Kurla estate of the Thána district, which has been sanctioned, was postponed pending the completion of the revision survey. The question of the form of the Record for use in Bhágdári villages is still under consideration.

The re-writing of the Record in the new forms, begun in the previous year, was completed in Ahmedabad, Broach and Surat. The suggestion made last year of finishing one circle of each taluka annually was adopted and fully carried out in Thána. In the Panch Maháls, the Record was announced but all other work in connection therewith had to be postponed on account of famine; in Kaira re-writing had, for the same reason, to be further postponed.

The re-written Record is said to be fairly accurate especially in Surat and Thána where special precautions were taken to ensure its correctness. The completion of the measurement of sub-divisions will, of course, enhance its accuracy. Failure on the part of landholders to report the acquisition of rights necessitated recourse to section 8 of the Record-of-Rights Act in a few cases.

Commissioner, Central Division.

The re-writing of the Record-of-Rights has been completed or in progress in the following talukas and pethas in the Division during the year under report :—

East Khándesh	...	Páchora, Bhusával, Chopda, Edalabad petha.
West Khándesh	...	Shirpur, Taloda (1 circle), Nandurbár (1 circle), Navápur (1 circle), Sakri (1 circle).
Násik	...	Peint (2 circles), Nándgaon, Málegaon, Satána, Ohándor Igatpur.
Ahmednagar	...	Ahmednagar (except 6 villages), Nevása, Jámkhed, (except 6 villages), Kopargaon (except 10 villages).
Poona	...	Sirur, Bhímthadi, including the Dhond petha and parts of Khed and Junnar talukas and Ámbegaon petha.
Sátára	...	Sátára (1 circle), Koregaon (2 circles), Mán (1 circle), Khánápur (1 circle), Tásgaon (2 circles), Jávli (2 circles), Wái (1 circle).
Sholápur	...	Bársi Taluka.

The Record was due for re-writing in all the talukas in the Sholapur district; but on account of the prevailing scarcity and emigration of cultivators work was postponed except in Bársi. Before re-copying, the Record was thoroughly tested by a special establishment and all errors discovered put right. In its new form the Record is in point of accuracy a great improvement on the old.

During the year the original Record was prepared in respect of the sharakati villages of Uruli, Nahvi Sandas, Tulapur and Perna of the Haveli taluka, Poona district, and in portions included within the Poona Suburban Municipality of the villages of Mali, Munjeri, Parbati, Bhamburda and Yeravda. It was also prepared in respect of the lands within seven Municipalities and one sharakati village of the Sátára district.

The value of the Record is undoubtedly becoming recognised by the people more each year, and its association with the new village account forms is tending to make all concerned more keen on having their rights recorded. The mutation registers are kept fairly well, but care is necessary to see that unregistered transactions, particularly redemptions and partitions, are properly recorded.

#### Commissioner, Southern Division.

The re-writing of the new form has been completed in the districts of Kolába and Belgaum (except in one village in the Khánápur taluka). In the Dhárwár and Kánara districts the work has been partially done. The old Record in some of the talukas of Ratnágiri having been found inaccurate was revised. The re-writing could not therefore be undertaken in that district. The new forms were received too late for the re-writing to be completed in the Bijápur district where the revision of the Record is done by circles.

The entertainment of special establishments was necessary in some cases and in others special rewards were given to the village accountants by way of encouragement.

During the year the new account forms based on the Record-of-Rights have been introduced in the remaining four talukas of the Belgaum district and nearly half of the Dhárwár district, all in the Honávar taluka (Kánara) and 22 villages in the Ratnágiri taluka. The usefulness of the new account system as a check over the Record-of-Rights is well recognised.

It is gratifying to see that the Record-of-Rights is within reasonable distance of being as accurate as it can be made.

#### 2.—Non-alienable tenure.

#### Commissioner, Northern Division.

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

District.				Area at the beginning of the year.		Area at the close of the year.	
				Acres.	g.	Acres.	g.
Ahmedabad	...	...	...	102,519	11	98,840	29
Kaira	...	...	...	78,037	13	74,840	15
Panch Maháls	...	...	...	168,867	17	164,401	17
Broach	...	...	...	27,789	34	29,132	6
Surat	...	...	...	36,833	15	35,761	17
Thána	...	...	...	3,864	15	4,091	20
Total ..				417,411	25	407,067	24

The variations are insignificant and need no explanation; the Surat district reports that the decrease is due to the weeding out of persons improperly holding land on this tenure. In Thána a similar restriction exists on the land held under the woodland tenure, which now amounts to 36,613 acres. Breaches of

the conditions on which the land was held under the restricted tenure which appear to have been rather numerous in four districts were dealt with mostly by forfeiture. Complaint comes from Ahmedabad and Kaira that many cultivators take improper advantage of the tenure by constantly changing the land in order to secure a fallow at regular intervals; if there is any abuse of privilege in this the remedy lies in the hands of the district officers themselves.

Commissioner, Central Division.

The area of land re-settled on the restricted tenure with occupants was 1,220 acres during the year under report, as compared with only 436 acres in the past year; 23,703 acres of unoccupied land were given out on this tenure, whereas 6,406 acres were resumed by Government or resigned by the holders. Out of former area 6.6 acres in Sholapur were sold by auction and realized a price of Rs. 6,839 or 24 times the assessment.

The land held on the new tenure at the end of the year comes to 437,279 acres against 418,545 acres at the conclusion of the past year. Over two-thirds of this land belongs to the West Khándesh district.

I adhere to the opinion which I expressed last year that this tenure should be very sparingly used.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

The area of lands re-settled with the occupants and that newly granted decreased in the Belgaum and Bijapur districts, while the latter area in Dhárwár and Kánara increased appreciably. In Ratnágiri the area shown as re-settled consists of sheri lands re-granted to previous lease-holders under Government Resolution No. 12397 of 23rd December 1909, and that shown as given out represents the holdings entered on this tenure on the lapse of khoti villages to Government.

Some of the reports show that this form of tenure is not popular with the agriculturists generally and Mr. Shannon remarks that as a rule defaulters decline to take back lands even with the arrears written off. But in the case of those for whom this tenure is intended, it is not unpopular. In Belgaum this form of tenure is required especially in the case of the tenants residing in Chandgad mahál who are lazy and are heavily indebted to sávkárs and the Collector is attempting to extend it to them. Lands on this tenure are granted chiefly to the criminal hill tribes in Bijapur by the Special Officer, Mr. Starte. Endeavours are being made in Kánara to popularise the tenure among the improvident classes living in the coast talukas and the marked increase in the area given out during the year indicates the advance made in this direction. It is not known why this tenure is not being availed of in Kolába in the case of the Katkaris and other hill tribes. The attention of the Collector will be drawn to the matter.

Generally, all officers are unanimous in thinking that the credit of persons holding on the restricted tenure is less than what attaches to the ordinary tenure; but nowhere were the agricultural operations of such persons impeded by the want of credit.

Excluding 445 acres in Belgaum which are wholly due to relinquishments on the determination of temporary occupancies, the area resumed or resigned during the year is very small as compared with that of the preceding year. No cases of the breach of the conditions of the tenure were brought to light in Belgaum, Ratnágiri and Kolába. In Bijapur and Dhárwár only 3 such cases occurred (2 in the former and 1 in the latter district) and the lands alienated were resumed in all the cases. Only in one taluka (Siddapur) in Kánara, were a considerable number (more than 50) of such cases found to have taken place. These were detected at the time of re-writing the Record-of-Rights. Mr. Mardhekar reports that this state of things was due to the fact that in 1913 many lands which were in the occupation of well-to-do Haviks for years past but which were being entered an-

nually in Village Form No. 8 were given out to them on restricted tenure without their consent, and that some more waste lands were also granted on this tenure to rich Haviks who did not realise the importance of the restrictions imposed and alienated the lands in various ways. The Collector, Mr. Monteath, remarks that he does not believe in the applicability of this tenure to such classes as Haviks. Enquiries are being made into the above cases and in some the ordinary tenure was allowed to be substituted on payment of full occupancy price. I do not see any reason why the above course should not be followed in the case of all the well-to-do Haviks and am issuing orders accordingly. Now that clear orders have been issued by Government as to the class of persons for whom this tenure is meant, similar cases, I hope, will not recur in future.

Mr. Mardhekar repeats his remarks made last year that the letting out for cultivation on annual leases should not be considered as "alienation" and adds that instances are not wanting in which the condition works hard when the grantee dies leaving a minor son and wife. Government have already agreed to the granting of permission to reasonable alienation (*vide* paragraph 9 of Government Resolution No. 7760 of 19th August 1912), and I think that this will amply meet the requirements of the case and that no further orders on the subject appear necessary.

### 3.—Others.

#### (i).—*Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Act.*

Commissioner, Northern Division.

A Commission was recently appointed to enquire into the working of the Act and in view of the report which, it is expected, they will publish, it scarcely seems worth while to generalise with regard to the advantages or disadvantages of the Act. The only point now to be noted is that generally speaking the Conciliators in Surat and Thána have not succeeded in earning the entire satisfaction of the Collectors.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

Since the working of the Act has been the subject of special enquiry during the year by the Commission appointed for the purpose and the report of the Commission must have reached Government by this time, it seems unnecessary to dwell on the subject at any length here. However, a few remarks on the general effects of the measure will not be uncalled for. The introduction of the Act was beneficial to the agriculturists generally in relieving them from their indebtedness, although their credit with the *sávkárs* appears to have diminished and the latter insist on downright sales instead of simple mortgages. Some officers (in Bijápúr and Dhárwár) also lay much stress on the demoralisation of the rayat brought about by the present system tending to put a premium on dishonesty; while Mr. Kabraji urges that the duty of ascertaining whether a person is an agriculturist or not should be transferred from the Civil Courts to the Collectors, as persons of the *sávkár* class, who hold lands, take undue advantage of the Act; Mr. Monteath holds that the Act is not a suitable measure for Kánara and that its introduction has been productive of no beneficial result.

The work of Conciliators is again reported as unsatisfactory. This is chiefly due to the difficulty of finding the right type of men willing to do the work, and I think that as long as such persons are not available it is desirable to do away with the conciliation system altogether.

#### (ii).—*Co-operative Societies.*

Commissioner, Northern Division.

Fifty new societies were started during the year, 11 in Kaira, 21 in Broach and 18 in Surat, while 3 in Surat and 2 in Thána ceased to exist. The co-operative movement has most vitality in the three districts last mentioned, but two societies are in course of formation in the Ahmed

In Thána the establishment of a weavers' society at Bhiwndi and societies at Bassein and Máhim for the benefit of those engaged in garden cultivation at these places are in contemplation.

In March last a Provincial Co-operative Conference was held at Surat; if the results obtained are commensurate with the trouble taken and the earnestness displayed by the Registrar and the delegates, the conference will have done much towards advancing the interests of the movement. In Surat a portion of the funds of certain minors under the Court of Wards has been invested in Co-operative Societies. Neither of the societies in Ahmedabad nor those in Kaira took any part in the relief of distress except that a few in Ahmedabad obtained and distributed grass on outside initiation.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

Notwithstanding that the year was unfavourable for the formation of

District.	Number of new societies.	
Belgaum	...	1
Bijápúr	...	7
Dhárwár	...	17
Kánara	...	1
Kolába	...	1
Ratnágiri	...	6
Total	...	33*

co-operative societies, the establishment of as many as 33\* societies (in addition to a co-operative store in Kánara and 4 grain banks in Kolába) during the year indicates the growing popularity of the movement. Many more societies are being registered or are in the course of formation in all the districts. I infer that the restricted credit of the cultivator with the sávkár consequent on the working of the Deccan Agriculturists'

Relief Act has proved an inducement to the former to have recourse to this system; and had it not been for the existence of village factions which come in the way of such organisations, the progress would have been much more rapid. Both the district officers concerned and the honorary organisers deserve credit for the results of the year.

The working of the societies with a few exceptions was fairly satisfactory, and several urban and rural societies, especially in Dhárwár, are in a flourishing condition.

The Co-operative Conference held at Dhárwár in April last and presided over by me, resulted in the diffusion of much useful information among the delegates from all the Karnátic districts.

(iii).—*City Surveys.*

Commissioner, Central Division.

An application for sanction has recently been submitted to Government for the City Survey of Sholápur at a total proposed cost of Rs. 25,460. It is hoped to commence the work in the beginning of November.

The City Survey map of Igatpuri has been sent to be printed. This survey, as reported by me, was completed last year. The question of maintaining the registers framed on the basis of the City Survey has been receiving attention. I am personally in favour of the application of the Record-of-Rights Act to surveyed areas as has been proposed by the Government of India for cantonment areas. The question however will come before the Commissioners in conference shortly.

(iv).—*New Village Account Forms.*

Commissioner, Central Division.

The new Village Account Forms were introduced in all districts and are now, with a few exceptions, in use in all districts. From the village accountants upwards all officers speak very favourably of them and the association of these forms with the Record of Rights enables the actual person liable for Government dues to know his liabilities at once and at the same time helps to keep the record up-to-date. Their usefulness and superiority over the old forms is established beyond doubt.

## Extracts.

## CENTRAL DIVISION.

L. C. Swifte, Esquire, Collector, Poona.

The introduction of the new forms has certainly facilitated the collection of revenue; 'Poklist Khatas' having now become extinct and each individual occupant being responsible for the payment of his dues, sub-sharers are no longer able to evade payment of revenue through endeavouring to throw all responsibility on fictitious 'Khatedárs'. The new forms have also much helped in improving the accuracy of the Record of Rights, and the people seem now to realize the necessity of early intimation to the village officers of changes in possession of cultivated land.

The introduction of these forms entails a considerable amount of work, but once they are introduced a good deal of labour is saved. In some cases shares of assessment are not accurately shown in the Record, and this gives rise to complaints from rayats; but the assessment of sub-divisions and the apportionment of assessment accordingly which is in progress will leave little room for such complaints in future.

The new forms are everywhere spoken well of by village officers.

J. H. Garrett, Esquire, Assistant Collector, Násik.

The new forms of account have been introduced in Málegaon, Nandgaon and Kalwan talukas during the year under report. In Bágán taluka they were introduced last year.

The collection of land revenue is greatly facilitated thereby. Coercive measures can be promptly used without any tedious inquiries as to who is really responsible.

Coercive measures are thereby doubly effective and little need was found to use them.

The popular attitude towards the new forms is extremely favourable. I no longer hear any complaint about the abolition of the old receipt book. A man knows that an extract from his khata is far more useful to him than the old receipt book for purposes of evidence.

(v).—*Gadkari ináms in the Sátára district.*

Commissioner, Central Division.

The tenure of Gadkari ináms—a special tenure in the Sátára district in respect of grants made to officers in charge of forts—attracted my attention during my tour in the Sátára district. Many of these ináms had become liable for resumption according to the terms of the sanads owing either to the extinction of lineal male heirs or to alienation. A special inquiry into them was therefore conducted and almost completed during the year, as a result of which nearly 7,000 acres of land assessed at a little under 9,000 rupees were resumed.

(vi).—*Area of land held by agriculturists and non-agriculturists.*

Commissioner, Central Division.

This subject is *pro hac vice* dealt with under a separate heading, though it might in future years be included more appropriately under the heading "Material Prosperity". Considering the great importance of the figures and the fact that they can be easily obtained by tabulating the figures in the new form of account, it is somewhat remarkable that they have been collected for the first time this year and only with the greatest difficulty. Even now some officers have ignored them altogether; while one officer, who has been working the Record-of-Rights for three years, remarks:—

"The Commissioner in his recent circular has asked for remarks regarding agricultural indebtedness. [Note—He did not.] From the statements obtained from Sub-Registrars it appears that during the year under report more lands passed from agriculturists to non-agriculturists by sales, mortgages, etc., than in the previous year. A corresponding increase is also to be found in the transactions between agriculturists and non-agriculturists. I regret, however, I have no definite statistics on which I can base my conclusions."

This conclusion of course is entirely erroneous: but the passage is quoted to show how extremely indifferent some officers are to any facts bearing on the question of agricultural indebtedness. Anyhow for the first time in the history



of the Division we have figures showing, with fair accuracy the area held by the two classes. In most of the districts the information is compiled for 1911-12 only, but for Sholápur it is available for 1910-11.

*Sholápur district.*

Name of taluka.	1910-11.				1911-12.			
	Number of agriculturists.	Number of non-agriculturists.	Area held by		Number of agriculturists.	Number of non-agriculturists.	Area held by	
			Agriculturists.	Non-agriculturists.			Agriculturists.	Non-agriculturists.
Sholápur ...	10,627	1,268	Acres. 412,986	Acres. 47,024	10,762	1,248	Acres. 415,757	Acres. 44,500
Bárai ...	12,778	465	303,645	18,995	12,980	471	303,376	18,475
Mádhá ...	13,282	735	350,434	22,356	13,151	866	348,477	24,312
Karmála ...	11,036	1,504	314,756	46,330	10,791	1,749	309,449	51,637
Pandharpur ...	11,426	1,484	234,862	45,506	11,612	1,525	232,501	44,260
Sángola ...	15,448	203	364,002	6,900	15,801	220	363,477	7,425
Málsiras ...	9,151	795	236,303	20,171	9,199	739	248,477	20,521
Total ...	89,753	6,454	2,216,988	207,282	90,296	6,818	2,216,514	211,130

Name of district.	Area of land held by agriculturists.	Area of land held by non-agriculturists.	Total number of acres.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Sholápur ...	2,216,514	211,130	2,427,644
East Khándesh ...	1,707,525	380,475	2,088,000
West Khándesh ...	1,344,817	239,272	1,584,089
Ahmednagar ...	1,627,003	242,892	1,869,895
Sátára ...	1,428,200	189,541	1,617,741
Poona ...	1,981,452	451,996	2,433,448
Násik ...	1,911,149	451,217	2,362,366
Total Acres ...	12,216,660	2,166,523	14,383,183

And, though bare totals only are available, they form material for a great deal of interesting speculation. For instance, it will be seen that after a year of acute famine the area held by agriculturists of Málsiras increased by 7,174 acres. This seems impossible, but on reflection will appear less so. Málsiras is a taluka, the inhabitants of which emigrate readily in case of scarcity to Bombay, Khándesh and the Berárs. In the year under report nearly every adult went. Now by June or July these people were all back in their villages with the money they had earned in the Bombay docks and Berár factories. As wages ruled high, we may assume that they had a good deal. The sávkárs, on the other hand, who had presumably held the land for some time and got nothing out of it, would be very glad to sell: this class of men since the passing of section 10-A of the Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Act is far less keen on holding land than it was. This being the case, it is at least permissible to surmise that the ryot, having money, redeemed his land on very favourable terms; and it may be further inferred that a real bad famine, which drives the ryot to places where he can earn good wages and can assist in the industrial development of India has at least some compensations. Of course these conclusions would have to be verified by patient local enquiry: but they are mentioned merely to indicate what a very fascinating line of enquiry is open to the students of the figures. I should not omit to mention that some officers, such as Messrs. Madan, Garrett, G. V. Joglekar, Khopkar and A. O. Koreishi have shown by their handling of the figures that they fully appreciate this fact; it is to be hoped that in future their example will be widely followed.

## Extract.

## CENTRAL DIVISION.

G. V. Joglekar, Esquire, Deputy Collector, East Khándesh.

The question is generally asked 'Has land been passing from the agriculturists to the non-agriculturists and whether the indebtedness is increasing' and I am glad to say as regards this division that the reply is in the negative. The following statistics are collected on the point from the village form V.-B. :-

	Area.		Assessment.		
	Acres.	g.	Rs.	a.	p.
Area in possession of the agriculturists at the beginning of the year 1911-12 ... ..	585,228	23	7,55,249	14	11
<i>Add—</i>					
Mortgages redeemed ... ..	842	22	1,278	14	2
Provisional sales liquidated ... ..	245	21	283	6	8
Sales to agriculturists by non-agriculturists ... ..	3,568	3	4,077	5	0
Mortgages to agriculturists by non-agriculturists...	151	5	209	11	4
Total addition ... ..	4,807	11	5,849	5	2
Total ... ..	590,035	34	7,61,099	4	1
<i>Subtract—</i>					
New mortgages to non-agriculturists ... ..	382	1	516	12	4
New sales to non-agriculturists ... ..	1,832	35	1,864	1	10
Land acquired for special purposes, viz., roads, etc..	44	23	41	5	0
Total deduction ... ..	2,259	19	2,422	3	2
Total area in possession of agriculturists at the end of the year ... ..	587,776	15	7,58,677	0	11
Area in possession of the non-agriculturists at the beginning of the year ... ..	72,294	3	.....		
Total area in possession of non-agricult urists at the end of the year ... ..	69,676	38	.....		

It is evident that a larger area was redeemed than one newly encumbered, and this was due to the excellent cotton crop of the past year 1910-11 and the high price of cotton prevailing in the market.

While examining the Record of Rights and the mutation register, I noticed that some of the farmers who had a surplus left from the disposal of their cotton yield were often foolish enough to offer, buy and secure more lands by agreeing to pay exorbitant prices and then mortgaging some part of their holdings (existing) as security for the repayment of loans borrowed to make up these exorbitant prices. This is due to the general tendency of the agriculturists here to invest their savings or surplus profits in securing more land for cultivation and the result is that the demand for land is as keen as ever and its value is consequently rising year after year.

This tendency is not likely to diminish or disappear until primary education reaches the masses and they are able to hold their own against the wily sávkárs by learning to read and understand their accounts with the latter.

(vii).—*Khoti Settlement Act.*

Commissioner, Southern Division.

The work in connection with the settlement of cash payments in place of rents in grain is making good progress. Only 97 applications remained undisposed of at the end of the year out of 1,784. The commutation has been advantageous to the khot as well as to the tenant. Instead of the ever-changing payments in kind the tenant has now only to pay a fixed amount

in cash which the khot can easily recover. The Sub-Divisional Officer, Mr. Gulwadi's remarks as to the state of things both before and after the amendment of the Act are interesting and are therefore given below :—

“Khots and tenants, who were quarrelling about appraisement of crops prior to the passing of the amended Khoti Act, are now quarrelling though happily only in a few villages about land. Formerly occupancy tenants were cultivating land irrespective of the fact that it was their own khata-land or khot nisbat or khot's khasgi (private) land and were paying crop-share rents to the khots. After the introduction of the amended Khoti Act occupancy tenants could get cash rents fixed only in respect of their own khata lands but not in respect of the whole lot of land that was being cultivated by them for a long time. Without being able to discriminate between their own land and the adjoining khot's land, they go on cultivating land as before and they find to their surprise that the khots make appraisement of the crops raised by them in their own land for which cash rents have, according to them, been got fixed. The khots who are generally intelligent and who do not like cash rents make appraisement of the crops raised in their land adjoining that standing in the khata of the tenants who got cash rents, though the area of such lands under crop is very small and the tenants have, through ignorance, left fallow their own land. In appraising the crops raised in their lands khots are not wrong, but poor tenants through ignorance suffer, as they are obliged to pay both cash rent and crop share rent. The only course open to the tenants to get out of the difficulty is to get the boundaries of their khata lands fixed by stones and mounds being set up. In khoti villages boundary marks repairs are not done and therefore occupancy tenants are under distinct disadvantage and are unable to reap the full benefit of the amended Khoti Act. Khots too have their own complaints. The cash rent system has, they complain, lessened their hold on the tenants and cheap labour cannot be demanded from tenants, as they used to do formerly. There is not much force in their complaints.”

(viii).—*Remittance of Revenue by Money Order.*

Commissioner, Southern Division.

Revenue to the extent of Rs. 31,363 was received by money order during the year, mostly in Ratnágiri and Kolába. It is only in Kolába that the revenue money order system is said to be gaining in popularity. In Ratnágiri out of Rs. 10,229 remitted by postal money order, only in the case of Rs. 224 was the revenue money order system adopted. In the other districts the amounts received by money order were considerably less than those of the preceding year, and though the decrease is mainly due to the grant of suspensions, judging from the very small amounts so received, it appears that the new system has not yet established itself.

(ix).—*Agricultural Department.*

Commissioner, Southern Division.

Two pumping engines were erected by the Agricultural Engineer during the year—one at Turmuri and the other at Neginhal in the Sampgaon taluka of the Belgaum district, and tagai grants of Rs. 2,500 and Rs. 2,325 respectively were advanced for these works.

Beneficent results were achieved in the destruction of rice-hoppers in the valuable rice lands near Belgaum, the cost of which was met from funds collected locally for the purpose, supplemented by a grant from the department and contributions from the Chiefs of Kurundwád (Senior and Junior).

The oil-engine-driven pump erected at Sulla on the Malaprabha is reported to be working satisfactorily. There is also another pumping plan at Bágalkot.

Improved implements of agriculture are slowly gaining popularity among the cultivators of Bijápur.

The introduction of Broach and Cambodia cottons in the Dhárwár district is reported to be attended with satisfactory results. At the annual auction held by the Divisional Inspector in April, Dhárwár-grown Broach cotton fetched between Rs. 180 and 200 per "nag", the Hubli rate for local cotton being Rs. 128 on the same date. The village of Garag received no less than Rs. 40,000 for Broach cotton grown on some 450 acres, a sum representing over six times the whole assessment of the village. Equally good results were obtained with Cambodia cotton in Ron and Gadag.

An agricultural school is being started at Devihosur near Haveri, buildings having been placed at the disposal of Government by the Lingáyat Education Fund and a local Lingáyat gentleman. The Honourable Ráo Sáheb Venkatesh Shriniwas Naik has also made some 10 acres of land near Ránebennur available as a demonstration farm. He provides labour and all expenses while the department lends supervision.

The Agricultural Department has started a cattle breeding farm at Tegur for demonstration purposes.

Mr. Mardhekar notices with satisfaction that the growers of sugarcane in the coast talukas have appreciated the advantages of the Poona pan and are ordering this pattern for their use. The cultivation of groundnut is gaining in popularity in the Kumta taluka.

Mr. Bonus writes:—

"With a view to bringing the Agricultural Department into closer touch with local agricultural problems the head-quarters of the Divisional Inspector have lately been transferred to Ratnágiri. Mr. Gonehalli, Divisional Inspector (now Deputy Director), visited many places in the district, gave lectures and demonstrations and made efforts to introduce and popularise new food and fodder crops by free distribution of seed. These endeavours have created considerable interest and many persons have begun experiments with improved implements and new crops. A local agricultural association has been established at Málvan.

The 'tahal' campaign deserves mention in this connection. My predecessor, Mr. Clayton, found in the course of his tour that reckless destruction of trees going on for a number of years had brought about an ever-increasing scarcity of 'rab' for agricultural purposes and that early action was necessary if rab famine was to be avoided. He accordingly started what is called the 'tahal' campaign by giving demonstrations to the Sub-Divisional Officers, Mámlatdárs and Mahálkaris in the scientific method of lopping tahal practised in Thána and Kolába with success and instructed them zealously to propagate it in their charges."

The question of free supply of salt for manure also received consideration during the year, and it was decided to issue salt for the purpose from the Government yards. But the experiment had to be stopped pending the discovery of an effective denaturant for rendering salt permanently unfit for any purpose other than manure.

A spinner from the Department is reported to have visited Málvan and given instructions to people in spinning 'eri' cocoons besides distributing food in the shape of castor-oil seed.

#### (V).—ASSISTANCE TO INÁMDÁRS AND SUPERIOR HOLDERS.

Commissioner, Northern Division.

As there are no hereditary village accountants in the Division, the inámdárs levy their rents direct and are alone responsible for the non-recovery of their dues. The relations between inámdárs and tenants were peaceful on the whole except in the Girassia talukdári villages of Ahmedabad and in one or two villages in Broach. An influential Thákor in the Broach district raised his

rents to such an extent that much opposition was aroused and an appeal made to Government by the tenants.

The number of assistance cases heard by the Mámlatdárs and Mahálkaris was 3,174, of which 632 were filed by inámdárs. Most of these cases were pending from the previous year having been filed by the end of the year in order that the claims might not be time-barred under the Land Revenue Code.

Commissioner, Central Division.

This troublesome subject has continued to receive a good deal of attention from Revenue officers with on the whole satisfactory results. From the figures given for the Násik district, it appears that out of a current demand of Rs. 1,08,940, Rs. 1,01,883 were recovered; out of Rs. 91,910 past arrears Rs. 13,824 were remitted and Rs. 17,831 recovered. Of the total balance of Rs. 65,517 (which is little more than half that of the previous year—Rs. 1,10,818) Rs. 45,641 are reported to be irrecoverable. In the Sátára district Rs. 75,240 were recovered during the year, leaving a balance of only Rs. 6,681 at the close of the year. In the Sholápur district Rs. 45,992 were collected and a balance of Rs. 18,015 including Rs. 12,300 granted as suspensions by the inámdárs in Karmála, Pandharpur, Súngola and Málsiras tálukas still remains outstanding. In the Poona district the arrears were reported to be Rs. 2,11,539; of this sum Rs. 1,81,551 were recovered during the year over and above Rs. 16,865 on account of the current year's dues. The collection work on the whole has been very satisfactory, when one considers that a considerable proportion of the past arrears are of very old standing and, therefore, practically irrecoverable. Mámlatdárs and Mahálkaris have had it impressed on them that these dues are to be recovered with the same rigidity as Government demands.

As I stated last year, the existence of these arrears, when they are not due to famine, may be attributed to two causes—slackness on the part of the inámdárs and indifference on the part of the Revenue officers. In the Haveli táluka during the current year the Mámlatdár has practically stopped all trouble in this connection by inflicting one-fourth fine in all cases where the tenant had definitely agreed to pay rent and failed: the result was that the whole amount due was paid up at once. In Sátára the Sub-divisional Officer adopted a similar course as regards the notorious village of Atit. The consequence was that the whole amount due was paid up in one day. Where there is a crop the assessments are so light that there is no reason why the tenants should be leniently treated: trouble can only arise when the harvest is a failure. It is in the latter class of cases that the provisions of the new section 94 A of the draft Land Revenue Code may be expected to put matters on a more satisfactory footing.

No cases of inámdárs trying to evade the requirements of section 85 of the Land Revenue Code have been reported except one from West Khándesh nor has any tendency been noticed on the part of inámdárs to raise rents in violation of customary rights or tenures in unsurveyed villages.

The total number of assistance cases heard by Mámlatdárs, Mahálkaris and Head Kárkuns was 5,920 (an increase of 676 over that of the past year), of which 585 were filed by inámdárs, against 948 in the preceding year: 3,817 of the total number of cases pertain to Sátára.

None of these suits was taken up by the Sub-divisional Officers in relief of the táluka officers. The number of these suits appears moderate and indicates the existence of amicable relations between superior holders and tenants generally.

Commissioner, Southern Division.

There are no ináms in Kánara. In the khoti villages in Kolába and Ratnágiri, the khots collect the revenue and pay the inámdárs, whereas in the non-khoti villages the latter collect their dues direct from the tenants without

the village officers. One instance in the Belgaum district, three instances in Bijápur and one in Dhárwár came to light in which the inámdárs violated the principles of the section in question. The offender in Belgaum has been warned, the one in Dhárwár has been fined and the three cases in Bijápur are under enquiry.

There are only three instances—two in Bijápur and one in Dhárwár—in which the village officers were warned for neglect in collecting the inámdárs' dues.

In the Belgaum district, the collections of inámdárs' current dues amounted to Rs. 2,26,557, out of a demand of Rs. 2,91,776 and the collections on account of previous years amounted to Rs. 34,828 out of a recoverable demand of Rs. 71,978.

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.
					Rs.	Rs.
Belgaum	...	...	...	...	1,10,158	2,56,219
Bijápur	...	...	...	...	2,916	40,384
Dhárwár	...	...	...	...	1,40,183	21,451

In the Belgaum district recoverable and irrecoverable arrears were remitted to the extent of Rs. 23,126. The Collector of Bijápur states that the irrecoverable arrears are due to the reluctance of inámdárs to write off outstandings in bad years. The Collector of Dhárwár remarks that a much larger proportion of arrears than is shown is really irrecoverable, that the figures under the head "Recoverable" mostly belong to the tálukas of Navalgund and Kalghatgi and the matter is receiving his attention.

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

District.					Total disposed of.	No. in which inámdárs were applicants.
Belgaum	...	...	...	...	708	106
Bijápur	...	...	...	...	176	46
Dhárwár	...	...	...	...	504	39
Kánara	...	...	...	...	1,732	Nil.
Kolába	...	...	...	...	4,004	83
Ratnágiri	...	...	...	...	1,024	25

In the Ratnágiri district twelve assistance suits were taken up by the Sub-divisional Officer, Central Division, in relief of the Mámlatdárs in his sub-division.

#### *Disputes between inámdárs and inferior holders.*

In the Belgaum district there is only one instance in the Paragad táluka in which the inámdár of Gurlhosur attempted to raise his rents, but his claim for assistance was disallowed by the Mámlatdár. The Collector of Bijápur reports that there seems to have been no general tendency, except in the Bágalkot táluka, to raise rents in violation of the customary rights of tenants, but that the relations between them and the inámdárs are, in other respects, getting unsatisfactory in many villages, owing to the encroachments attempted by the latter on the former's rights and status and that this matter is engaging his attention. The relations are reported to be generally good in the Dhárwár district. The inámdár of Alur in the Ron táluka of the said district is stated to have settled his long standing dispute with his tenants and to have applied for the introduction of a survey settlement into his village. The Collectors of Koláa and Ratnágiri report that there is no tendency on the part of the inámdárs in their districts to raise rents arbitrarily.

The disputes between inámdárs and tenants as regards their mutual rights and liabilities will continue to exist in a greater or less degree and it is an undisputed fact that the latter are always under a disadvantage on account of poverty, illiteracy and the absence of proper evidence in support of their rights. The introduction of survey settlement and the Record-of-Rights appears to be the only means whereby the evil can be remedied.

There was one case of succession in the Kolába district. There were no cases of alienation, settlement or lapses of inám villages.

## VI.—General Remarks and Conclusion.

### Commissioner, Northern Division.

The strain of the season was felt everywhere except in Thána, for Broach and Surat were to some extent affected by the failure of the rains. It would be invidious to particularize and I will only record my grateful appreciation of, and commend to the notice of Government, the devotion to duty displayed by all ranks from the Collectors downward.

### Commissioner, Central Division.

Once more I desire to draw the attention of Government to the excellent work done by the Collectors of the Division during the past year. During the period of nearly three years that I have had charge of the Division I feel that I have been very fortunate indeed not only in the personnel of the Collectors in charge of districts but also in the fact that Government have found it possible to retain them for such long periods in the same office. With the sweeping changes which have been effected in almost every branch of the administration, work has been very strenuous, and the demands on the energies of heads of districts often exacting. I have, however, received on every occasion the most loyal co-operation and support.

### Commissioner, Southern Division.

All districts in the Division have been well administered during a somewhat trying year and the Collectors and their Assistants are entitled to credit for the work achieved by them.

## Extract.

### Northern Division.

#### O. Rothfeld, Esq., Collector, Broach.

The year closes with several of the talukdárs taking an active and useful part in district administration, both judicial and executive, and with something of a real renaissance in village life, through the increase of the position and influence of patels and Matádárs.

## B.—SIND.

### W. H. Lucas, Esq., I. C. S., Commissioner in Sind.

#### I.—Economic condition and prospects.

##### 1.—Season (including crops and water-supply).

The inundation was on the whole very unsatisfactory. The river began to rise in the beginning of June and reached the fair irrigating level 13' at Bukkur on the 17th idem. This level was, however, maintained for only 10 days against 23 in the preceding year, 31 in the year 1909-10 and 59 in the year 1908-09. On July 3rd the river began to fall, and within 9 days went down to the level of 8'3". It rose once more but never again attained a level of more than 12'4 feet, and after August 10th, there was a steady fall resulting in considerable damage to the kharif crops. Not only was there a shrinkage in the area of cultivation, but such cultivation as had been attempted in consequence of the early rise of the river was in most cases a failure. The absence of rains and failure of hill torrents proved also most disastrous for the areas

dependent upon them. On the other hand, the delta portions of the Karáchi and Hyderabad districts, which generally suffer from floods on occasions of a high inundation or of heavy rains, produced excellent rice crops. Similarly some low-lying lands in the Lárkána district obtained an adequate supply of water and also had good rice crops. In the Karáchi and Hyderabad districts the rabi crop was fair, but elsewhere it did not flourish. Remissions amounted to Rs. 7,71,768 against Rs. 5,95,894 in the previous year. No appreciable damage was done to crops by insects except in the Hyderabad district, where the outturn of cotton was greatly reduced owing to damage done by insects, blight, and adverse winds. The Deputy Commissioner, Upper Sind Frontier, also reports the presence of destructive crickets in the area irrigated by the Desert Canal. The unfavourable nature of the inundation was reflected in the contraction of the cultivated area, which fell from 4,122,644 acres in the preceding year to 2,982,651 acres in the year under report or by 27·65 per cent. While all districts participated in the decrease, it was most marked in Thar and Párkar, Sukkur and Upper Sind Frontier where the percentage of decrease amounted to 51·31, 37·62 and 37·15, respectively. The land revenue demand fell from Rs. 1,15,79,856 in 1910-11 to Rs. 99,61,293 in the year under report or by 13·98 per cent.

#### *I. A.—Canals.*

On the whole the canals worked fairly well, considering the unfavourable inundation. The Sukkur canal worked satisfactorily till the middle of September, when owing to the sudden fall of the river it practically ceased to flow. The lands dependent on its tail in the Lárkána and Upper Sind Frontier districts in consequence fared very badly. The Mahi system is reported to have given generally satisfactory results, but the supply in the Sind canal was very poor. The plans and estimates for improvement of the Sehar wah are still awaited by the Commissioner. The Begari canal, which serves the Upper Sind Frontier district and a portion of Sukkur, proved most unsatisfactory owing to its feeder, the Wadhu dhand, having silted up early in the season. The improvement of the mouth of this canal is the most immediately pressing irrigational need in Sind. The Unharwah is reported to have done well, and the Desert canal did remarkably so with a system of rotations. The smaller canals in the Upper Sind Frontier district worked indifferently throughout. The Ghár, assisted by the Fordwah, as usual worked successfully, and the Western Nára fairly well. Mr. Martin reports that the Manchur and its flooding still present a difficult problem. The experiment of leaving the Aral open was tried during the year but the exceptional nature of the inundation deprived the experiment of all its value. The experiment has therefore been repeated this year and a report on the result is awaited from the Collector. The Commissioner notes with satisfaction the proposal referred to by the Collector of Lárkána to construct a new canal taking off from the Western Nára and irrigating a portion of the Johi taluka which at present depends on rainfall and hill torrents. The Mithrau and Thar canals in the Thar and Párkar district worked fairly well, but the Nára and the Khipro proved unsatisfactory. All the canals in the Hyderabad district worked well except the Nasrat, the Mahrabwah, and some of the smaller canals. The new mouth of the Nasrat failed at the beginning of the season, as the river receded from it, and owing to erosion the old mouth could not be opened until the end of August when the supply improved. Proposals for the improvement of water-supply in the Mahrabwah are under consideration. The Jamráo canal worked satisfactorily on the whole. As was anticipated the excavation of the new mouth of the old Fuleli could not be completed before the inundation. The canals in the Karáchi district did better than they usually do. The Baghar remodelling project was submitted by the Chief Engineer in Sind in April last in accordance with Government Resolution, Public Works Department, No. W. I.—2573, dated the 3rd December 1910; but, in view of the great length of time that had elapsed since the project was begun and the probability of the projected area having been adversely affected by the recent heavy floods in the division, the Commissioner has directed a careful reconsideration of the project during the current cold weather and the submission of a fresh report. He has



at the same time suggested that any minor improvements of the canal such as a head regulator should be undertaken at once and so constructed as to fit in with the project as a whole. As remarked by the Collector, the provision of a head regulator is a work of urgent necessity.

The introduction of the submerged outlets in the Ghar canals system has been approved by the Commissioner. The question of their extension elsewhere is still under consideration.

#### Extract.

H. S. Lawrence, Esq., Collector, Karáchi.

A very important necessity for agriculture in the delta is the provision of drainage channels. In two cases in the Sháhbandar division, I have induced the zamindárs to combine and construct private drainage channels extending over a distance of seven miles and more and the results are reported to have been satisfactory. Certain other drainage channels are under consideration, but the difficulty of persuading a number of private owners to combine is obvious.

#### 2.—Cattle and fodder.

As a natural result of the poor inundation and absence of rain there was scarcity of fodder everywhere. Whatever fodder was available was selling at exorbitant rates, whilst there was naturally a heavy mortality among the cattle. The scarcity was most severely felt in the Kohistán and the Desert. The influx of large herds of cattle from Cutch and Márwar tended to aggravate the situation. Free grazing was allowed in the forests on the representations of the district officers, and the relief so afforded no doubt saved many heads of cattle from starvation. The rains of July last have, however, profoundly altered the situation in the desert, and the cattle-owners and the graziers who had driven their cattle to other countries in search of fodder are now returning to their homes. Outbreaks of rinderpest are reported from the Karáchi and Lárkána districts; in these districts anti-rinderpest inoculation was resorted to. It is gratifying to note that the zamindárs are beginning to appreciate the benefits of inoculation as a means of preventing the disease. There were also cases of gloss anthrax, and foot and mouth disease. The zamindárs of the Karáchi district have given proof of their appreciation of the work done by the Veterinary Department in that district by offering substantial donations for the establishment of veterinary dispensaries at Sujával and Tatta.

#### Extract.

W. F. Hudson, Esq., Deputy Commissioner, Thar and Párkar.

Under this head the year must have been one of the worst ever known. There was, practically speaking, no rain anywhere. This is serious enough in an irrigated tract, but in the Desert it is simply disastrous. The ordinary Thari is a cattle-owner first and a cultivator afterwards. All his money is invested in cattle, and his social position and influence depend almost entirely on the size of his flocks and herds. Yet with an improvidence which is almost maddening in its stupidity, he refuses, save in rare instances, to make any provision for the future, and although in a good year he could easily cut and stock enough grass to last over two seasons, he resolutely refuses to do so. The failure of the rains found him totally unprepared, and as the distance from the railway makes it impossible for either Government or cattle-owners to import grass, he had to leave his home and wander far afield in search of fodder. It is impossible to estimate what the losses have been, but they must have been very heavy indeed. Certainly, some of the cattle have been saved by this emigration; but I fear it is only a small portion, and it will be years before the owners can recoup their losses. With the advent of the July rains the graziers are now returning; but the cattle which have been brought back with them are in miserable condition and are few in number compared with those that started out.

#### 3.—Land Revenue (*Recoveries, Contumacy, etc.*)

The land revenue demand fell from Rs. 1,15,79,856 in the previous year to Rs. 99,61,293 in the year under report or by 13·98 per cent. The balance outstanding at the beginning of the year was Rs. 8,89,873. Thus the total amount for recovery was Rs. 1,08,51,166 against Rs. 1,25,06,496, out of which Rs. 1,40,438 were suspended and Rs. 7,71,768 remitted against Rs. 2,53,039.

and Rs. 5,95,894 respectively in the preceding year. The increase of about 1½ lakhs in "Remissions" was due to the poor nature of the inundation and absence of rain throughout the Province. The bulk of the increase is contributed by the Sukkur and Upper Sind Frontier districts. The Thar and Párkar district also shows an increase of nearly Rs. 25,000. Owing to the unfavourable character of the season the year 1911-12 was excluded from calculation of the fallow period in certain portions of the Hyderabad, Lárkána, Sukkur, Upper Sind Frontier and Thar and Párkar districts, and the assessment for the lands which fell in for fallow assessment during the year was ordered to be remitted. Collections amounted to Rs. 93,18,815 as compared with Rs. 1,10,19,446 in the previous year, or 85·88 per cent. of the total amount due for collection against a percentage of 88·10 in the year 1910-11. The falling off in the percentage of collections was shared by all districts except Karáchi where the percentage of collection amounted to 74·03 against 52·76 in the preceding year. Considering the generally unfavourable conditions which prevailed, the Commissioner agrees with Mr. Lawrence that the percentage of 74·03 should be regarded as satisfactory. The improvement was due partly to the excellent rice-crop and partly to the reduction of assessment by 25 per cent. sanctioned in Government Resolutions, Revenue Department, Nos. 10759 and 10888, dated respectively the 15th and 18th November 1911. The unauthorized arrears in the Province amounted to Rs. 6,20,145 against Rs. 6,38,118 in the preceding year. They were considerably reduced in the Karáchi and Upper Sind Frontier districts. In the latter district the reduction must be regarded as very satisfactory considering the poorness of the season. The Hyderabad district also shows some reduction, but the remaining three districts show a rise. In the Lárkána district, however, more than a lakh of rupees were under recommendation for remission at the close of the year and the remission has since been sanctioned. If this amount is deducted from the total outstanding balance the unauthorized arrears come to about Rs. 38,000. In the Sukkur district, out of the total outstanding balance of Rs. 81,452, Rs. 13,537 were under correspondence for remission at the close of year and Rs. 26,712 were due on account of the sale-proceeds of quarries of "met" (Fuller's earth) due in future years. Deducting these amounts, the real unauthorized arrears come to Rs. 41,000. The bulk of the arrears in the Thar and Párkar district belongs to the Jamráo tract as has been explained by Mr. Hudson in section III (3) of his report. The Collectors of Nawábsháh and Thar and Párkar are being asked to explain the causes of these outstandings and their explanations will be submitted to Government. The causes for the remaining arrears which belong to the Thar and Párkar district proper have been satisfactorily explained by Mr. Hudson. The amount of Rs. 36,661 due on account of fallow assessment has since been remitted by the Commissioner.

As has been explained in the district reports, large sums are shown as arrears at the end of the year, although they represent amounts which are being recommended for remission under the rules. If the proper dates for submitting remission statements to the Commissioner were invariably adhered to, the remission would be sanctioned before the close of the year, and these amounts would not find a place in the administration reports. The Commissioner is insisting upon greater punctuality being observed by the Collectors in this respect.

Large sums were due from the Manager, Incumbered Estates, in each district on account of estates under his management. The Commissioner is disposed to think that the outstandings are heavier than they should be, and the attention of the Manager will be called to the matter and he will be asked to make every endeavour to reduce his balances as far as possible.

Free use was made of the provisions of section 148 of the Land Revenue Code in the Hyderabad, Lárkána and Thar and Párkar districts. The Collector of Karáchi has made no mention of it in his report, but it appears from the reports of the divisional officers that in 14 cases in the Sháhbandar division fines were inflicted under this section. Possibly the facility with which collections were made during the year in that district did not call for a rigid application of this section. In the Sukkur district such fines were imposed

only in 4 cases and the penalty charged in each case was only nominal. Mr. Chatfield promises to draw the attention of the officers concerned to this point. With regard to the Upper Sind Frontier district Mr. Smyth states that he thought it desirable not to take action under section 148 owing to the poor nature of the season. The Commissioner agrees that the provisions of this section are intended to meet cases of contumacy or mere laziness in failing to make payment by the proper dates, and should not be used either automatically or indiscriminately.

#### 4.—*Takávi.*

The takávi loans advanced to cultivators during the year amounted to Rs. 7,96,473 (Rs. 3,67,303 under the Land Improvement Loans Act and Rs. 4,29,173 under the Agriculturists' Loans Act) as compared with Rs. 8,33,215 advanced in the previous year. The decrease is most noticeable in the Karáchi district where an additional amount of one lách of rupees was advanced in the year 1910-11 on account of the enormous damage caused by heavy floods. The Hyderabad district also shows a decrease which is apparently due to a comparatively favourable season. The total demand for collection, including the previous years' balances, was Rs. 10,95,218, out of which Rs. 7,12,294 were collected, leaving a balance of Rs. 3,82,924 at the end of the year against Rs. 3,68,025 at the end of the preceding year. The collections bear a percentage of 65·04 to the demand as compared with 66·48 per cent. in the year 1910-11. Considering the poor nature of the season the percentage may be regarded as satisfactory. In addition to the collections shown above Rs. 13,670 were collected on account of instalments due in future years. The increase in the outstanding balance was shared by all the districts except Karáchi where the balance was reduced by 46·64 per cent. during the year owing to the same causes which contributed to the reduction in the unauthorized arrears of land revenue. Considering the unfavourable nature of the season the Commissioner thinks that further recoveries were not possible without having recourse to sales of land. The district officers have been asked to reduce the balances as far as possible during the current year.

The inspection of takávi works was on the whole fairly attended to, but it was still inadequate in several places. The Commissioner has impressed upon the district officers by means of a circular issued in June last the necessity of systematic inspection of takávi works by the Mukhtyárkars and the sub-divisional officers, and he hopes that greater attention will be paid to this kind of work by the officers concerned during the current year. The importance of the work is such that severe measures will be necessary in any future instance of indifference to it. Several instances of misapplication of loans came to light and in every case immediate recovery was ordered by the officers concerned.

#### 5.—*Trade and Industries.*

Owing to the unfavourable inundation and failure of rain trade which, outside the city of Karáchi, is confined to agricultural produce, was slack during the year. In the Desert the export of ghee the tax on which forms one of the most important sources of revenue in that district came to a standstill. There was no appreciable change in the development of minor industries. Several small factories were closed owing to the general depression in trade. On the other hand, a few new factories were started during the year, notably one at Tatta. The Deputy Commissioner, Upper Sind Frontier, reports that the brick kiln business in Jacobabad alluded to in his previous year's report has been reduced to proportions sufficient for local requirements, by the removal of unauthorized kilns.

#### 6.—*Prices.*

There was a marked increase in the prices of food-grains as compared with those of the preceding year. This was due to the contraction of the area of cultivation and to the heavier export of grain to Cutch and other places where the crops had failed. The price of jowári which is the common staple food

of the poorer classes rose abnormally and in some places was even higher than that of wheat. The zamindárs on the whole were benefited by the rise in prices, but the labouring classes suffered considerably. There was some reduction in the price of cotton due to a good harvest in America and the consequent decrease in the export of that staple to foreign countries. However, the price (*viz.*, Rs. 26 per maund of ginned and cleaned cotton) was sufficiently good.

#### *7.—Labour and wages.*

There was a slight falling off in the rates of wages for skilled labour due mainly to the unfavourable conditions of the year. Unskilled labour became much cheaper owing partly to the number of agricultural labourers set free by the shrinkage of the area under cultivation and partly to a large influx into Sind of Cutchis and Marwaris. Mr. Martin reports that in Lárkána labour could be had for the asking and that men undertook harvesting work for one-third of the normal rates. Zamindárs in the Karáchi, Lárkána and Thar and Párkar districts took advantage of the abundance and cheapness of labour to effect improvements in their lands.

#### *8.—Emigration and Immigration.*

Temporary emigration and immigration continued as usual. But this year Sind was full of Cutchis and Marwaris who flocked to it in very large numbers owing to the absence of rain. Most of these, however, returned towards the close of the year as soon as the rains began in their own countries. About four-fifths of the inhabitants of the Desert are reported to have left their homes in consequence of the drought. They went in all directions—Káthiáwár, Cutch, Rajputana, Khairpur State and the irrigated parts of Sind—but all have now returned home.

#### *9.—Public Health.*

The public health was unsatisfactory during the year. Cholera broke out all over the Province and in some parts assumed serious proportions. The town of Garhi Yásin and some villages in the Sukkur district were almost vacated. There were in all 7,024 cases, out of which 5,057 proved fatal. Small-pox also broke out in every district. Out of 7,905 persons attacked with small-pox 1,414 succumbed to the disease. These figures are exclusive of those for the Upper Sind Frontier district where the outbreak was sporadic and only a few cases occurred. Satisfactory measures were adopted for combating these diseases. The attack of malaria was fortunately milder than usual owing to the low inundation and absence of rain. Quinine was freely distributed in most of the districts by the District Local Boards and the drug is beginning to gain the confidence of the illiterate classes. Plague made its appearance as usual in Karáchi, but the outbreak was not so serious as in the previous year and lasted for a shorter period. The total number of cases was 1,683 of which 1,161 proved fatal. A few cases of plague also occurred in the Hyderabad, Lárkána and Sukkur districts but they were all imported. Arrangements are in progress for the construction of a dispensary at Ladiun in Karáchi district. Temporary dispensaries were also started during the year at Mirpur Sakro and Mánjhand in the same district. The Commissioner notes with satisfaction the local contribution of Rs. 34,000 made for the construction of a new hospital at Tatta to provide medical relief for women. A scheme is being matured of starting a "Louise Lawrence" Institute in Karáchi in connection with the Lady Dufferin Hospital for the training of nurses for the benefit of the female population of Sind.

#### **Extract.**

H. S. Lawrence, Esquire, Collector, Karáchi.

Strenuous efforts were made to improve vaccination against small-pox and the zamindárs were stimulated to render valuable assistance. No opposition was met with, but the difficulties

of arm to arm inoculation, where the people live in scattered hamlets, are very great. In my respectful opinion Belgaum lymph should be very widely adopted. The percentage of successful inoculation is no doubt smaller, but the number of inoculations that a vaccinator can perform with this lymph so readily portable in tubes is far greater; and I submit that from every point of view, it is better to have 80 per cent. of successful inoculation out of 3,000 cases of Belgaum lymph than 100 per cent. successful inoculation with 1,000 cases of human lymph. I have placed these views before the Deputy Sanitary Commissioner.

#### 10.—*Education.*

Education is making slow progress in the province. The number of Mahomedan boys in vernacular schools is reported to have increased in some districts, but there is still much room for improvement. The leaders of the Mahomedan community have realized the grave necessity of the spread of education as the only means of its advancement commercially, politically and socially, and are making laudable efforts in this direction. The introduction of the Cess Bill into the Legislative Council during the year marks an epoch in the history of education in Sind. The provisions of the Bill are now being subjected to detailed scrutiny. The District Local Board, Karachi, has, with the Commissioner's approval, recently announced 8 scholarships for collegiate education, and several scholarships have also been given by the leading men of the Thar and Parkar district for the poor boarders of the Pithoro Madressah. It is gratifying to note that the number of Mahomedan students at the Dayaram Jethmal Sind College, Karachi, has increased from 3 to 23 during the last three years.

The Sind Madressah at Karachi has maintained its standard of efficiency and other Madressahs also did well on the whole. In Hyderabad the Government High School, the Navalrai Hiranand Academy and the New Vidyalaya have maintained their position. The site for the proposed High School at Larkana has still not been finally settled.

#### Extract.

W. F. Hudson, Esquire, Deputy Commissioner, Thar and Parkar.

The Desert is the one place in Sind where education is really popular amongst the humbler classes, and as a rule the schools there are crowded with eager and intelligent boys and girls. This year owing to the general exodus, there was something of a set-back, but in a community which so well appreciates the advantages of education this will do little harm.

#### 11.—*Public feeling and the Press.*

Public feeling was as satisfactory as could be desired. The journey of Their Imperial Majesties to India and their coronation at Delhi in December last aroused feelings of profound loyalty and enthusiasm throughout the Province. The tone of the press was generally moderate. The case referred to in one of the district reports as having necessitated a warning derived its importance mainly from the character and status of the journal concerned, from which a high standard of editorial responsibility ought to be expected. The reproof was accepted in a proper spirit and has had good results, and there is no occasion for any further branding of a paper which, despite occasional lapses from good taste, is ordinarily well-conducted and well written. A certain number of mushroom papers which were in existence during the year have had to suspend publication. The few Anglo-vernacular papers of the Province are steadily improving their news and tone, and are in consequence increasing their influence.

#### 12.—*Summary of material prosperity and prospects.*

The foregoing paragraphs indicate that the year was a poor one, and that the material prosperity of the people suffered a distinct set-back. But the excellent rains of July have done much to restore the condition of the inhabitants of the Desert and since the close of the year a fair inundation and high

prices of produce have considerably improved the condition of the agriculturists in most parts of the Province. The development of the city and port of Karáchi continues uninterrupted. The operations of the Port Trust have been on an unprecedentedly large scale, and the Commissioner is glad to note that the municipal administration of the city is being rendered more and more efficient.

## II.— Inspection.

### 1.—General Inspection.

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

(1) Number of Mukhtyárkars' offices inspected	...	49
(2) Number of Mahálkars' offices inspected	...	2
(3) Number of dehs visited on duty in which routine inspection, such as examination of accounts, records and receipts was done	... ..	959
(4) Number of dehs which were not visited but of which the records were examined	... ..	196
(5) Number of dehs visited on duty in which no routine inspection was done	... ..	529
(6) Number of village sites visited on duty in which no routine inspection was done	... ..	753

The inspection work done during the year has been generally satisfactory. The omission on the part of the Deputy Commissioner, Thar and Párkar, to visit the Nagar Párkar táluka has been explained in his report and the tour of the Collector of Hyderabad was unavoidably interrupted on more than one occasion. Mr. Younghusband was fully satisfied with the explanation given and the present Commissioner also accepts it and considers that every officer did an adequate amount of touring. Besides the work shown above which is given in the prescribed form other inspection work is also shown by some of the district officers as having been done by themselves or by their Daftardárs. On the whole, the inspection of boundary marks also received sufficient attention. The Presidency system of carrying out the repairs of boundary marks is still being tried, but the results at present are doubtful. All the Huzúr Account offices were examined by the respective district officers. The Commissioner, in the course of his tour, inspected the records of the táluka offices of Kotri and Jati in the Karáchi district, Badin and Shahdádpur in the Hyderabad district and Jacobabad in the Upper Sind Frontier district. Several errors and irregularities were discovered and brought to the notice of the district officers concerned. The work of the offices was, however, satisfactory on the whole except in the case of the Shahdádpur táluka where two cases of embezzlement of money amounting to Rs. 10 in each case by the Pound Munshi of Shahdádpur were discovered. This Pound Munshi, according to a custom in force in the Hyderabad district, was entrusted with all the work which is supposed to be done by the táluka establishment in connection with the cattle pounds of the táluka. The custom, which was of course irregular, has since been discontinued and the amount embezzelled was recovered from the Pound Munshi who was dismissed from the service. In consideration of his old age and long service he was not prosecuted. In addition to this, three other cases were discovered in which the tapadárs had recovered from the occupants the cost of boundary marks amounting to (1) Rs. 3-15-0, (2) Re. 0-13-2 and (3) Re. 0-12-3 but had not credited them to Government. In the case of (2) and (3) the amounts were duly credited, on the discovery of the omission, by the tapadárs concerned, and these men have been reprimanded for their carelessness. The small amount of money involved in each case raised a presumption that there was no intention of defrauding Government. In the case of (1) the tapadár

concerned was a temporary hand and was no longer in service. The Collector was therefore asked to arrange for the recovery of the amount from him or from his surety, and it is reported that this has since been done. On a careful review of the Mukhtyárkar's work, the Commissioner has since found that it was distinctly below the usual standard, and he has in consequence ordered his reversion.

## *2.—Destruction, indexing and sorting of records.*

The work of destruction of useless records is still in arrears in some offices and steps are being taken to bring it up to date. The indexing and arranging of records received due attention and is up to date except in the offices of the Assistant Collector, Shahbandar, and Deputy Collector, Kotri. The Collector of Karáchi is being asked to have the work brought up to date. The work of putting in order the old records of the office of the Assistant Collector, Shikárpur, is continuing and the retention of the temporary clerk deputed to do the work for a further period of six months has been sanctioned by the Commissioner.

## **III.—Revenue Establishments and Land Records Staff.**

### *1.—Land Revenue Staff.*

The Mukhtyárkars and the subordinate revenue establishments worked satisfactorily. Service in the Karáchi and Upper Sind Frontier districts is unpopular owing to the bad climate of the two districts. Mr. Smyth reports that there seems to be an increasing difficulty in getting recruits of the required standard for the revenue, as well as for the village establishments. Mr. Lawrence's reference to special allowances for the delta establishments formed part of the proposals contained in the Commissioner's memorandum No. 4446, dated the 24/26th December 1910, regarding the regrading of subordinate posts of the Revenue Department. These proposals have been approved by Government, but the sanction of the Government of India is still awaited. The lack of Mahomedan English-knowing candidates referred to by Mr. Martin is common to all the districts, but it is hoped that with the advancement of education among Mahomedans this state of things will gradually disappear. Mr. Hudson states that the revenue establishments in the taluka offices in the Jamráo tract are not sufficient. Separate proposals have been received in this connection from the Colonization Officer, Jamráo Canal, and are under the Commissioner's consideration. Three Pound Munshis were dismissed during the year in the Upper Sind Frontier district as a result of the Deputy Commissioner's inquiry into the cases of corruption among Pound Munshis, to which reference was made in last year's report.

The Commissioner observes with satisfaction that the case under section 161, Indian Penal Code, against the Mukhtyárkar of Kandhkot in the Upper Sind Frontier district was successful, and that an exemplary punishment was inflicted by the Sessions Court. The reorganization of this particular taluka office appears to have been completely carried out, and the Commissioner trusts that there will be no repetition of the scandals. He endorses the opinion of the Deputy Commissioner that these scandals were neither typical of the district nor of the Province.

### *2.—Land Records Staff.*

The work done by the Land Records Staff has been dealt with in Part III of the Land Revenue Administration Report.

### *3.—Village Staff.*

The village establishment worked satisfactorily on the whole. The tapadars are still inclined to shirk survey work but, as pointed out last year, they are

made to do it under pressure from the sub-divisional officers. No survey parties were employed during the year under report. Four parties have, however, been sanctioned by Government during the current year for the measurement of sub-divisions of survey numbers in the Lárkána and Sukkur districts and a part of the Hyderabad district. All the supervising tapadárs have been trained in survey work, and out of the total number of tapadárs in the Province, *i. e.*, 757, 720 are trained in survey. The following table shows the number and percentage of cases of suspensions and dismissals :—

	Total Number of Officers.	Suspended.		Dismissed.	
		Number.	Percent- age.	Number.	Percent- age.
Tapadárs ... ..	757	13	1.72	4	.53
Supervising Tapadárs ... ..	204		...	...	...

Of the 13 tapadárs suspended, 3 were prosecuted in the Karáchi district—one for embezzlement of Government money and two for corruption. Their cases are still subjudice. In the cases of suspensions and dismissals the delinquents were punished for such offences as dishonesty, absence without leave, gross carelessness in the discharge of duty, etc. Three tapadárs were fined during the year in the Sukkur district. The punishment of fine has again been inflicted by the Deputy Collector of Mirpur division. The Collector of Sukkur states that the fines were imposed before the receipt of the Commissioner's memorandum calling for an explanation for resort being had to this kind of punishment in the previous year. Several other minor punishments such as reduction in grade, reversion to original appointments and black booking were also inflicted on members of the village establishment.

#### IV.—Special matters.

##### 1.—Record-of-Rights.

The Record-of-Rights forms a special subject of Part III of the Land Revenue Administration Report and has been more fully dealt with in that report. The system of basing the revenue accounts on the entries appearing in the Record-of-Rights was enforced in 30 talukas during the year. The new system is growing every day in popularity and has facilitated the recovery of land revenue, but it has thrown much extra work on the village establishment and the establishment of the officers doing the jamábandi. Matters will no doubt right themselves when the system has become thoroughly familiar. It is being still further extended this year. Fines under section 8 of the Record-of-Rights Act were inflicted in several cases for omission to report the acquisition of rights. Although people are still remiss in reporting mutations, the record was sufficiently well maintained on the whole. During the year the record was prepared in the remaining two talukas of Karáchi and Jamesabad. The work of re-writing the record in the revised Village Form I-C is receiving due attention and is being carried out under the Commissioner's orders wherever necessary. In June last a conference was held at Karáchi by the Commissioner and was attended by all the district officers, Mr. Pratt, and the Superintendent, Land Records and Registration in Sind, for considering several questions regarding the Record-of-Rights. The most important decision which was unanimously agreed to, *viz.*, to give the sub-divisions of survey numbers, when demarcated, the status of survey numbers for the purposes of remission and fallow forfeiture must form a land mark in the revenue history of the Province.



## 2.—Non-alienable tenure.

The area held on the restricted tenure at the beginning of the year was 530,009 acres. This was increased during the year to 576,133 acres, out of which 5,129 acres were resumed or resigned, leaving a balance of 571,004 acres at the end of the year. These figures do not include the areas in the Jamráo Colonization tract held under the Sind Occupants Act, III of 1899. Taking these figures into consideration the area at the beginning of the year under report amounted to 1,232,148 acres and that at the end of the year to 1,268,363 acres. Though the credit of persons holding land on this tenure is no doubt impaired, it has not so far resulted in the restriction of agricultural operations. Several instances of infringement of the conditions of the tenure came to light and the persons at fault were suitably dealt with. The violation of the conditions was most noticeable in the Hyderabad district where no less than 88 cases came to light. The larger zamindárs and money-lenders still view the tenure with disfavour, but the smaller zamindárs are quite reconciled to it.

## 3.—Others.

An agricultural exhibition was held at Sukkur during the year and is reported to have been successful. Two cattle and agricultural shows were held in the Hyderabad district. Both were successful, though in the case of the one held at Badin in March the number of cattle exhibited was smaller than in the previous year on account of the impossibility, due to high fodder prices, of supplying grass free of charge.

Four new Co-operative Societies were started in the Sukkur district during the year under report. The societies already in existence continued to work satisfactorily.

The survey of the unsettled portion of the Karáchi táluka was abandoned during the year owing to the absence of rain and the policy of retrenchment that was ordered by Government in view of the famine conditions in several parts of the Presidency proper. The work has been resumed this year.

The opening of a railway from Mirpur Khás to Khadro during the year marks a further stage in the railway development of the Jamráo arca. The Commissioner is glad to notice that similar developments are taking place in Upper Sind and that there is every possibility of the line from Jacobabad to Kashmor shortly becoming an accomplished fact.

## V.—Assistance to inámda'rs and superior holders.

The jághirdárs were given assistance under section 86 of the Land Revenue Code for the recovery of their dues from the tenants in 26 cases in the Hyderabad district and one case in the Lárkána district. The number of applications received from superior holders of unalienated lands other than inámdárs was 622. Of these 508 were in the Hyderabad district alone. The total number of applications for disposal during the year amounted to 649. Of these 36 remained pending at the close of the year. 11 cases were heard on áppeal by the sub-divisional officers, but no original suits were taken up by them in relief of the táluka officers.

The particulars of successions and lapses are as under :—

### Successions :—

Jághir grants	...	...	...	...	8 cases.
Garden grants	...	...	...	...	7 cases.

### Lapses :—

Life grants	...	...	...	..	2 cases.
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#### VI.—General remarks and conclusion.

The outstanding features of the year were the great contraction of the area of cultivation and the unprecedented scarcity and dearness of fodder in nearly all parts of the Province. The extremely unfavourable character of the season was not, however, attended by any increase in the amount of unauthorized arrears of land revenue; and this good result can only be ascribed to the more effective and energetic measures taken for collection. The prospects of the current year are fairly good and in some parts of the Province, notably in the Thar and Párkar district, well above the average.

The political outlook continues to be free from anxiety, and the co-operation of the zamindárs and people with the officers of Government is as loyal as ever. The dacoities committed on the Lárkána frontier were due to causes entirely beyond the control of the Sind authorities and in no way affected the general peace of the Province.

*Reports.*

Commissioners' Land Revenue Administration  
Reports, Part II, and Collectors' and certain  
Sub-Divisional Officers' Administration  
Reports for 1911-12.

No. 5707.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 18th June 1913.

Letter from the Commissioner, N. D., No. 4976, dated 6th December 1912.	}	Submitting the Land Revenue Administration Reports, Part II, of their respective charges for the year 1911-12, together with the Collectors' and three Sub-Divisional Officers' Administration Reports for the year; the Commissioners also submitting extracts from the other Sub-Divisional Officers' reports.
Memorandum from the Commissioner in Sind, No. 95, dated 13th January 1913.		
Letter from the Commissioner, S. D., No. 466, dated 22nd February 1913.		
Letter from the Commissioner, C. D., No. C.—873, dated 24th February 1913.		

RESOLUTION.—Coming after a series of fairly good seasons the year under review marks a distinct check in the steady progress of improvement in agricultural conditions which had taken place since the year 1907-08. The rainfall was not only deficient, but what there was of it was extremely capricious, and, except in the Konkan, unseasonable. The monsoon current set in weak, and little or no rain fell anywhere till the end of June. From the end of July there was a long and damaging break, followed in north Gujarát by a few showers in September and by a total failure of the late rains which are so essential for the rabi crops. In the Deccan and Karnátic the course of the monsoon was similar, but these tracts were more fortunate than Gujarát in getting some heavy falls of rain in November, which saved them from what would otherwise have been a total failure of the late sown crops. In the three northern districts of Gujarát the season was the worst experienced since the famine of 1899, and the crop failure was nearly as complete as in that year. Broach and Surat fared better, while the Konkan districts on the whole had a moderately good season. The drinking water-supply was very short in many places, so much so in some villages in Ahmedabad that the villagers had to be put on a water ration, while to other villages in Broach special arrangements had to be made to bring water from a distance. The supply in the minor irrigation works and small tanks failed in many places, but was fortunately adequate in the large canals in the Deccan, where also the new Godávári canal came into operation for the first time. Liberal grants for the improvement of the supply were made from Provincial funds. Some useful work by artesian boring and jumper experiments was done in Gujarát; while with the aid of a large amount of takávi distributed under the Land Improvement Loans Act for the digging and deepening of wells the countryside was covered with small patches of fodder crops. Public health was far from good in most districts. Malaria was everywhere less prevalent than usual owing to the drought, but serious outbreaks of cholera and small-pox occurred in all the districts of the Central and Southern Divisions, and plague of a very virulent type prevailed in the districts of Dhárwár and Belgaum and was responsible for many deaths in other districts also. The districts of the Northern Division fared better in this respect than might have been expected when the character of the season is taken into account, as, though sporadic cases of cholera and plague occurred, there was no serious epidemic of either disease during the year in the Division.

2. Such an adverse season might naturally have been expected to produce results disastrous to the agriculturist and labouring classes, especially in the worst affected districts. No doubt the marked progress of recent years was checked, but in every direction the year was a complete contrast to the disastrous years which closed the last century. Not only did the people face their difficulties with a different spirit, but obviously had greater resources on which to depend. The labouring classes, who fell such easy victims to the terrible famine of 1899, were found to be in a position of unexpected

independence. It was seen that they have fully realised the value of their labour and the market there is for it, and that they were able to obtain a return sufficient to provide the necessities of life even at the high rates to which prices had been forced up by the scarcity prevailing. The agriculturists themselves had benefited by the rise in prices that has taken place in recent years, particularly of cotton, and were not slow to avail themselves of the opportunity which a slack season afforded, of improving their holdings by increasing the facilities for irrigation. High prices and high wages spell prosperity, and when in a year of scarcity wages are maintained at a level proportionately equal to the level of prices, it is a sure sign that the condition of the people generally has suffered no serious deterioration. For this state of things the industrial development which has taken place in the Presidency during the past ten or fifteen years is undoubtedly mainly responsible. The growth of the mill industry at Bombay, Ahmedabad and other large towns, the establishment of the mining industry in the Panch Maháls, the work provided on the Táta Hydro-Electric Scheme at Lonávla and on the big irrigation works under construction in the Deccan, and the gradual spread of a network of feeder railways over Gujarát, have created a demand for labour, to meet which the existing supply is scarcely adequate. There is little doubt that had such a crop failure as was experienced in Ahmedabad and Kaira taken place ten years ago, famine works would have been necessary, and would have attracted a large number of workers. But except in the Panch Maháls, where the Bhils still cling to their villages and refuse to go in search of work beyond a radius of ten or fifteen miles from their homes, famine works were nowhere needed during the year 1911-12. The speedy recovery which has been evident in all districts except one during the current season is a most reassuring sign that the losses of the preceding year of scarcity have had but a temporary effect. In Ahmednagar, it is true, owing to the failure of the current year's crops also the position is undoubtedly far from satisfactory, but even there after two bad seasons the people have been in a position to refuse famine rates of wages and no famine works have so far been required.

3. But there is another side to this picture. While men even in the worst affected districts could make a living, their cattle were in great distress. Owing to the large increase in the area which is now-a-days devoted to the cultivation of non-fodder crops, the supply of fodder in the best of seasons is none too plentiful, and no reserve is kept to meet a failure. Hence immediately it was realised that there would be a shortage, the prices of fodder rose rapidly everywhere and it was soon apparent that prompt steps would have to be taken if the cattle were to be saved. As early as the end of July, grass had to be purchased by Government and brought from the Konkan for feeding the cattle in north Gujarát. Special concessions for the conveyance of fodder by rail were arranged for, and as soon as operations could be begun in Government forests, the cutting and baling of grass was undertaken and arrangements made for its export in accordance with the Collector's indents. Takávi was distributed on an unprecedented scale, largely for the purchase of grass, and actually in the form of grass; free grazing was permitted in the forests, facilities were granted for removal of grass by carts or in head-loads, and permission given to gather *anján* leaves. In Ahmedabad the establishment of cattle kitchens where the cattle were fed and tended by their owners or their servants proved most successful in preserving the animals of the best type, so many of which perished during the previous famine in Gujarát, while the removal of a large number of animals to the grazing grounds in the Gir Forest and the Dángs met with a fair measure of success. These operations were supplemented by valuable work done by the Committee of the Bombay Central Famine Relief Fund, by the Wádía Trustees and by other charitable organizations. The funds collected, together with a generous allotment received from the Trustees of the Indian Peoples' Famine Fund, were largely expended on the purchase and distribution, free or at reduced prices, of fodder for cattle belonging to the poorer class of cultivators. By these measures the actual mortality which took place among cattle was greatly reduced, though losses could not be avoided altogether. No definite information is available as yet of the extent of these losses. In the Ahmedabad district only was a cattle census taken at the close of the season. This revealed the fact that the number of cattle in the district actually exceeded the number recorded in 1909-10, a surprising result, but at the same time a satisfactory proof

of the efficiency of the measures taken. Some outbreaks of rinderpest and other cattle diseases occurred as was only to be expected in a year when the condition of the animals was anything but good in most districts. But it is gratifying to find that the people are displaying generally a growing confidence in the Veterinary Department, resort freely to its officers for assistance, and are rapidly losing their former aversion from the protection afforded by inoculation against rinderpest.

4. The experience gained during the year in the management of relief operations has led to one or two important results, the chief of which has been the establishment of the Bombay Presidency Central Famine Relief Fund Committee. The object of the Committee is to co-ordinate the efforts of the various workers in the field of private charitable relief and, if possible, to devise protective measures against a recurrence of a fodder famine. To assist them in this direction, Government have placed at their disposal a stock of grass which was available in the Kaira district and may serve as a nucleus for a reserve of fodder in future. The institution of the dharmáda dole system by Mr. Bharucha in the Ahmedabad district proved a most successful method of stimulating private charity in villages to which a more extensive resort may be had in the event of similar conditions prevailing in future years. It is to be hoped also that as a result of their experience in the year under report the cultivators themselves will realize the necessity of devoting a larger area to the growth of fodder crops and grass than they have done during recent years, and will be prepared to forego the higher profits thus earned in order to make sure of preserving their cattle. It is, at any rate, gratifying to find that the benefit of forest conservancy has been realised by them and that after the experience now gained forest restrictions are likely to be regarded as less burdensome in future.

5. In Sind also the seasonal conditions were decidedly unfavourable. The fair irrigating level of the Indus—13 feet at Bukkur—was maintained for only 10 days against 23 in the preceding year, 31 in the year 1909-10, and 59 in the year 1908-09. As a consequence of this unsatisfactory inundation, the cultivated area fell by 27.65 per cent., and the land revenue demand by 13.98 per cent. as compared with the preceding year. The working of the canals was, however, fairly good, considering the unfavourable nature of the season. As in the Presidency proper, scarcity of fodder prevailed in all districts and the price was exorbitantly high. Owing to the drought in the adjacent tracts of country there was an influx of large herds of cattle from Cutch and Márwár which intensified the difficulties already existing in securing fodder for the indigenous cattle, to provide for which the forests were thrown open for free grazing. In the Desert especially, owing to the short rainfall, there was an almost complete failure of fodder, with the result that many cattle died. Added to this, there was a serious outbreak of rinderpest in the Karáchi and Lárkána districts which carried off a considerable number of animals. Here also the zamindárs are beginning to appreciate the benefits of inoculation as a means of preventing the disease, and are displaying an increasing confidence in the work done by the Veterinary Department. Owing to widespread epidemics of cholera and small-pox which caused serious mortality, public health in the Province was unfortunately anything but satisfactory; but as a result of the low inundation of the Indus the attack of malaria was milder than usual.

6. Final figures relating to the demand and collection of land revenue are not yet available, but those given in the report are sufficiently accurate for comparison with the results of the preceding year and for estimating the effect of the unfavourable monsoon. The year opened with a demand of 319½ lákhs, exclusive of unauthorised arrears amounting to 5½ lákhs, and suspensions totalling 13½ lákhs. Of these amounts 230½ lákhs were actually collected during the year; 83½ lákhs suspended, and 20½ lákhs remitted; while the unauthorised balance at its close was reduced to 2½ lákhs, as against 5½ lákhs at its commencement. The most striking feature is the heavy increase in suspended revenue, which rose from 13½ lákhs to 83½ lákhs. This increase was the inevitable result of the prevailing scarcity. It was found necessary to grant wholesale suspensions throughout the districts of Ahmedabad, Kaira and the Panch Maháls, while in the Central and Southern Divisions also a substantial portion of the revenue demand was postponed. The promptness and liberality with which

suspensions of land revenue were granted undoubtedly afforded enormous relief to the cultivators and went far in enabling them to meet the situation successfully. Under the automatic operation of the Suspension and Remission Rules a considerable part of the revenue under suspension at the beginning of the year fell due for remission, while in all three Divisions heavy remissions of the water-rate portion of the consolidated assessment were granted owing to the failure of the tanks and channels to yield the usual supply of water for irrigation.

In spite of the adverse conditions of the season the work of collection was efficiently performed. A substantial reduction was effected in the balance of unauthorised arrears, all three Divisions showing an improvement in this respect. Less difficulty in the collection of revenue was encountered than has been usually the case during recent years, and there were but few instances of contumacious default. For this improvement the strict measures taken by the district officers during the last two or three years are undoubtedly responsible. Great pains have been taken to have a thorough inspection made of the crops while they are on the ground in order to arrive at an accurate and trustworthy *annewári* valuation. Having made due allowance for the suspensions and remissions admissible on the basis of this valuation it is possible to proceed with confidence to apply stringent measures against defaulters from whom any part of the balance is due. The fact that in a year of widespread scarcity the revenue was collected with such ease is an entire justification of these measures. The Governor in Council trusts that vigilance in this matter will not be in any way relaxed.

7. As was to be expected in such an unfavourable year, there was an extensive demand for loans under the Takávi Acts. In the districts of north Gujarát the takávi system was employed largely as an additional method of famine relief and loans were advanced on an almost unprecedented scale, chiefly for purchase of fodder, for raising fodder crops under wells and for moving cattle to areas where grazing was available. The advances under both Acts amounted to no less than  $63\frac{3}{4}$  lákhs as against 11 lákhs in the previous year. This large sum poured into the districts prevented a heavy loss of agricultural cattle, promoted a large extension of irrigation under wells and enabled many permanent land improvements to be carried out, while at the same time employment was provided for a large number of the labouring classes. Some additional staff was required to cope with the extra accounts, but it is very creditable to the officers concerned that these large amounts were distributed with little or no congestion of work in the táluka offices. This was achieved by means of an extensive and methodical use of the joint bond system. The people learned to appreciate the promptitude and ease with which loans could be obtained if they pooled their credit, while the great reduction in the labour of distribution has made a forcible appeal to the subordinate staff of the Revenue Department. Owing to the large transactions undertaken during the year, heavy balances have accumulated in certain districts, especially Ahmedabad, Ahmednagar and Sholápur. The liquidation of these will require close attention in the future, and care will have to be taken to recover instalments promptly without at the same time unduly hampering the resources of the borrowers. This task should not present any insurmountable difficulties under the present system by which the Collector is enabled to regulate instalments according to the capacities of the individual concerned. It is essential, however, to remember that to fix unduly long periods for the recovery of loans, as appears to have been done in some cases in the Central Division, is to be avoided both in the interests of the borrower and of Government. Recoveries of takávi amounted to  $17\frac{1}{3}$  lákhs out of a demand of  $18\frac{3}{4}$  lákhs—the year closing with a balance of  $1\frac{1}{6}$  lákhs against  $4\frac{1}{4}$  lákhs in 1910-11. There is still some room for improvement in respect to the amount of inspection of works for which loans have been taken, and the Governor in Council trusts that the necessity for such inspection will not be overlooked by sub-divisional officers and Mámlatdárs.

8. In Sind, the figures relating to land revenue and takávi reflect the unfavourable nature of the season. Including nearly 9 lákhs arrears, the land revenue for collection amounted to  $108\frac{1}{2}$  lákhs, of which 85·88 per cent. was collected as against a percentage of 88·10 in the year 1910-11. All the districts showed a falling off in this respect except Karáchi, where there was considerable room for improvement on the preceding year's record. Deducting nearly  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lákhs suspensions and  $7\frac{3}{4}$  lákhs remissions, the arrears outstanding at the close of the

year amounted to over 6 lákhs; but as some part of these arrears appears to be due to delay in issuing orders for remission under the rules, criticism of the figures is difficult. The Governor in Council is pleased to observe that the Commissioner in Sind has taken steps to remedy this defect by insisting upon greater punctuality on the part of the Collectors in submitting remission statements. Nearly 8 lákhs was advanced as takávi, and out of a demand of nearly 11 lákhs over 7 lákhs was collected. The inspection of takávi works in the Province still calls for attention. The year under review showed some improvement in this matter; but in several districts the amount of inspection actually done was inadequate.

9. The touring and inspection work performed was generally adequate and district officers of all grades responded heartily to the call made upon them by the additional work, which failure of the monsoon inevitably entails. Almost universal complaints are, however, made regarding the unsatisfactory type of recruits coming forward for the lower ranks of the subordinate service, which is attributed to the inadequacy of the initial pay and the poor prospects in the lower division. Government have already recognized the need of reorganizing the Subordinate Revenue Establishment, and proposals to this end have been submitted for the sanction of higher authority. A considerable improvement may be expected when this reorganization is brought into effect. Further advance is probably to be looked for in a reform in the arrangement of work and methods of business, enabling the work to be done by a smaller number of hands but on higher pay. This subject is at present under the consideration of Government. The difficulty of securing in districts where the watandári system prevails village accountants competent to handle the increasingly complicated system of accounts and the record of rights is yearly becoming more and more patent, and the question of introducing much needed reforms in this connection is engaging the careful attention of Government. The work performed by patels was on the whole efficient and satisfactory; but in the Kaira district a tendency to take part in village factions and to suppress evidence with a view to screening offenders led to many of them being suspended and dismissed. As a contrast to the state of affairs in Kaira district, it is satisfactory to find that in nearly all districts instances of good work in all kinds of village service are by no means rare, and are everywhere recognized and adequately rewarded. Government have expressed their views regarding the work of the Land Records staff in a separate review which has already been issued.

10. In spite of the unfavourable position of the agricultural industry during the year, trade was on the whole fairly prosperous. Prices ruled high as was to be expected; on the other hand, wages showed no sign of falling, but rather a reverse tendency. The independence of labour which has been such a marked feature in the industrial conditions of this Presidency during the past few years was equally conspicuous during the year 1911-12, and there is no doubt that the demand is fast outstripping the supply. The improvement in the status of the labourer and of the small cultivator who depends more on labour than on his holding for a livelihood is a subject for congratulation. It would be still more so if a corresponding improvement had taken place in the efficiency of labour. There is, however, no indication of any such result and it is difficult to estimate what ultimate effect the change which has come over the labour market will have on agriculture and on the industrial development of the country. The slump in the cotton spinning and weaving industry, which has prevailed for some time, showed signs of disappearing, and the working of the mills was generally profitable. Owing to the failure of the indigenous cotton crop, the ginning and pressing factories, except in one or two places, remained idle throughout the year. A further extension of flour mills was noticeable, and other indigenous industries, such as the Fine Knitting Company at Barejdi and the Indian Cotton Oil Company at Vejalpur, appear to have a good future before them. But the two most important events of the year were the steady progress made in the extension of feeder railways and the opening of the Central Co-operative Bank. The network of light railways, which are under construction in Gujarát, will have far-reaching results in promoting the welfare of the districts through which they pass, and now attention is again being directed to the favourable field for such enterprise that exists in the Deccan. Taking advantage of the experimental work begun by Government, the Central Co-operative Bank has already made rapid

progress in the business of financing the sugarcane industry on the Nira Canal. Success in this direction will open up a very wide field for the useful employment of capital, for with the extension of the Deccan canals that is in progress the industry may be regarded as being only in its infancy.

11. Under the guidance of the district officers primary education continued to make satisfactory progress. With the aid of liberal grants from Imperial revenues many new primary schools were opened, but owing to the prevalence of cholera, small-pox and plague in most districts and to the emigration of families in search of work, attendance on the whole was below normal. The policy of Government has been directed, not towards an unlimited increase in the number of village schools, but to such an increase as, with the funds available, can be carried out simultaneously with an increase in the trained teaching staff, an improvement of their pay and status, and the provision of well built and properly equipped school-houses for those already in existence. The attempts which are being made to evolve a new and cheaper type of school building may help to solve the housing difficulty, which is felt in many districts owing to the limited resources at the disposal of the Local Boards. The education of children of the depressed classes and of the criminal and hill tribes is receiving careful attention, and the results attained give cause for satisfaction. Female education continues to make slow progress owing to the difficulty of obtaining the services of trained mistresses. The conversion of the Gujarát College, Ahmedabad, into a Government institution, and the inauguration by His Excellency Lord Sydenham of the new Science Institute which is attached to the College and which owes its existence to the munificence of Sardár Sir Chinubháí Mádhavlál, C.I.E., were the two most important steps taken during the year in the development of secondary education. The provision of hostels attached to the High Schools in three of the larger towns in the Northern Division is a most satisfactory development, and it is hoped that in the near future every High School will be provided with a hostel at which boys attending the school from outlying villages can lodge comfortably, and be under proper supervision during the most susceptible years of their lives.

12. The appended statement shows the results of the working of the non-alienable tenure. The area of land resettled with the occupants on this tenure during the year was small, except in the Karáchi and Thar and Párkar districts, where it amounted to 1,300 and 4,400 acres. On the other hand, the area of lands resumed or resigned during the year in several districts was considerable, amounting in Ahmedabad district to 8,400 acres, in Kaira to 5,600 acres, in the Panch Maháls to 5,800 acres, in West Khándesh to 3,700 acres, in Násik to 2,100 acres, in Hyderabad to 14,800 acres, and in Thar and Párkar to 17,600 acres. The reasons given for these resumptions and resignations are various. In Ahmedabad they are attributed to the unfavourable season, the land being given up as its cultivation was found unprofitable; in Kaira, to the fact that much of the land given out on this tenure is of poor quality, is quickly exhausted by the cultivators' methods, and then resigned by them; in the Panch Maháls, to the restoration on the old tenure of a considerable area to the previous owners on payment by them of the arrears for which the land had been forfeited; and in Hyderabad and Thar and Párkar, to violation of the conditions on which the land had been given out. From the Collectors' reports it appears that it is only in Hyderabad and Thar and Párkar districts that cases of violation of the terms on which the land is granted are common, and this is especially noticeable in the Jamráo tract. Considerable areas of unoccupied lands were given out on this tenure in several districts, and it appears that its popularity is growing. On the whole, the Collectors' reports lead to the conclusion that while the credit of holders on this tenure is naturally restricted, there is nothing to show that this restriction has led to a deterioration in their methods of cultivating the land, and that their inability to obtain credit from sávkárs is counterbalanced to their own advantage by their ability to obtain takávi loans from Government for genuine improvements to the land, and for seed and cattle. The orders of Government regarding the class of cultivators for whom this tenure is specially designed are clear, and appear to be generally understood. In cases such as those of the Haviks in Kánara district, it is obvious that the tenure is unsuitable, and the orders issued by the Commissioner, S. D., regarding them are correct. His interpretation of the orders relating to reasonable alienation is also in accordance with the spirit underlying them.



13. A Commission was recently appointed to enquire into the working of the Dekkhan Agriculturists' Relief Act, and the report submitted by it is now under the consideration of Government. Further discussion on the subject is therefore unnecessary in the present review.

14. Considerable attention was devoted to the collection of inámdárs' dues and a very satisfactory clearance was effected of outstanding arrears. There is still reason for believing that owing to the reluctance of the inámdárs in many cases to forego any part of their demands, a not inconsiderable portion of the arrears styled as recoverable is really irrecoverable, and where this disposition on the part of inámdárs exists, efforts should be made to induce them to clear their accounts of such items by writing them off. On the other hand, demands that are really recoverable should be strictly enforced, and the policy which was tried in certain alienated villages in the Central Division, of inflicting one-fourth fine in all cases where the tenant had definitely agreed to pay rent and failed, is commended for more general adoption in similar cases elsewhere. As remarked by the Commissioner, C. D., section 94-A of the Land Revenue Code, inserted by section 41 of Bombay Act IV of 1913, should place the collection of rents in alienated villages in years of failure of the harvest on a more satisfactory footing. The relations of inámdárs and their tenants in most districts appear to be good. In Bijápur district, however, the tendency of the inámdárs to raise their tenants' rents in violation of their customary rights, which was noticed in the preceding year, continues, and their mutual relations are reported to be unsatisfactory. The matter is engaging the attention of the Collector and it is hoped that a settlement satisfactory to both parties will be arranged. Orders have been issued by Government withdrawing the exemption from the operation of the Bombay Land Record-of-Rights Act in respect of all inám villages into which a survey settlement has been introduced under Chapter VIII of the Bombay Land Revenue Code, with the exception of such villages in the Ratnágiri district. The introduction of the Record of Rights and its maintenance from year to year will protect the rights and status of the inferior holders, prevent disputes and greatly facilitate the collection of the inámdárs' revenue.

15. In his report the Commissioner, C. D., has demonstrated the value of the Record of Rights as a means of determining the relative areas of cultivable land held by agriculturists and non-agriculturists and the rate at which transfers are taking place from one class to the other. He has exhibited in a most interesting table of figures the totals for each district in his Division, and for Sholápur the totals for each táluka for two years in succession. It is possibly premature to attempt to draw deductions from the changes that are indicated as having taken place during the year in Sholápur, but the outstanding fact disclosed by the table is that the area held by non-agriculturists is only slightly more than 15 per cent. of the total, a surprisingly small proportion when it is remembered that mortgagées with possession are included as holders of land.

C. W. A. TURNER,

Under Secretary to Government.

To

<p>The Commissioner in Sind,          The Commissioner, N. D.,          The Commissioner, C. D.,          The Commissioner, S. D.,          All Collectors, including the Collectors in Sind and the          Deputy Commissioner, Upper Sind Frontier,          The Settlement Commissioner and Director of Land          Records,          The Director of Agriculture,          The Manager, Encumbered Estates in Sind,          The Tálukdári Settlement Officer,          The Director of Public Instruction,</p>	}	<p>With copies of          the report.</p>
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[P. T. O.]

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 12 of the Resolution.*

District.	Total area under the restricted tenure on 1st August 1911.	Area of lands resettled on limited tenure with the occupants during the 12 months ending 31st July 1912.	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 1912 (columns 2+5 - column 6).
1	2		4	5	6	7
<i>Northern Division.</i>						
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Ahmedabad ... ..	102,519	...	4,712	4,712	8,391	98,840
Kaira ... ..	78,037	32	2,413	2,445	5,642	74,840
Panch Maháls ... ..	168,867	159	1,226	1,385	5,851	164,401
Broach ... ..	27,790	5	1,642	1,647	305	29,132
Surat ... ..	36,333	67	85	152	724	35,761
Thána ... ..	3,864	...	227	227	...	4,091
Total ..	417,410	263	10,305	10,568	20,913	407,065
<i>Central Division.</i>						
Ahmednagar ... ..	13,945	43	1,447	1,490	161	15,274
East Khándesh ... ..	28,897	...	2,012	2,012	357	30,552
West Khándesh ... ..	298,234	402	10,666	11,068	3,745	305,557
Násik ... ..	64,388	8	6,584	6,592	2,140	68,840
Poona ... ..	1,880	542	1,180	1,722	3	3,599
Sátára ... ..	3,768	111	1,197	1,308	...	5,076
Sholápur ... ..	7,649	115	616	731	...	8,380
Total ...	418,762	1,220	23,703	24,923	6,407	437,278
<i>Southern Division.</i>						
Kolába ... ..	40	...	...	...	...	40
Ratnágiri* ... ..	2,920	27	37	64	...	2,984
Bijápur ... ..	13,685	73	1,282	1,355	71	14,969
Dhárwár ... ..	8,632	27	2,183	2,210	...	10,842
Belgaum ... ..	5,881	42	811	853	445†	6,289
Kánara ... ..	3,815	...	522	522	101	4,236
Total ...	34,973	169	4,835	5,004	617	39,360
Grand total for the Presidency Proper.	871,145	1,652	38,843	40,495	27,937	883,703
<i>Sind</i>						
Karáchi ... ..	57,371	1,371	3,047	4,418	162	61,627
Hyderabad ... ..	558,555	...	40,202	40,202	14,813	583,944
* Sukkur ... ..	60,250	233	2,968	3,201	107	63,344
Lárkána ... ..	35,647	16	328	344	116	35,875
Thar and Párkar ... ..	475,691	4,403	12,284	16,687	17,583	474,795
Upper Sind Frontier ... ..	44,634	1	5,510	5,511	1,368	48,777
Total ..	1,232,148	6,024	64,339	70,363	34,149	1,268,362
Grand total for the whole Presidency.	2,103,293	7,676	103,182	110,858	62,086	2,152,065

\* Area entered on the restricted tenure in virtue of the orders in Government Resolution, Revenue Department, No. 7400, dated 12th September 1905, which directs that lands of occupancy tenants in khoti villages having no right of transfer should, on the lapse of the villages to Government, be entered as held on the restricted tenure.

† Owing to the expiry of the period for which the land was granted.