

Annual Report
of Working of Co-operative Credit Societies
in the
Bombay Presidency Including Sind for the
Twelve months Ending
March 31st 1916

Government

1917

ANNUAL REPORT
ON THE
WORKING
OF
CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES
IN THE
BOMBAY PRESIDENCY
(INCLUDING SIND)

For the twelve months ending March 31, 1916.

[Price—7a. or 8d.]

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No. 7852 OF 1916.

From

THE HON'BLE MR. G. F. KEATINGE, C.I.E., I. C. S.,
Director of Agriculture, Bombay,
Poona ;

To

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
Revenue Department, Bombay.

Poona, 10th August 1916.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward the Annual Report on the working of the Co-operative Societies in the Presidency, excluding Sind.

2. The progress made during the year under report was less marked than usual, owing mainly to the absence of the permanent Registrar. The Co-operative movement has now reached dimensions which necessitate on the part of the Registrar a large amount of personal and technical knowledge, and continuity in the holding of this post has become a matter of considerable importance.

3. The work of collecting the arrears due to the Nira Canal Societies has been satisfactory, though there is nearly Rs. 1 lakh still outstanding. The experiment on the Nira Canal is of importance since it is clear that the opening of a large canal in the Deccan calls for a financing and marketing agency, and that effective development cannot proceed without such an agency. The experience on the Nira will be of value in the impending developments on the Godavari Canals, and as new canals are opened it will be necessary to extend such operations to them. For such ventures we cannot expect to obtain local capital in any quantity and must of necessity look to the Bombay Central Bank. If the Bombay Central Bank is to be put in a position to finance such Societies either its debentures must be recognised as an investment for Trust Funds or the rate of interest must be raised all round.

4. A few cases of defalcation have occurred, and a certain number of Societies fail to show any life or Co-operative spirit and have to be cancelled, but considering the amount of money that is now being handled and the isolation of some of the Societies in remote rural districts, the remarkable thing is that so few cases of this kind occur, and for this, as noted by the Registrar, we have to thank the public-spirited workers who are devoting so much energy to forward the cause. The organisation of Guaranteeing Unions, as are now contemplated, is calculated to increase the stability of the movement and to effect a concentration of effort which can hardly fail to be beneficial ; while the formation of new District Banks should tap fresh sources of capital, and may, it is hoped, attract to the work men who have not the time or the inclination to concern themselves with small rural Societies.

5. Mr. Ewbank has submitted a very instructive report, and in my opinion his views and his administration are eminently sound.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
G. F. KEATINGE,
Director of Agriculture.

From -

R. B. EWBank, Esq., I. C. S.,
Registrar, Co-operative Societies,
Bombay Presidency;

To

THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE,
Bombay Presidency.

Poona, July 8th, 1916.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the twelfth Annual Report on the working of the Co-operative Societies Act in this Presidency for the year ending March 31st, 1916.

I.—ADMINISTRATION AND TOURING.

2. *Permanent Staff.*—Mr. P. B. Haigh, I. C. S., officiated as Registrar from April 1st, 1915, up to September 16th, 1915, when, owing to ill-health, he was compelled to relinquish the appointment and proceed on leave to England. He was succeeded by Mr. E. L. Moysey, I. C. S., who acted in the post from September 17th, 1915, to December 23rd, 1915. Mr. G. F. Keatinge, C.I.E., I. C. S., held charge of the office from December 24th, 1915, to December 28th, on which date I returned from leave and resumed charge as Registrar. Mr. V. H. Gonehalli, M.A. (Cantab.), worked throughout the year as temporary Assistant Registrar in special charge of all questions connected with agricultural organisation apart from credit. He was given two Assistants, seconded from the Agricultural Department, and an office staff of two clerks. The staff of Auditors remains the same as last year. There are 6 Auditors, of whom one is employed in the audit of banks with a capital exceeding half a lakh and is paid by the banks themselves, two Assistant Auditors and six Inspectors. A temporary Assistant Auditor was sanctioned by you for three months to help the Auditor in charge of Bijapur to clear up the arrears of auditing work left by his predecessor. The three Special Mámlatdárs, paid half by Government and half by the Central Bank, continued to work as before, Mr. R. R. Divekar in the Southern Division, Mr. V. B. Vaidya at Bárámati and Mr. Dahyabhai A. Patel in the Northern Division. Towards the close of the year Mr. Patel was transferred to Bárámati to help in recovery work on the Nira Canal. Three expert Weaving Assistants were at work throughout the year;—one was employed in managing the six weaving schools under the Registrar, one was in charge of fly-shuttle loom demonstrations, and one was engaged in inspecting and improving Weavers' Co-operative Societies. The Registrar's office staff consisted of one head clerk and five clerks.

3. The roll of Honorary Organisers continues to lengthen, and the Department continues to receive most valuable assistance from them in the propagation and supervision of societies. Now and then as is natural, an organiser flags and drops out, but in very few places is there any lack of efficient and keen volunteers to take a vacant place. In fact during the last year the Department has received many offers, of which it has been unable to avail itself. With the growth of local unions, it is hoped that societies will more and more take into their own hands the duty of supervising their neighbours and starting new societies within the union areas. But until this stage is reached, the help of the constantly growing body of Honorary Organisers is of the utmost use to the Department. In frequently visiting societies, upbraiding them for their faults and praising them for their merits, in starting new societies in untried areas, and in making the societies with which they are personally connected models to the whole country-side, they are doing a work which no other agency could perform equally well. Government

have never failed annually to acknowledge the debt they owe to these gentlemen for their public-spirited labours, and I have great pleasure in bringing their names to notice in the forefront of this report :—

District.	Name.
Ahmedabad	Mr. J. P. Lakhia.
Kaira	Khá Sáheb Saidumia Fazúmia (Kaira).
"	Mr. Gordhandas K. Patel (Anand).
Panch Maháls	Ráo Sáheb Manvantrai J. Desai (Kalol).
Broach	Ráo Sáheb A. U. Malji.
"	Mr. K. B. Desai (Amod).
Surat	Ráo Bahádur K. G. Desai.
"	Ráo Bahádur N. L. Desai.
"	Mr. Purshotam Ichharam (Sonsek).
Thána	" Vithaldas K. Sanjanvala (Umbergaon).
Ahmednagar	Ráo Bahádur G. K. Chitale.
"	Sardár Gopalrao L. Mirikar (Miri).
West Khándesh	Ráo Bahádur K. N. Bhangonkar.
"	Hon'ble Mr. S. D. Garud
East Khándesh	Mr. D. G. Juvekar.
Násik	" Y. N. Palsikar (Málegaon).
Poona	" M. R. Tarkunde (Sáswad),
Sátára	" W. G. Chirmule.
Sholápur	" R. M. Sane (Bársi).
"	Ráo Sáheb T. J. Pitre.
"	Mr. V. S. Jog (Pandharpur).
Belgaum	Ráo Sáheb R. G. Naik.
Dhárwár	Ráo Sáheb S. R. Kulkarni (Betigeri).
"	Mr. M. S. Kulkarni (Betigeri).
"	Ráo Sáheb R. K. Inamati (Annigeri).
"	Mr. V. B. Kulkarni (Koliwad).
"	Shrimant Appasaheb Bahádur Desai of Agadi (Agadi).
"	Hon'ble Ráo Bahádur S. K. Rodda.
Kánara	Ráo Sáheb P. N. Pandit (Sirsi).
"	Ráo Sáheb G. R. Masur (Masur).
Bijápur	Mr. P. G. Halkatti.
"	Ráo Sáheb S. J. Deshmukh (Almel).
Ratnágiri	Mr. L. B. Kadulkar (Devgadh).
Kolába	" V. M. Tendulkar (Kokban).

Government has never been slow to recognise good work in the cause of co-operation and during the past year has evidently taken a special pleasure in honouring some of the best known co-operators. The title of Ráo Bahádur has been conferred on Mr. G. K. Chitale of Ahmednagar and on Ráo Sáheb S. S. Talmaki, the Chairman of the Shamrao Vithal Co-operative Credit Society, the Kaiser-i-Hind medal has been awarded to Mr. V. L. Mehta, Manager of the Central Co-operative Bank, and the title of Ráo Sáheb to Mr. G. H. Desai, B.A., Auditor of Co-operative Societies, and to Mr. M. J. Desai of Panch Maháls. The Knighthood conferred on Sir Stanley Reed is a distinction falling on one of the leading directors of the Central Bank.

4. The Registrar was on tour for 152 days and visited 209 societies.

II.—SUMMARY OF GENERAL PROGRESS.

5. *General Progress.*—The general progress of each class of Co-operative Society during the past year can best be judged from the following salient figures :—

Type of society.	Number of societies.		Number of members.		Working capital.	
	1915.	1916.	1915	1916.	1915.	1916.
					Rs.	Rs.
Central Banks	5	5	1,758	1,821	20,74,516	21,70,567
Agricultural Societies	674	808	51,113	64,046	35,31,777	39,76,542
Non-agricultural Societies	137	150	31,739	39,057	25,06,026	35,32,898
Total	816	963	84,610	104,924	81,12,319	96,80,007

In other words the total number of societies has increased by 18 per cent., the number of members by 24 per cent. and the amount of working capital by 19 per cent. Progress, especially among agricultural societies, has proceeded at a slightly slower rate than in previous years, and for this I find it difficult to assign any particular cause. There has undoubtedly been some dissipation of effort in the formation of agricultural societies of novel types. The continuance of war conditions has possibly inclined the public to avoid new enterprises until peace is restored. The changes in the post of Registrar and amongst several of the staff have perhaps contributed to the result. Whatever may be the cause, progress has not been quite so marked as it ought to be at this stage in the movement and an attempt must be made to advance rather more rapidly next year. It is not intended to achieve progress by the kind of official pressure which produced the melancholy societies of Parántij and Sátára. But the example of other provinces has shown that it is safe to apply more drive and to develop the movement at a quicker pace than that at which it is now proceeding.

6. *Central Banks.*—The capital of Central Banks is composed of share money Rs. 5,89,210, deposits by individuals Rs. 12,33,198, deposits by co-operative institutions Rs. 3,25,450 and reserve fund Rs. 22,122. The turnover has been satisfactory and Rs. 9,98,188 have been lent to societies in the course of the year. The extent to which societies on March 31st were in their debt was Rs. 19,20,777. As a rule these Banks obtain capital at about 5 per cent. and lend it on at about 7 per cent. The net profit earned by them in the course of the year amounted to Rs. 56,414. Steps have already been taken to open additional Central Banks, in order to bring more money into the movement for the benefit of agriculturists, and before this report was completed, the new East Khándesh Central Co-operative Bank, which owes its origin entirely to the Collector, Mr. Rothfeld, had held its first meeting and assured an initial capital of about one lách.

7. *Agricultural Societies.*—The total number is 808, of which 778 confine their operations to credit business. An analysis of their working capital shows that the sum of Rs. 9,16,490 or 23 per cent. is obtained from members in the form of deposits and shares, Rs. 6,13,235 or 15 per cent. from the public as deposits or loans, Rs. 19,86,312 or 51 per cent. as loan from Central Banks or other societies and Rs. 2,94,055 or 7 per cent. are held as reserve fund. The average membership of a society has gone up from 73 to 80, while the average working capital available per head has dropped from Rs. 70 to 62. Neither of these changes is in the right direction. Many societies show a tendency to extend their membership beyond the limits of mutual acquaintance and beyond their power of providing adequate finance. I cannot suppose that the societies are doing all the good of which they are capable until an average of at least Rs. 100 per head is reached. The extent to which they derive capital from members and their neighbours is satisfactory and indicates the degree of confidence which they are beginning to enjoy. As this figure grows it is right and natural that their reliance on Government support should decrease. Only Rs. 1,66,450 or 4 per cent. of the working capital is now derived from this source.

8. *Non-agricultural Societies.*—Of the 150 non-agricultural societies, 107 deal with credit only. This type of society has shown most satisfactory progress in the course of the year, and in this branch of co-operation the Bombay Presidency is now well in advance of most other parts of India. The working capital has been secured by the public credit of the societies themselves and only Rs. 22,500 or 2.36 per cent. of the total are obtained from financing institutions. The members themselves have contributed Rs. 22,13,209 or 63 per cent. in the form of shares and deposits and Rs. 10,60,832 have been obtained on deposit from the outside public. In spite of the fact that many of these societies are of comparatively recent origin the reserve fund already amounts to Rs. 1,42,278. The average number of members per society has risen from 231 to 260, and the average amount of working capital available per head from Rs. 78 to 90. The net profit on the year's working was Rs. 98,998 and Rs. 41,446 were spent on the cost of management. It is not expected that progress will continue at so rapid a rate next year, but I see nothing unsound in the sudden development

that has occurred. Experience has taught us that it is after the fifth year of an urban society's life that defaults generally begin to occur. In the beginning members, if they are well chosen, are keen and business-like, and the work is carried on in a safe and satisfactory manner.

9. *Cancellations.*—In the course of the year 37 societies were cancelled, the total number of cancellations since the beginning now amounting to 139. No hopeless society is allowed to hang on, bringing discredit on the whole movement. It receives help and warnings from the Department for about a year and then, if no improvement takes place, is promptly cancelled and wound up with some little severity in order that it may serve as a deterrent example. It is satisfactory to record that the failures that have occurred have been chiefly among the societies registered 10 years ago before experience in organization had been gained. No fewer than 66 of the 150 societies first registered have been dissolved. Liquidations are disposed of as quickly as the procedure admits, and 95 cases have been finally wound up and recorded.

10. *The effect of the War.*—The general progress of the movement has been practically unaffected by the War. Deposits from the public have been received as freely as ever and in parts of the Southern Division societies have had to refuse large sums offered to them. The discontinuance of long-term loans by the Central Bank has of course proved a serious embarrassment, but the measure was due much more to the attitude taken up by the Government of India with regard to the Bank's debentures than to any uneasiness about the War. Here and there a society has not quite escaped unscathed. A group of sweepers for instance, who had had their old debts redeemed by the Debt Redemption Committee of Bombay, have gone off to Basra on military duty and brought their society to the verge of bankruptcy by leaving their liabilities undischarged. The co-operative society in the Military Accounts Office at Poona has suffered severely by the dispersal of many of its members over France, Egypt, and Mesopotamia and after the end of the War will have a large accumulation of arrears to collect or write off. But the only class of society that has been gravely hit by the war is that composed of Weavers. A sharp rise in the price of yarn and an enormous increase in the cost of dyes without any corresponding rise in the selling value of woven cloth have practically brought the hand loom weaver's industry to a standstill. When the margin between the selling price in the market and the minimum cost of manufacturing an article does not amount to a living wage, no co-operative society can meet the situation and the only thing for the weavers to do is to find some other employment.

III.—WORKING OF SOCIETIES.

A.—Provincial Bank.

11. *The Bombay Central-Co-operative Bank.*—Though the past year was not been without its vicissitudes, the Bank has continued to prosper. Its capital consists of 14,000 shares of a nominal value of Rs. 50 each, on which Rs. 35 have been called up, yielding Rs. 4,90,000, and of Rs. 6,50,000 on account of 650 4 per cent. guaranteed mortgage debentures of Rs. 1,000 each held by 17 persons. In addition to this it holds deposits amounting to Rs. 6,66,060 and a sinking fund and reserve fund which exceeds half a lakh. The total working capital was Rs. 18,46,736 on March 31st and the net profit at the end of the year was Rs. 42,178. The sum outstanding on loan to 350 societies is Rs. 17,42,418. During the year Rs. 8,68,415 were advanced in 514 separate loans and Rs. 8,10,885 were recovered. Some societies were hard hit by a resolution which the Directors were compelled to pass to the effect that loans should only be made for current agricultural purposes and the purchase of cattle and should all be repayable within 2 years. This restriction was mainly due to the fact that their debentures have not yet been recognised under the Indian Trusts Act or the Charitable Endowments Act, although the interest is guaranteed by Government. At a time when the Government of India 3½ P. C. paper is standing at 77, it is hopeless to expect to be able to float fresh debentures at 4 per cent. on the market, without such recognition. The Bank had obtained sanction to issue additional debentures worth 4 lakhs but on this account was debarred from

placing them on the market and has had to rely to a greater extent than it intended on deposit capital. It was successful in obtaining nearly all that it required at an average rate of $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. But, since long-term deposits are very difficult to obtain in the periods of war-time, it has received deposits for comparatively short terms and been compelled to curtail its loans accordingly. Thanks to the foresight of the Directors, the position is now secure. Of the loans advanced by the Bank, Rs. 5,65,267 are repayable before March 31st, 1917; Rs. 8,75,670 between March 31st, 1917 and 1919; and Rs. 3,00,726 between March 31st, 1919 and 1921. Sums repayable after that date amount only to Rs. 754. Expected repayments are carefully correlated with estimated withdrawals of deposits; and the position of the Bank has been greatly strengthened by the arrangement of a cash credit of 2 lakhs with the Bank of Baroda.

12. Financially therefore the Bank is perfectly sound, and is prepared to face another year of war with equanimity. But it has recently been subject to strong criticism on another side. As a result of the report of the Committee on Co-operation its constitution has been assailed, and full credit has not been given to the public-spirited work of its Directors and to the special merits which distinguish a bank of this type. Owing to the large proportion of non-withdrawable share and debenture capital held by it, no Co-operative Bank in India is in anything like so strong a position for advancing long-term loans for debt redemption. It has always made this a great feature in its business and as soon as it is put into a position to float its new series of debentures, it will resume this invaluable work. Again it has not been generally recognised that its rate of dividend is limited to 6 per cent., and that the half of any profits earned over and above this sum return to borrowing societies in the form of rebate. So far from societies being exploited by the capitalists of the Central Bank, no less than Rs. 16,340 are now returnable to them on account of the profits of the last triennium. The Bank is striving to make itself a real balancing centre for all societies in the Presidency and owing to the favourable terms which it offers, holds no less than Rs. 2,77,347 on deposit from societies on this account. It has been urged that the Bank is too much under the control of private shareholders and it has been pressed to admit societies more freely as members. The Honourable Sir Fazulbhoy Currimbhoy Ebrahim, who has succeeded Sir Vithaldas Thackersey as Chairman of the Board, and the other Directors acceded to this proposal with the greatest cordiality and offered special facilities to encourage societies to take up shares. Already 149 shares have been purchased by 16 societies and I anticipate a large increase next year. The Directors have gone even further than they were asked to do and have spontaneously added to the Board several distinguished co-operators whose co-operative knowledge will be available to supplement the financial experience and prestige of their colleagues. Sir Shapurji Broacha has retired from the Board for reasons of health. In his place Sir Prabhashankar Pattani has been appointed as a representative of co-operation in Gujarát, Mr. G. K. Devdhar as a representative of the Deccan, and the Chief of Itkhalkaranji as a representative of societies in the Southern Division. The value of the Bank's work is greatly increased by the prompt and sympathetic manner in which its business is conducted by its Manager, Mr. Vaikunthrai Mehta, whose support and advice are yearly becoming more and more useful to the Registrar.

¶ 13. *Nira Canal Societies.*—The group now consists of 28 societies with a working capital of Rs. 8,51,870 and a membership of 2,504, financed directly by the Branch on the Bombay Central Bank at Baramati. Their administration last year attracted the unfavourable notice of Government owing to the growth in the arrears due both from members to their societies and from societies to the Central Bank. The arrears due from members which at the close of last year stood at Rs. 1,73,336, had increased to Rs. 2,49,860 when the present Registrar took over charge. The situation evidently called for drastic action of some kind. The chief causes for the defaults were found to be (a) failure of crops grown with the societies' money and consequent default dating in some cases back to 1911-12, (b) the inclusion of lazy or dishonest men in the societies as originally formed; (c) lack of sense of responsibility in Committees owing to too much control; and (d) perhaps to some extent to the fact that the position had to be handled by a new Special Mámlatdár working under successive new Registrars.

The Special Mámlatdár from Gujarát was brought down in February to assist the Special Mámlatdár at Baramati, and a special effort was made by personal warning and advice, by the stoppage of further credit, and by the concession of enlarged powers to well-managed societies to effect recoveries. The total amount repaid to the Central Bank as a result of these efforts upto March 31st was Rs. 5,21,070. The whole of the current demand was recovered. The overdue arrears from all societies to the Central Bank were wiped out and from members to societies were reduced from Rs. 2,49,860 to Rs. 97,479 on May 31st, 1916. In

Society.	Working capital.	No. of defaulters.	Amount defaulted.	Percentage of column 4 on column 2.
	Rs.		Rs.	
Gunavadi	37,092	17	8,887	24
Doriyachi	6,489	8	1,641	25
Zargarwady	7,018	12	3,554	50
Songaon	16,776	23	9,009	53
Katyachi	14,226	12	3,315	23
Dhekalwady	14,975	14	3,113	21
Udhat	23,653	28	7,009	30
Sansar	13,994	12	2,489	18
Karanje	42,211	13	10,342	24
Murum	18,203	19	6,031	33
Khandaj	43,832	33	21,488	48
Total	2,38,469	191	76,838	.....

the majority of societies the members paid up well, and in many ways showed signs of genuinely co-operative progress. The arrears now exist almost entirely in villages where the people are very poor or are notoriously bad repayers, and will have to be recovered by arbitration and enforced by execution through the Civil Courts. This is a slow process and subject to all sorts of difficulties. If a few executions can be carried through with exemplary severity a large number of contumacious defaulters will certainly make a special effort to clear their accounts, but I am doubtful whether the procedure is at present sufficiently effective to command respect. Statistics are given in the margin for those eleven societies in which the arrears exceed 10 per cent. of the total working capital.

14. The remaining societies are more promising than ever before. Baramati under Mr. Bajirao Deshpande has improved immensely, and Pandhara under Mr. D. S. Unde and Malegaon under the Raje Sáheb have given admirable examples which have had a great influence on neighbouring villages. Three guaranteeing unions with very greatly extended powers of sanctioning loans to their members without official interference have been started and promise very well. Deposits from members and non-members have increased from Rs. 1,26,413 to Rs. 1,64,995 and the joint reserve fund totals Rs. 55,000. On the whole, provided that the action about to be taken through the Civil Courts proves really deterrent, there need be little anxiety for the future of most of these societies. The credit for the great improvement that has taken place is entirely due to the Special Mámlatdárs, Mr. V. B. Vaidya and Mr. D. A. Patel, who have discharged their heavy and often unpleasant duties with noteworthy tact and energy.

15. The Baramati shop disposed of 4,240 cart loads of jaggery by auction for Rs. 4,02,654 and retailed cake manure worth Rs. 1,15,398. In addition 73 iron ploughs were sold by it. Cane-crushers run by oil engines have been set up at the expense of the Central Bank at Hol and Malegaon. As they have just started work, they had disposed of only 430 pans at 12 annas a pan upto March 31st. In the last two years the net profits of the shop have exceeded Rs. 5,000 the credit of which result is due to Mr. Uplekar, the Shop Manager.

B.—Central Banks and Banking Unions.

Central Banks.

16. *Working.*—The three district banks which have developed out of ordinary urban societies have continued to work on the same lines as last year. The Broach Central Bank, under the careful management of Sardár Ráo Bahádur Motilal Chunilal, has affiliated 99 societies to which it has lent Rs. 51,375 in the course of the year. Its working capital has however diminished from Rs. 1,01,174 to Rs. 90,812. The Surat District Union, which owes much to the constant vigilance and the wide co-operative experience of its chairman, Ráo Bahádur Khandubhai G. Desai, has increased its capital from Rs. 1,31,157 to Rs. 1,33,154 and during the year has advanced Rs. 57,298 to its constituent societies. It employs a whole-time inspector and manager, and is itself very well managed, though some of the affiliated societies leave room for improvement. The Barsi Union, of which Mr. R. M. Sane is still the heart and soul, has increased its capital from Rs. 66,681 to Rs. 77,051 and the sum outstanding

with societies to Rs. 17,013. Although the bulk of its capital is still lent to individuals, it fulfils the functions of a Central Bank for the societies in the Sholapur district very efficiently. It had the misfortune to have Rs. 2,000 stolen from its office in the course of the year and has not yet been able to trace the offender. In addition to these banks new Central Banks are being promoted in the East Khándesh district, in Poona and Thána, in the Carnátic, and by the Debt Redemption Committee of Bombay, and I hope next year to be able to record a substantial advance.

17. *Central Banking Unions.*—The Dhárwár Union with a membership of 43 societies has made no progress at all. Although the urban societies of the Dhárwár district have had frequently to refuse the funds offered to them, the capital of the union has remained stationary at Rs. 22,814 and the institution shows no real signs of vitality. It is proposed to merge it in the new Carnátic Central Bank as soon as it has been registered and starts regular business.

C.—Unions.

18. The problem of supplying primary societies with more frequent and efficient supervision through a staff maintained and controlled by themselves has in most countries been solved by the formation of unions. But unless these bodies go beyond tendering advice and have power to enforce their orders by the stoppage of credit to refractory societies, their work is usually careless and barren. It has therefore been resolved with the approval of all leading co-operators to make guaranteeing unions the unit of the future co-operative system in this Presidency. Such unions will not only supervise affiliated societies but will be authorised to sanction and to guarantee loans for them upto a maximum arranged with the Central Bank, usually amounting to six times the liability accepted by the union, and can maintain discipline by stopping credit to societies disregarding their instructions. The Annigeri Federation, started last year with this object, failed because its guarantee was not acceptable to the Central Bank. It is being reconstituted on the new model and several new unions are now in process of formation in other districts. The decision to brigade societies into guaranteeing unions is of the utmost importance and if the policy proves successful in the course of the next two years will have a profound effect on the future development of the movement in this Presidency.

D.—Agricultural Societies.

(1) Credit.

19. *The system in vogue.*—The orders of Government restricting the length of this report to 20 pages make it impossible to deal with rural co-operation so fully as in previous years. There are 808 agricultural credit societies in existence with a membership of 64,046 and a total working capital of Rs. 39,76,542. They are all formed on the Raiffeisen model, and preserve all the special features of the type. Their basic principles are a closely restricted area and as a consequence the mutual acquaintance of all members, joint and unlimited liability, gratuitous service on the committee, the rejection of shares, the allocation of all the net profits to reserve, the limitation of loans to members only, reliance on personal rather than real credit, and the control and supervision of the use to which loans are put. At audit these societies are classed as A. good, B. fair, C. poor, and D. bad, and during the year the results of this classification were A. 95, B. 428, C. 151, D. 13, and 121 unclassified. Throughout the Deccan and the Southern Marátha Country there is a plain and urgent need for more societies; but without constant teaching and reiterated warning and advice the ryots in most places are not capable of starting and working them successfully. Therefore the movement halts till more men come forward,—men who are willing not only to advocate it in public speeches but to stoop to the dull routine of training an illiterate committee and a lazy secretary in the way they should go. The official staff will never be large enough to do this satisfactorily. Unions, as they come into existence, will no doubt be quite capable of undertaking these duties within their own areas. But they will cover only a fraction of the total Presidency. Wonderfully good work is now being done by many helpers whose names never reach the ears of the public. But if the attempt to organise rural

credit is to be pushed on on a scale commensurate with the vastness of the problem, then the words of Sir-S. P. Sinha at the National Congress must be made good:—"What India wants is more men to develop co-operative credit and she must have them. The men are there, hundreds of them being turned out of her colleges every year with nothing to do, with nothing to look forward to." Pleadings and country gentlemen constantly volunteer to help, but young men fresh from college do not yet seem to have discovered this avenue of public service.

20. *Dhárwár*.—The Dhárwár district continues to lead the Presidency both in the quality of its societies and the volume of its capital. The number of village societies has increased from 87 to 120, and of members from 9,071 to 12,566. The total working capital has risen from Rs. 6,62,632 to Rs. 8,31,259. This increase has been due not so much to outside finance as to the growth of thrift and confidence among the people themselves. It is worth recording that deposits from members have increased from Rs. 1,48,935 to Rs. 2,05,985. In nearly all parts of the district the movement shows signs of vitality and progress, and great credit for this result is due to the Honorary Organisers of whom I must single out Mr. M. S. Kulkarni of Betigeri, Mr. Ankalgi of Dhárwár, and Shrimant Appasáheb Bahádúr Desai of Agadi for special praise. The sympathetic support of the Collector, Mr. Turner, and of Ráo Bahádúr Balekundri, Deputy Collector, has also been of the greatest value in helping forward the movement. There are no less than 17 village societies in the district with a capital exceeding Rs. 15,000 and many more that approach this figure. In the Gadag taluka a large group of societies, which are perhaps the best in the Presidency, have practically ousted the sowkárs and become by far the most important factor in the organisation of rural life. The elimination of the sowkár makes it very important that the supply of funds in the societies should be steady and calculable, and for this reason the stoppage of long term loans by the Bombay Central Bank has been the cause of great embarrassment and discontent. Co-operation is here proving itself a genuinely democratic force, and in many places committees of agriculturists, not one of whom has passed the fourth standard, have taken affairs into their own hands, and are managing their societies very creditably. Numerous instances have come to my notice in which civil cases have been amicably settled by societies, factions reconciled, temple and other village funds accepted on deposit, bequests held in trust by the committees for orphans, and in one village even a criminal case was at the request of the parties referred by the magistrate for enquiry to the society. The district has been fortunate in its auditor, Mr. C. B. Hooli, B.A., and I fully anticipate even more striking results next year, when the guaranteeing unions are put into working order.

21. *Kánara*.—It is the non-agricultural aspect of co-operation that has made the most successful appeal in this district. The number of agricultural societies is unaltered, but their membership has grown from 877 to 1,571 and their capital from Rs. 35,885 to Rs. 57,104. There are really good societies at Hulekal and Pala, and when the District Bank is once started, progress is likely to become more rapid.

22. *The Konkan*.—Progress has almost come to a standstill. The number of agricultural societies has increased by 2 and the working capital by Rs. 3,000 only. Here and there, as at Shiposhi and Vechare, a society is doing very well, but the majority are lifeless and are neglected by their own members. The fact is that Khots and the bigger landlords can get all the funds they require on easy terms from their sowkárs, while the tenant class looks to the landlords for their finance. The problem of rural credit is not an urgent one, and it is in the direction of the non-agricultural enterprises, such as stores, that further development seems most promising. Mr. L. B. Kadulkar of Devgad has worked carefully and well during this year, and a new volunteer, Mr. V. M. Tendulkar of Kokban, is now starting operations in the Kolába district.

23. *Belgaum*.—Last year's advance has been well continued, and the working capital has risen from Rs. 1,33,890 to Rs. 1,98,188, of which Rs. 1,18,542 are derived from local deposits. Ráo Sáheb R. G. Naik has spent time and trouble freely in forming and training young societies, and towards the end of the year has been receiving assistance in his duties from the Desa Bahádúr of Chachadi. The best societies are situated in the Parasgad taluka.

among which Saundatti with a capital of Rs. 55,808 under Mr. Sabnis is turning out quite remarkably successful. In the west and north of the district conditions are as favourable for further development as in Dhárwár district, and in this area a rapid improvement is anticipated.

24. *Southern Deccan.*—Co-operation, which aims at removing ignorance and poverty, is baffled when they appear in so extreme a form as in many parts of this area. It needs years of careful training before a society of very poor and uneducated people can be trusted to stand alone. Mr. R. M. Sane of Bársi has been working in his own táluka with remarkable ability and enthusiasm for nearly 10 years and is at last beginning to reap the reward of his labours in the form of a group of excellent village societies affiliated to his táluka Central Bank. Ráo Sáheb Pitre of Sholápur spends every Sunday and holiday in co-operative work and is gradually getting the societies in the neighbourhood into good order. Another most promising group of societies exists in the Hungund táluka where the example of the Dhárwár district has made itself felt. In the remainder of this division societies exist in some numbers, but their average quality is poor and everywhere there is a crying need for more workers, official and unofficial, to teach and to control the committees. Working capital in Sholápur has risen from one lákhs to two lákhs fourteen thousand, of which ninety-six thousand rupees represent local deposits, and in Bijápur from Rs. 1,72,175 to Rs. 1,99,440.

25. *Sátára.*—The incubus of bad societies has at last been almost shaken off, and in the majority of cases liquidation has been completed, with the able assistance of Mr. Chirmule. It will be some time before the effect which these failures have had on the prestige of the movement in the northern part of the district can be lived down. In the southern tálukas where the average of wealth and intelligence is much higher, excellent progress has been made, and at Aitavade Khurd, Peth, Yellur, Jakhinwadi, and Sagareshwar we have a group of societies which cannot fail to exercise a wide influence on their neighbours. Special thanks are due to Mr. R. N. Rajadnya for most useful advice and support. With his assistance one or two unions are in process of formation in this area.

26. *Northern Deccan.*—Progress has been curiously patchy and spasmodic. Throughout the whole tract rates of interest are high, and societies are capable of doing a most valuable service to cultivators. But it is only in places where some local gentleman of public spirit has set himself to develop his own neighbourhood and patiently to form and train up a group of societies under his own eye that really good results have been obtained. Such groups may be seen at Málegaon under Mr. Y. N. Palsikar, at Miri under Sardár G. L. Mirikar, and at Sáswad under Mr. M. R. Tarkunde. Scattered societies such as Ashwi under Mr. Honmode, Hadapsar under Mr. Govindrao Kale, and Kupkheda under Mr. B. S. Kulkarni sometimes turn out very well when they have a strong personality to guide them. In Poona, Násik and Ahmednagar districts there has been practically no increase in the working capital of societies at all. This is an unfortunate result to have to admit in a tract which is so urgently in need of freer and cheaper finance. The difficulties are the ignorance of the people and their aversion to combination, the reluctance of the best ryots to join unlimited societies, the lack of business-like sense in villages and a deep-rooted habit of not paying up money till there is no alternative, the lack of suitable men to serve on committees and act as secretaries and the absence of good local supervising and financing agencies. The great bulk of existing societies need tuning up and enough fresh ones must be started in selected areas to make local unions possible. Additional staff has been asked for for work in the Deccan, and when it is received, the initiative will be taken by the Department which will in future push the movement forward in this area by all the means in its power without waiting for an unofficial lead. Arrangements have been made to start work on the Godavari Canal after the end of the monsoon. The Northern Deccan with Khándesh and the Konkan is being placed in the immediate charge of the Assistant Registrar, and I hope to be able to report very different results next year.

27. *Khándesh.*—The rapid growth of co-operation in East Khándesh has taken place since the advent of Mr. Rothfeld and is entirely due to the support

received from him and from his assistants, Mr. Sanders and Mr. Hiremath. The people are wealthy and progressive, trade is prospering, and conditions for further expansion are very favourable. There are 32 societies in the district with a working capital of Rs. 73,030, of which no less than Rs. 54,913 represent local deposits. Steps will be taken to provide these societies with more adequate finance next year either from the new district bank or the Bombay Central Bank and as their capital grows, they are bound to become more useful and popular. In West Khándesh there is no progress to record.

28. *Thána.*—The number of societies has increased from 12 to 27 and their capital from Rs. 45,000 to Rs. 86,173. The societies are situated for the most part along the belt of fertile land which fringes the sea coast. Among them the most outstanding are the Maroli Society under Mr. Dhapre and the Umbergaon Society under the new Honorary Organiser, Mr. Vithaldas Sanjanvala. There is also an excellent and interesting communal society, which confines its operations to Devrukh Brahman Agriculturists within the Umbergaon peta and has already accumulated a capital of Rs. 19,521. The movement owes much to the Collector, Mr. Bharucha, and may be expected to go on well with his support.

29. *Southern Gujarát.*—Here progress has been real and permanent. In the Broach district in particular Ráo Sáheb Malji in the course of his tours drummed the principles of co-operation into the heads of the people until they have had to grasp them in spite of themselves. The results are beginning to appear in the excellent spirit animating the societies in the Ankleshwar táluka. In Amod táluka a well-managed group of societies is springing up under the influence of Mr. K. B. Desai and of the Mámlatdár, Mr. K. G. Parikh. Only in Wágra are results disappointing owing to the backwardness of the ryots. The societies of the Surat district are mainly concerned with the redemption of the old debts of members. Ráo Bahádur K. G. Desai's Banking Union has done its best to meet the demand, but its funds are limited and it dare not lock up too large an amount in long term loans. The refusal of the Bombay Central Bank to grant long term loans has therefore hit this district particularly hard. Ráo Bahádur Naranbhai L. Desai has toured extensively, inspecting societies, and at the close of the year has been given a helper in the form of Mr. Purshotam Ichharam, the able Secretary of the Sonsek Society. Considering the character and ability of the cultivators in this district, the level of efficiency in societies is lower than it ought to be and must be raised. In Olpád táluka there exists a nucleus of really good societies.

30. *Northern Gujarát.*—The movement has in most places stagnated. In spite of the bad season and a shortage of fodder amounting almost to a famine, few loan applications were received. Societies are working on so small a scale for the most part that their members have not learnt to look to them for complete support in time of stress. In Ahmedabad district no progress has been made, nor can it be expected until some energetic and public-spirited gentleman will come forward to give life and sincerity to the work. Kaira has shown better results, and great credit is due to Khán Sáheb Saidumia Faizumia for the trouble he has spent in constantly visiting societies and keeping them up to the mark. The working capital has risen from a lách to a lách and a quarter, and recoveries have been good. A very promising group of societies is at work in Matar táluka, including Limbashi, which is perhaps the only well-managed society in the division run entirely by dharalas. No way has yet been found of bridging the gulf between the patidars, who can manage a society but can borrow funds at 6 or 7 per cent. from their sowkárs, and the kaliparaj classes who are badly in need of money but can't manage societies efficiently. Societies will not flourish until the interests of these two classes can be more closely harmonised. Progress has been well maintained in the Panch Maháls under Ráo Sáheb M. J. Desai, but the movement has not yet really caught on.

(2) *Non-credit.*

31. *Manure supplying societies.*—The biggest society of this type is that at Bárámati. It imports cake worth more than one lách from Gujarát and the Southern Marátha Country and distributes it on credit among the cane-growers of the Nira Canal. Payment is recovered from the price realized at the auction of jaggery. On a smaller scale Ráo Bahádur A. G. Dandekar's well-managed

society among the Pan-malis of Kelva-Mahim continues to prosper, and has supplied ghani-pressed cake from the Charotar worth Rs. 18,000 to its members. In emulation of it similar societies have been started at Agashi under Mr. Rajwade, at Umbergaon, at Wathar Koprud, and at Niphad in Násik district. The success of these societies will depend on their being able to attract more working capital than they now have at their command. The Mutha Canal society has been handicapped by the difficulty of getting members to indent for manure in advance and by fluctuations in market prices and will shortly be wound up.

32. *Grain Banks and Seed Societies.*—The object of grain banks, which are among the simplest forms of co-operative organization, is to store grain at harvest time and to advance it for food to needy cultivators during the last quarter of the agricultural year. This type of society has been steadily gaining in popularity and there are now 21 granaries in existence. Three of the grain depôts started by the Honourable Mr. Orr in Thána district have been re-organised on a co-operative basis and have started work under their official chairmen satisfactorily. Among the best working granaries are those at Sattigeri storing grain worth Rs. 843, at Chachadi managed by the Desái Bahádur with stock worth Rs. 313 and Masur managed by Ráo Sáheb G. R. Masur with stock worth Rs. 598. Seed societies are more difficult. They aim at the selection of good seed, usually cotton, but sometimes grain as well, and its safe storage until the next harvest. By far the best seed society is that managed by Mr. Itgi, and superintended by Canon Rivington at Gadag with a capital of Rs. 1,071. It selects cotton and juwár seed from the best villages in the taluka and retails them for cash to members. Of the remaining 7 seed societies the Kođni Shri Bhairavnath Society in the Belgáum district with a capital of Rs. 4,750 deserves a word of praise. A scheme has been formed enabling rural credit societies to act as distributing agencies for seed grown on the farms of the Agricultural Department and during March and April five good societies in the Dhárwár district have obtained from Ráo Sáheb M. L. Kulkarni large quantities of improved Kumta cotton seed for distribution among their members. Co-operative societies will no doubt be more and more useful to the Agricultural Department in distributing improved seed, as the demand extends.

33. *Dairies.*—The problem of the milk supply of large cities has lately been attracting much public attention, and one of the remedies most commonly recommended is the organization of the industry on co-operative lines. During the year special efforts have been made by the Assistant Registrar, Mr. Gonehalli, to make a practical start; and the Department has now gone so far that it has succeeded in fixing the main lines, on which to proceed and has formed a few pioneer dairies. The functions, which a co-operative dairy society will undertake are—

- (a) the financing of its gowli members for the purchase of cattle, fodder, and current needs;
- (b) provision of a shed on a convenient site where cattle can be milked under supervision;
- (c) purchase of cake and fodder for cattle direct from wholesale dealers;
- (d) provision of a hygienic dairy room with proper utensils;
- (e) provision of a suitable standing and grazing ground;
- (f) distribution and retail of milk in an economical way.

The cattle remain the property of the gowlis and are kept by them in sheds to be erected by them for the purpose in or near the milk shed or grazing ground. This is the cheapest scheme that it has been possible to devise, and at most places is found to be quite acceptable to the gowlis. But even on these lines it costs Rs. 5,000 to start a dairy society for 100 cattle, and the societies being of limited liability and composed of poor and illiterate members, cannot as a rule raise this sum. No Municipality has upto date been willing to grant a loan to these societies, and they have to depend on themselves or on some local philanthropist for their capital. In consequence several of them have started in a hand-to-mouth way, content with milking their cattle in some common place and arranging for the joint distribution and retail of milk, until they are in a position to build a shed and provide their members with some real conveniences. The main and almost only obstacle at the present stage is the money difficulty.

Of the 7 dairies in existence, the Thána dairy with a capital of Rs. 2,827 markets about 400 lbs. of milk daily. It has provided itself with a good shed and water supply and a fair dairy room. The Alibág dairy, which owes its existence entirely to the enterprize of Sardár Biwalkar, has erected two sheds and taken a good grazing ground. Its output from 60 buffaloes is 225 lbs. daily. The Director has placed a Nadiad bull at Alibág for the use of the society. The Belgaum dairy, initiated by Mr. V. A. Desai, who has presented it with a free site for its shed, is progressing well and sells 300 lbs. of milk daily. The Bhusá- val dairy (output lbs. 150) is receiving useful support from the local Municipality.

Provisional dairies, still unregistered, are working at Hubli (160 lbs.), Gadag (160 lbs.) and Bágalkot (180 lbs.).

34. *Sale Societies.*—The sale of various sorts of agricultural produce involves many difficulties and some risks. Apart from the auction sales of jaggery on the Nira Canal no considerable enterprize of this class has been undertaken. The Sirsi Totgars secured slightly better prices by selling their garden produce through their society than through the local *dalals*. The Annigeri Sale Society under Ráo Sáheb Inamati marketed cotton worth Rs. 2,700 and has cotton and wheat worth Rs. 10,000 on hand. A society for selling the produce of members without the intervention of middle-men has been started by Mr. Mugappa Sawdatti at Dhárwár and others are being promoted at Bail Hongal, Saundatti and Cháligsaon. The revised scheme for cotton markets recently issued by the Honourable Mr. Keatinge appears to be simple and practicable, and efforts will be made to form one or two markets on the lines suggested by him next year.

35. *Cattle Breeding Societies.*—The object of these societies, of which only two are yet in existence, is to purchase a bull of good breed, to form a herd of some 50 or 60 of the village cows, and to maintain the whole herd on a separate grazing ground, the wages of the herdsman, the upkeep of the bull, and the other expenses being met by annual contributions levied from the members. At Maroli the herd of 35 cows has been served by a Kankreji bull and small country cattle have as a result produced surprisingly big calves. The Peth society has a herd of 36 cows but has obtained a bull which has not yet been inspected.

36. *The Supply of Machinery and Implements.*—In addition to the three oil-engine-driven cane-crushers on the Nira Canal, a similar machine has been installed by Mr. Schutt at Hadapsar at the expense of the co-operative society formed for the purpose with a capital of Rs. 3,650. The machine worked well and made a profit of Rs. 173 on its first-two month's working. The Mahád Rice-Hulling society has suffered by the establishment of a still better huller by a private firm in the same village. However it earned Rs. 1,578 by cleaning rice and seems to be paying its way. Credit societies have been widely used for the sale of iron ploughs, and other simple agricultural implements. The reserve funds of many societies have been invested, more extensively than is perhaps wise, in the purchase of ploughs for hiring out to members. I estimate that 200 or 300 have been bought by societies in this way. The reserve fund of societies is primarily intended for other objects, and this practice has therefore now been placed under certain restrictions and is forbidden among societies of which the reserve fund does not exceed Rs. 500. Good societies are being encouraged to open depôts for the sale on commission of agricultural implements deposited with them by the manufacturers, and it is hoped to extend this system next year.

E.—Non-agricultural Societies.

(1) Credit Societies.

37. These societies can be dealt with more conveniently according to their type than according to their geographical distribution. Though it involves some cross-division, the best classification seems to be into (a) People's Banks on the Schulze Delitzsch model lending to all classes or persons resident in a given town; (b) Communal societies, based on community of caste, religion or race, and with little restriction on the area of operations; (c) Employees' societies, confining their business to the employees of some Government office, firm or company; (d) Mill-hands or artisans' societies, working among the operatives of certain mills or among artisans engaged in the same occupation and resident in the same place.

38. *Peoples' Banks.*—The success of this type of society in many places has been remarkable. Throughout the Southern and Central Divisions there are practically no joint-stock banks at work, and it is by no means easy for artisans and middle-class people to secure loans when they require them on reasonable terms, or to find institutions in which they can deposit their savings with safety. The Peoples' Banks which have sprung up in answer to this demand are often disappointing on account of their commercial spirit and lack of unity. The Committee on co-operation, in dismissing them as "not really co-operative," observes "their value consists not so much in their services to co-operation as in the training ground they afford to their members for understanding ordinary joint-stock banking." This is, however, to ignore the explicit object of Schulze's original scheme; which was to help the middle classes economically only, and to leave other reforms to follow automatically. As they grow larger, it must be admitted that these banks are becoming an increasing source of uneasiness to the Registrar. The unwieldy body of members loses coherence as it abandons the principle of mutual acquaintance, and forfeits real control over the Managing Committee. A tendency to give excessive loans to single individuals, and to prefer real to personal security becomes apparent. Dividends are greedily sought as an object in themselves. Arrears and extensions mount up. The Committee, as the volume of business increases, relaxes its grip on the details of administration, and becomes less inclined to attend to the advice of the Registrar. These dangers are appearing here and there, and are mentioned because the collapse of one of these big urban banks would be a serious catastrophe to the whole movement. No such event is at present, however, on the horizon.

39. *Southern Division.*—The best of all the People's Banks is that at Gadag-Betigeri, managed by Mr. Bhavansa Kabade under the general guidance of Canon Rivington. Its capital has risen to Rs. 1,48,075, of which Rs. 80,888 have been derived from members. The Committee meets regularly and disposes of its business with admirable attention to detail. Recoveries are punctual. Next to it come the Hubli and Dhárwár Urban Societies. The former, on which Mr. K. R. Valvekar expends untold trouble with excellent results, has now a capital of Rs. 1,43,432 and a membership on 959. The latter owes its success to Mr. Ankalgi and a most pains-taking and business-like Board of Directors. Its membership is 896 and its capital Rs. 1,19,594. The Southern Marátha Society of Dhárwár is the biggest of its kind in the Southern Division and imposes a heavy burden of responsibility on its Directors. Its members number 1,520. Its working capital is Rs. 2,72,293, secured on a share capital of Rs. 97,682, and a reserve fund of Rs. 27,400. Among smaller societies the Gadag urban, the Kárwár urban with a capital of Rs. 26,586, excellently managed by Ráo Bahádur Yennemadi, the Kumta urban, Mr. Keshwain's Society at Sirsi which now commands a capital of Rs. 30,849, and the Gokak urban call for special commendation. The Belgaum Pioneer Co-operative Credit Society under Mr. Lokur has had an unfortunate year. Defalcations amounting to over Rs. 7,000 were brought to light at audit. Part of this amount has been recovered from the relations of the supposed defaulter, and a criminal complaint has been lodged against the man himself, who has absconded. The Bijápur urban society has plenty of scope for expansion but its arrears are serious and its Board nervous of undertaking further liabilities.

40. *Central and Northern Division.*—Throughout the Deccan the need of more banks is greatly felt and there is a marked tendency towards developing Peoples' Banks. Nearly all of them, however, suffer more or less from defaults and require a stricter control than the Committees usually exercise. The biggest of these banks is the Nagar Central Bank under Ráo Bahádur G. K. Chitale, the working capital of which amounts to Rs. 3,16,415, based on a share capital of Rs. 34,645 and a reserve fund of Rs. 13,108 only. The Bank has lent Rs. 41,096 to neighbouring rural societies and the remainder of its capital to individuals. The arrears due to it on March 31st amounted to Rs. 65,437 from individuals and Rs. 30,246 from co-operative societies. Suits have been filed under the arbitration rules for claims amounting to Rs. 34,840. In the two months after the close of the year large sums of overdue arrears have been wiped out owing to the energetic action of the Committee. The Cosmos society of Poona continues to prosper under Mr. K. H. Gokhale. Its capital has risen to Rs. 67,726. Among other societies deserving of individual mention are the Sholápur Táluka Co-operative

Credit Society under Ráo Sáheb Pitre, which is about to be converted into a genuine Central Bank, the Sholápur urban under Mr. Tikekar, which would improve if its area of operations were more restricted, the Pandharpur urban with a capital of Rs. 24,990 under Mr. V. S. Jog, the Dhulia Táluka Bank under Ráo Bahádur Bhangonkar with a capital of Rs. 27,042, the Násik City Godávári and the Ratnágiri urban. There is no doubt a feeling afloat in the Deccan that Peoples' Banks working under co-operative safeguards may succeed where *swadeshi* banks have failed; and care has to be taken to prevent these banks developing purely on the lines of small joint-stock banks.

41. *Employees and Government servants' societies.*—Among societies for whole-time servants of Government not confined to a single department, the best is the East Khándesh Government Society under Mr. L. K. Bhalerao with a capital of Rs. 48,471. In this type, however, there is no very close bond of union between members, and societies usually flourish better if they limit their membership to a single department. The No. 1 Military Accounts Society with a capital of Rs. 30,236, the Bombay Postal Co-operative Credit Society with Rs. 15,613, the Central Telegraph Co-operative Credit Society with Rs. 16,489, and the Municipal servants' societies at Poona and Dhulia are good examples of successful departmental societies. An interesting departure is the new District Police Co-operative Credit Society in the Ratnágiri district. Akin to these societies are those which restrict their membership to the employees of a single company or firm, and in the management of which the heads of the company take some personal part. Of these by far the most important is the G. I. P. Railway Employees' Co-operative Credit Society with a membership of 7,116 and a capital of Rs. 9,08,273, of which Rs. 2,90,814 are derived from share capital and Rs. 6,14,034 from deposits, and a similar society among the employees of the B. B. & C. I. Railway Company with a capital of Rs. 3,54,621. Both these admirably managed societies are thoroughly co-operative in their finance but in their administration are extremely centralised. Societies of this kind are proving themselves very useful to employees on modest salaries, and may be strongly recommended to the heads of firms who wish to foster *esprit de corps* among their staff and are willing to sacrifice some of their own time in the interest of their employees.

42. *Communal societies.*—Of communal societies the classic example in this Presidency is the excellent Shamrao Vithal Society for Sáraswat Bráhmíns which continues to surpass its own records. Its membership, including its seven branches, has risen from 1,003 to 1,084 and its capital from Rs. 2,48,872 to Rs. 2,73,880. The Gaud Sáraswats under Mr. Tendulkar have started a society in emulation but have a long way to go before they overtake their kinsmen. Of the same type are the very promising Bhávsar Kshatriya Co-operative Credit Society of Gadag, the Raddi Society of Dhárwár under Mr. Nalvadi with a capital of Rs. 21,734, the Kánara Kshatriyas, the Devrukh Bráhmíns, and the Námdev Society in which the Poona Shimpis are taking a keen interest. Of societies which take a common creed as their *nexus*, the best is the Hubli Christian with a capital of Rs. 12,011, while the Anand Roman Catholics, the Nagar Native Christians, and the Nagar Congregationalists deserve notice. Creed has however so far proved a weaker unifying force than caste and this type of society is no longer specially recommended.

43. *Mill-hands and Artisans' societies.*—These societies fall conveniently into three sub-divisions. The first consists of those organized and controlled by the mill-owners themselves for the benefit of their employees. The Gokak Mills Society, managed by Mr. Robinson and Ráo Saheb Shivmurtiswami, with a capital of Rs. 29,998 is perhaps the best example, but in the Hubli Mill and the Broach Industrial Mill fair societies are also at work. The second consists of societies independently formed for the benefit of mill-hands or artisans by some outside philanthropist. Government are acquainted with the promising and truly co-operative group of societies started by Mr. G. K. Devdhar, Mr. Amritlal Thakkar, Mr. Deole, and other members of the Servants of India Society in Bombay. With a few exceptions they are progressing most satisfactorily and are undoubtedly powerful agencies for the elevation of the lower classes. A typical society of this group has recently been described in detail in Appendix II of the Report of the Committee on co-operation. I will therefore only say here that the best

societies are models of how thrift, temperance and self-respect can be developed through the co-operative system inculcated by genuine enthusiasts. A similar group of small urban societies among artisans of a rather higher status has been started and to a large extent financed by Mr. H. V. Rajvadkar of Bombay. The Lad Vanjari Co-operative Credit Society with a capital of Rs. 6,244, and the Lower Colaba Co-operative Credit Society with Rs. 15,107 are among the best of this type and would well repay a visit, if any resident of Bombay wishes to study co-operation for himself. The third subdivision includes those societies formed among Municipal sweepers by the Chief Officer or some public-spirited member of the Council. The Thákorji Maháraj Society of Nadiád has been so successful in redeeming sweepers from debt and drawing a whole community together that the Kaira Municipality has started a society on similar lines. Ráo Bahádúr Chitale's Society at Nagar, Mr. Chirmule's Sáfaí Kháta Society at Sátára, and Ráo Sáheb Pandit's Society for Chámbhárs at Sirsi are other examples of what may be achieved by practical philanthropists. Men of the lowest caste are capable of developing a high standard of honesty and a real sense of self-respect, whenever a man of higher class exerts himself personally to help them and to encourage them.

(2) *Non-credit.*

44. *Stores.*—There are no less than 12 co-operative stores in the Presidency. That started by the East Khándesh Government servants as a branch of their credit business is perhaps the best of all, but promising ventures have been organized at Kankávli and Pirávádi in the Ratnágiri district and in one or two places in Gujarát. The stores at Málvan Dándi have been mismanaged and are now the subject of a special enquiry. The Vastra Bhándar shop at Poona with a capital of Rs. 10,611 has retailed all sorts of drapery in a businesslike way, but has lately been seriously hampered by dissensions on the Committee. It is much more difficult to manage and to audit stores societies than ordinary credit societies, and unless members can be induced to indent in advance for the articles which they need, and a manager can be found with practical experience of business, they are constantly in danger of working at a loss.

45. *Weavers' Societies.*—Last year Government expressed the opinion that progress in co-operation among hand-loom weavers had been disappointingly slow. The distress produced by the war, already making itself felt last year and intensified during the current year, was probably the main cause of this set-back. The prices of yarn and even more of dyes have continued to rise, while there has been no corresponding appreciation in the selling price of cloth owing to the fact that the mills had large accumulated stocks of pre-war cloth to dispose of. As these stocks become exhausted, the situation will probably improve, but at present the margin between the cost of manufacture and the selling price is barely enough to keep the weavers and their families alive. Many instances have come to my notice in which the weavers are abandoning their handicraft and taking to manual labour. The two societies working under the supervision of the Honourable Mr. Garud at Dhulia have, thanks to his influence, been helped by gifts of Rs. 1,500 each from the Imperial Relief Fund; and the difficulties of the remainder, particularly with regard to the purchase of dyes, have been brought to the notice of Government in the hope that it may be possible to give them some grant-in-aid. The Honourable Mr. Purshotamdas Thakordas has recently placed a loan of Rs. 5,000 at low interest at the disposal of the Registrar for the support of weavers' societies.

46. In spite of these adverse conditions progress has been better than might be expected. There are now 31 societies in existence with a total working capital of Rs. 1,23,931. All of these do credit business, advancing loans for the purchase of yarn, etc., and recovering the loan from the sale-price of the cloth. Twelve have gone a step further and established stores for retailing yarn bought from Bombay or some local mill. Two or three try also to sell the woven articles; but this business is better done by the weavers themselves. The appointment of Mr. Basvanappa as Weaving Inspector has resulted in considerable improvement in societies in the Southern Division, and those at Dhárwár (Rs. 13,845) under Mr. Herlekar, Hubli (Rs. 7,461), Ránibennur (Rs. 11,384) under Mr. Yadgiri, Bail-Hongal (Rs. 6,436), Kankávli (Rs. 10,618) Agadi, and Khárepátan all

deserve commendation. The societies in the Central and Northern Divisions have been placed in the special charge of an expert Weaving Assistant and contain some very fair societies, of which the following may be singled out for mention:— Páthardi (Rs. 5,596) under Mr. Borde and Mr. Chawak, Valukhed, Sholápur (Rs. 6,623) under Ráo Sáheb Pitre and Mr. Appansaheb, and Bhingár (Rs. 8,088). The Sangamner society has been mismanaged, but Mr. Parasrami is making a great effort to set it on a sound footing again.

47. *Weaving Demonstrations.*—Efforts have been continued throughout the year to introduce and popularize fly-shuttle pit-looms and Sholápur dobbies. No help has been received from the Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute, which continues to draw a grant of Rs. 2,000 a year under Government Resolution No. 4087 of December 15th, 1911, Financial Department. The series of experiments which it undertook to inaugurate in respect of warping and sizing are still without overt result. Demonstrations of improved looms were held at Sangola and Bársi in the Sholápur district; Nalátwad, Talikot and Muddebihál in the Bijápur district; Khárepátan and Kankávli in the Ratnágiri district; Bágewádi and Kittur in the Belgaum district, and Arlikatti in the Dhárwár district under Mr. S. V. Wagh, and at Faizpur, Anand, Abhrama and Broach in the East Khándesh, Kaira, Surat and Broach districts respectively under Mr. G. N. Desai. In many centres progress was handicapped by the fact that the fly-shuttle loom recommended by Mr. Pomfret was capable of working with one shuttle only, while the local pattern of cloth required two. Towards the end of the year an improved fly-shuttle loom capable of working with two shuttles was exhibited at Mysore. A sample was bought by Mr. Wagh, and similar slays are being made for Rs. 10 each at Dhárwár and will shortly be demonstrated throughout the Southern Division. Concrete results have on the whole been scanty, but in the hard times that weavers have recently encountered, they have had no money to invest in experimental ventures. As far as is known, 129 looms were sold as the immediate results of the demonstrations held; but the example of weavers who adopt these looms has of course a continuing effect.

48. *Weaving Schools.*—The schools are intended to consolidate and extend the ground gained by demonstrations in the most promising centres. They number seven and are established at Málegaon (2), Dhulia, Sangamner, Dhárwár, Hubli and Ránibennur (transferred towards the close of the year to Bágewádi). Thirteen masters and assistant masters are employed under the general control of Mr. S. V. Telang, who continues to discharge his duties with great ability. The standard of teaching is being gradually raised and includes training in twill, towel, and sheet weaves as well as bordered *dhotis* and cotton and silk *sáris*. Warping and beaming machines were demonstrated at Ránibennur and Málegaon, and in all the schools English reeds and healds were brought into use. Prizes of Rs. 2 are offered every month for the most regular attendance and the best work, and boys also receive the whole net profit on any cloth woven by them. Since they do not work as hard at school as they would at home under their parents' eye, complaints are often received that the parents lose something by sending the children to these schools. That boys should suffer a temporary loss to secure an ultimate profit seems to me an inevitable feature in every sort of school-training. The following table gives the main details about each school:—

Name of School.	Average attendance.	Number of working days.	Quantity of yarn woven.	Total net profits paid as wages to boys.	Remarks.
		Days.	Lbs.	Rs.	
Dhulia	9	202	1,414	399	Plague from January onwards.
Málegaon (2)	15	173	2,089	603	
Dhárwár	7	199	216	111	School closed since January
Sangamner	8	202	698	132	
Hubli	7	202	263	141	
Ráneennur	5	141	112	22	

After the close of the year it was decided to transfer the very successful school at Málegaon, of which Mr. Vithankar is head master, to Bhiwandi on the ground that it has taught the former centre all that it has to teach. Over 800 fly-shuttle looms have been introduced; and English healds and iron dobbies are now familiar to the people, who in future can train their own children in the use of them. The schools at Dhulia and Sangamner are also working satisfactorily.

IV.—RESERVE FUND.

49. A separate report has been submitted to Government dealing with the whole question of the use of the Reserve Fund and the provision of Fluid Resource in light of the recommendations of the Committee on Co-operation. Pending orders on this subject no restriction has been placed on the use of the reserve, which in primary societies is treated as part of the working capital. A circular has however been issued forbidding ordinary credit societies to purchase ploughs and other implements for hiring out to their members from their reserve fund, until it amounts to Rs. 500, and then only with the Registrar's sanction. This was necessary in order to prevent societies under the advice of some enthusiastic agricultural expert locking up all their reserve, which was created to improve their credit and to serve to some extent as a liquid resource, in unrealizable and depreciating property.

V.—RESOURCES.

50. The following table exhibits in a condensed form an analysis of the sources from which each class of societies derives its funds :—

Type of society.	Total working capital.	Percentage of total working capital derived from						Total.
		Share capital.	Members' deposits.	Non-members' deposits.	Loans from other societies and Banks.	Government.	Reserve fund.	
	Rs.							
Central Banks ...	21,70,567	27.15	4.72	56.82	10.27	.02	1.02	100
Agricultural ...	39,76,542	0.73	22.31	15.42	49.95	4.19	7.40	100
Non-agricultural ...	35,32,898	28.4	34.24	30.03	2.36	.94	4.03	100

VI.—DISPUTES AND LITIGATION.

51. Several cases have come to notice where factions and civil disputes have been settled out of Court by societies; but a certain amount of litigation against defaulters is of course inevitable. The arbitration procedure which is becoming almost too popular, has been working quite satisfactorily, but in so far as we have to depend on the Civil Courts to give effect to the awards of arbitrators, execution is both troublesome and tardy. In liquidation the same difficulties and delays are experienced in securing the execution of the liquidator's orders through the Courts and some cases have been pending on hand for several years. Four test cases have been filed by members of the Hadapsar Society for a statement of their accounts under sections 15-D and 16 of the Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Act, and a separate report will be submitted to Government on the working of those sections when the decrees are finally obtained. A criminal complaint of misappropriation lodged against the members of the Managing Committee of the Begampur Weavers' Society (Sholapur) ended in the conviction of 4 of the offenders and their imprisonment for terms varying from 6 months to 2 years. A criminal case was also instituted against the Chairman of the Belgaum Weavers' Society, who was sentenced to 6 months' imprisonment. Cases of forgery and misappropriation are pending in connection with the Belgaum Pioneer, the Palachar, the Poglu, the Daregaon, and the Chichondi Societies.

VII.—AUDIT AND SUPERVISION.

52. Though the process of audit may seem to outsiders a matter of dull and mechanical routine, it is beyond question by far the most important and beneficial of the functions of this Department. It is the Annual Government Audit that enables the Registrar to keep a close check on the working of every individual society, and the public to invest money in societies in the confidence that mismanagement cannot be long continued without being brought to light. Every registered society was audited during the year or immediately after its close except in the North Central and South Central Divisions. Owing chiefly to the slackness of the auditors in those divisions many societies are still unaudited. Suitable notice has been taken of this negligence and the work is now being brought up to date. Towards the end of the year the form of audit memo has been revised and tabular statements have been included, as recommended by the Committee on Co-operation, from which the Annual Returns of those societies, which fail to submit them punctually, can be written up. The Registrar issues separate orders to societies concerned on every audit memo which discloses serious mismanagement, but his examination of the memos is not at present sufficiently minute nor the action taken always genuinely effective. This is one of the chief points in which improvement may be looked for when a full-time Assistant Registrar is appointed. Supervision is a function entrusted to Honorary Organisers and the Special Mámldárs and soon to be devolved on Unions. No special remarks are necessary.

VIII.—ACTS, RULES AND BY-LAWS.

53. All the rules issued from time to time under scattered notifications have been collected and re-arranged, and many additions proposed. The revised set of Rules is now under the consideration of Government. Leaflets have been issued dealing with Arbitration, the Supply of Forms, Cattle Breeding, Housing, and the Organisation of rural credit societies. Numerous other leaflets are under preparation. Miscellaneous leaflets in Vernacular prepared by Mr. G. J. Padhye and the staff of the Bombay Co-operative Library, and Maráthi speeches by Mr. G. K. Devdhar and Mr. R. M. Sane have been printed and widely circulated.

IX.—MISCELLANEOUS.

54. *Conferences.*—A Departmental Conference, attended by all the Honorary and Official staff of the Department and by the Directors of the leading Central Banks, was held at Poona on March 16th, under the presidency of the Director of Agriculture. The proceedings were of a special character and are being reported to Government separately. The object of the Conference was to elicit the opinions of leading co-operative workers on the suggestions put forward by the Department for developing the existing system in order to bring it more into line with the proposals of the Committee on Co-operation, and to settle on a definite policy. A successful district conference was organised by Ráo Sáheb R. G. Naik at Belgaum, and Táluka Conferences were arranged at Agadi by the Bahádur Desai, at Islámpur by Mr. R. N. Rajadnya, and at Annigeri by Ráo Sáheb Inamati, all of which were attended by the Registrar and several members of his staff. Mr. R. M. Sane visited the Islámpur Conference as the speaker of the day, and delivered an admirable address, which is being printed and distributed by the Department. A useful conference of the members of weavers' societies was held by Mr. Haigh at Dhárwár in April.

55. *Co-operative Housing.*—The Bombay Co-operative Housing Association under the presidency of Sir Prabhashankar Pattani, K.C.I.E., has gallantly continued its efforts to wake up the Bombay public to an interest in housing. The Committee under the chairmanship of the Honourable Mr. J. P. Orr, C.S.I., I. C. S., besides issuing a number of leaflets on Town-Planning, on Housing for Hindus, own objects and work, has got together an excellent library of books about housing, and arranged for several most interesting public lectures by Mr. Watson, the Trust Engineer, Mr. F. G. B. Hawkins, A.R.I.B.A., the Honourable Mr. Orr and others. The Association has been instrumental in creating and helping to success the Saraswat Co-operative Housing Society,

Limited. This society has raised a capital of Rs. 72,000 and with it has erected three buildings on an Improvement Trust Estate at Gamdevi with sufficient accommodation for 18 families in separate flats. It has been formed on the co-partnership tenant system and all the members own the houses jointly. The experience gained has shown that in future if the buildings are to be solid and sanitary, and the rents within the means of members, some form of Government subsidy is indispensable. Ráo Bahádur S. S. Talmaki who has been the moving spirit in this enterprize, could never have carried it to success, had it not been for the generosity of Sir P. D. Pattani who advanced the society a loan of Rs. 24,000 at 4 per cent. Similar schemes have been mooted for other communities, but the financial difficulty makes it unlikely that they will take concrete shape in the near future.

56. *Education in Co-operation.*—The function of inculcating the true principles of co-operation is one of the main duties of the Registrar's staff, the Honorary Organisers, the Unions and the Directors of Central Banks. But besides these there are one or two special agencies at work which deserve notice. About three years ago I reported that a school-boys' co-operative society had been started in Belgaum district and that with the help of Mr. A. I. Attar, the Deputy Educational Inspector, similar societies were spreading over the whole

District.	Number of societies in	
	Primary Schools.	Secondary Schools.
Ahmedabad	6	...
Kaira	13	...
Broach	10	...
Surat	3	...
Panch Maháls	2	...
Poona	...	1
Sátára	4	1
Sholápur	1	...
Ahmednagar	40	...
Násik	14	...
East Khándesh	12	...
West Khándesh	...	2
Dhárwár	18	...
Belgaum	73	2
Bijápur	3	...
Ratnágiri	60	...
Kolába	11	...
Kánara	...	...
	270	6

district. A set of simple by-laws has been drafted by this Department. The idea has been taken up by the Director of Public Instruction, and has caught on in most districts of the Presidency, as the figures in the margin will indicate. The object of these societies, which are of course un-registered, is to enable school-boys by clubbing together to buy stationery, slates, etc., at wholesale prices and to retail them more cheaply than the village shop-keeper. Though most of the societies have been recently formed it is reported that they are successful in teaching village boys the elements of co-operation, in giving them practical experience of running a small business and keeping accounts, and in cheapening their stationery. As might be expected, their success depends largely on the interest taken in them by head masters;

but where they are well-managed; they no doubt form excellent training grounds for future managers of village credit societies.

57. The main purpose of the Co-operative Department is however not to educate school-boys but the general public to a fuller understanding of its objects and methods. Apart from conferences, lectures and propagandist leaflets, the agencies that are being employed are periodical journals and a Central Library. The Bombay Co-operative Library started under the chairmanship of the Honourable Mr. Lalubháí Samaldas, C.I.E., in 1915, includes now 170 books on co-operation, 105 official publications and 198 pamphlets, of which 30 were presented by Mr. H. F. Dastur. It has an excellent catalogue and subscribes to all the leading co-operative periodicals. It is hoped that the number of members which is at present only 63 will soon increase. The subscription is Rs. 3, and the Secretary is Mr. N. M. Joshi, Servants of India Home, Sandhurst Road, Girgaum, Bombay. This library in time may be expected to serve the same purpose in this Presidency as the great library at Plunkett House does in Ireland. The English co-operative journal, Commerce and Co-operation, which for the last two years has been receiving help from Government, grew feebler and more uninteresting throughout the year until it ceased publication in February. The Editor has obtained an appointment in a Native State. It appears that there is no demand for a weekly journal in English; but steps are being taken to start a Co-operative Quarterly for this presidency before long. The Shetki and Shetkari Magazine has continued to devote a separate section to co-operation and throughout the year the Maráthi section edited by Mr. K. S. Gore and the Kánarese section

edited by Mr. C. B. Hooli have contained much useful matter and have undoubtedly been widely read by agriculturists. It has been arranged that the co-operative sections in both vernaculars shall be increased to 8 pages next year, and that the editorship shall be taken over by the Assistant Registrar. It is very necessary to the vitality and progress of the movement that it should advertise itself and keep as much as possible in the public eye. The *Times of India*, the *Jagad Vritta*, the *Dnyan Prakāsh*, and many other papers have consistently found space for reports on co-operative activity and have given the movement much valuable support with the public.

58. *Training of Secretaries.*—In nearly all districts the lack of competent men to act as Secretaries of societies is one of the greatest barriers to progress. Account forms and the Annual Returns have been made as simple as possible but they are beyond the capacity of any one who has not gone at least as far as the fifth standard at school. Group Secretaries are being tried in parts of Gujarāt and the Deccan, but they are not proving very successful. There seems no alternative to opening classes for the direct training of secretaries, or perhaps in the future of Union supervisors who will in their turn pass on their knowledge to the local secretaries in their area. Last rains small classes were opened through the kindness of Mr. Devdhar at the Servants of India Home for training the secretaries of the Mill-hands societies in Bombay. The Gujarāti class, conducted by Mr. K. D. Sethna, Auditor, was attended by 11 secretaries, of whom 4 got more than 50 per cent. marks at the final examination. The Marāthi class, conducted by Mr. K. S. Gore, Auditor, was attended by 12 secretaries, of whom 5 got more than 50 per cent. marks. Certificates were given to the candidates who proved successful. Next year with the co-operation of the Servants of India it is proposed considerably to enlarge these classes and to bring down a number of secretaries from the mofussil for a week's training in Bombay.

X.—ATTITUDE OF THE PUBLIC.

59. There is little to be said under this heading. Public interest in co-operation was naturally eclipsed by the war. Wherever occasion arose for public men or newspapers to refer to the movement, they have generally done so in favourable terms. A hostile article by the Honourable Mr. Wacha, though it did not arouse much attention, being published in a journal which is almost unknown to this Presidency, had nevertheless a healthy effect. "*Plura saepe peccantur cum demeremur quam cum offendimus.*" The Department has on the whole every reason to congratulate itself on its immunity from serious criticism and the sympathy with which its efforts have been received by the public.

60. *Conclusion.*—I have not had an opportunity in the course of the report of acknowledging the great help received from many district officers who have shown an interest in the movement. I beg permission here to report my indebtedness to Mr. Rothfeld, Mr. Sale, Mr. Bhārucha, Mr. Sanders, Mr. Hiremath, Rāo Bahādūr Balekundri and the Honourable Mr. Orr for their active support of co-operative work. Most of the Auditors have done very well, particularly in the trying task of collecting the Annual Returns. My own office staff headed by Mr. R. M. Jedhe have worked hard and well in dealing with the ever-growing volume of office work. The Assistant Registrar, Mr. Gonehalli, has been of great service in connection with the special problems of agricultural organisation.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

R. B. EW BANK,

Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Bombay.

STATEMENT A.

Operations of Central Banks.

Classification.	Number of Members.		Number of affiliated Societies holding shares in Central Banks.				Loans made during the year to		Receipts from Loans and Deposits repaid during the year by		Loans due by		Loans and deposits received during the year from		
	Individuals.	Societies.	Central Credit.	Agricultural Credit.	Non-Agricultural Credit.	Others.	Individuals.	Banks and Societies.	Individuals.	Banks and Societies.	Individuals.	Banks and Societies.	Individuals.	Central Banks.	Primary Societies.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1. The Bombay Central Co-operative Bank, Limited.	814	16	...	...	...	...	Rs. ...	Rs. 8,08,418	Rs. ...	Rs. 8,10,685	Rs. ...	Rs. 17,42,418	Rs. 16,15,418	Rs. 3,43,000	Rs. 7,30,204
2. The Broach Co-operative Bank, Limited.	136	54	...	96	3	...	10,250	51,375	12,239	54,620	24,465	51,223	1,50,273	...	...
3. The Surat District Co-operative Union, Limited.	208	55	...	53	...	2	7,362	57,293	8,424	64,774	26,318	88,374	65,002	...	1,021
4. The Barsi Co-operative Union, Limited.	437	8	...	8	...	...	39,855	15,100	40,956	7,937	40,042	17,013	31,050	...	200
5. The Dhárwar District Co-operative Union, Limited.	1	43	...	37	3	3	...	6,000	...	6,443	...	21,750	174	...	...
Total, Central Bank ...	1,645	176	...	194	6	5	57,457	9,93,183	70,059	9,44,505	91,725	19,20,777	18,05,801	3,43,000	7,37,609

Classifications.	Sales of goods to members.	Purchase of Members' produce.	Cost of Management.	Share Capital paid up.	Loans and Deposits held at the end of the year from				Reserve Fund.	Working Capital.*	Profit and Loss of the year.	Unreal dividend paid on shares.	Most usual rate of Interest.		Unreal and subscribed Share Capital.
					Individual.	Societies.	Provincial or Central Banks.	Government.					On borrowings.	On lendings.	
1	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
1. The Bombay Central Co-operative Bank, Limited.	19,740	4,59,840	Rs. 10,16,279	1,01,350	2,23,000	...	Rs. 16,407	Rs. 18,46,736	Rs. 42,178	Rs. 0	Rs. 4 to 5	Rs. 7 to 7½	Rs. 2,21,000
2. The Broach Co-operative Bank, Limited.	833	38,900	48,103	...	...	...	2,809	90,812	4,067	6	4½ to 6	6½ to 9½	Nil.
3. The Surat District Co-operative Union, Limited.	882	39,060	90,687	1,020	...	...	2,407	1,33,154	4,445	7½	5	7 & 7½	Nil.
4. The Barsi Co-operative Union, Limited.	1,305	16,210	59,735	80	...	587	439	77,061	5,025	7½ & 9½	3 & 5	7½ & 9½	Nil.
5. The Dhárwar District Co-operative Union, Limited.	260	5,400	17,414	...	...	...	...	22,814	70	...	6	7	Nil.
Total, Central Bank	23,010	8,60,310	13,33,168	1,02,450	2,23,000	587	22,123	21,70,607	56,414	...	...	...	...

* For the purposes of this statement the working capital is taken to be the total of columns 20 to 25.

STATEMENT
Operations of A...

Classification.	Number of Societies.	Number of members.	Loans made during the year to		Receipts from Loans and Deposits repaid during the year by		Loans due by			Loans and Deposits received during the year from		
			Individuals.	Banks and Societies.	Individuals.	Banks and Societies.	Individuals.	Of which overdue.*	Banks and Societies.	Individuals.	Central Banks.	Provisionary Societies.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Class I—Credit—Unlimited.</i>												
Ahmedabad	37	3,489	71,595	...	41,611	83	79,357	2,409	107	9,790	11,400	...
Broach	64	4,532	1,29,181	5,712	1,22,490	6,945	1,19,198	20,866	433	41,698	55,039	...
Kaira	40	4,432	87,462	2,774	71,317	507	1,17,364	20,739	3,167	21,647	24,405	...
Panch Mahale	12	1,339	18,641	...	19,870	...	15,211	79	.....	933	.....	...
Surat	67	4,011	2,13,817	5,950	2,53,465	11,150	3,08,929	68,332	14,580	52,919	87,205	...
Thána	12	1,054	54,813	...	48,909	600	49,930	720	.....	16,375	500	...
Ahmednagar	31	3,041	93,882	...	63,645	751	1,65,340	2,829	190	12,277	23,449	...
East Khándesh	31	1,985	90,460	...	74,746	...	67,540	662	.....	13,935	18,315	...
West Khándesh	12	663	15,817	...	12,865	...	20,227	.....	.....	2,621	.....	...
Násik	20	1,395	82,191	2,640	79,914	...	98,828	559	2,640	16,355	11,611	...
Poona	51	4,449	6,55,916	3,500	6,48,255	...	9,31,600	1,16,790	8,500	1,00,914	4,89,202	...
Sátára	64	3,040	1,29,811	...	1,00,902	...	1,99,388	1,048	2,486	31,928	49,014	...
Sholápur	45	3,192	1,80,110	...	1,01,866	...	2,73,237	2,575	.....	45,334	69,800	...
Be'gaum	49	4,657	1,77,814	...	1,15,289	...	1,93,793	6,634	.....	48,264	27,500	...
Bijápur	41	4,512	1,15,277	...	87,885	...	1,93,391	19,439	.....	14,297	24,700	...
Dhárwár	116	12,459	5,83,721	828	3,96,826	379	8,04,697	11,934	8,948	1,10,718	1,12,500	...
Kánara	17	1,469	48,171	...	28,868	90	50,944	987	115	24,593	.....	...
Kolába	17	910	10,206	...	11,849	...	13,033	.....	.....	5,799	3,000	...
Ratnágiri	19	834	22,836	20	16,811	62	27,295	.....	38	5,793	1,875	...
Total, Unlimited ...	769	62,403	27,87,741	21,424	23,00,857	21,367	37,29,300	2,76,612	31,218	5,76,285	9,89,514	98,167
<i>Class I—Credit—Limited.</i>												
Thána	2	83	27,040	...	12,403	...	20,276	.....	.....	23,293	.....	...
Sátára	1	...	...	...	Not working.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sholápur	5	288	21,711	5,500	11,226	1,265	23,229	8,401	1,440	18,412	1,000	...
Bijápur	1	...	...	...	Engaged in collecting capital.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total, Limited ...	9	371	43,751	5,500	23,629	1,265	43,505	8,401	1,440	41,705	1,000	...
Total, Class I ...	778	62,774	28,36,492	26,924	23,24,486	22,632	37,72,805	2,82,383	32,618	6,18,090	9,90,514	98,167
<i>Class II—Purchase and Purchase and Sale—Unlimited</i>												
Sátára	1	45	65	...	.....	...	65	.....	.....	62	.....	...
Total, Unlimited ..	1	45	65	...	.....	...	65	.....	.....	62	.....	...
<i>Class II—Limited.</i>												
Ahmedabad	1	40	.....	...	8	...	.....	.....	.....	1,675	.....	...
Broach	1	...	...	...	Engaged in collecting capital	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Surat	3	205	.....	109	4	408	17	.....	230	.....	1,000	...
Thána	10	407	21,059	393	14,144	393	8,263	45	.....	15,603	1,200	...
Poona	2	65	434	...	572	...	434	434	.....	.....	.....	...
Dhárwár	2	107	2,070	...	.....	...	2,070	.....	.....	.....	.....	...
Kánara	1	102	3,060	...	2,180	...	3,555	100	.....	1,659	.....	...
Total, Limited ...	20	916	26,223	502	19,908	801	14,329	679*	230	19,131	2,200	6,51
Total, Class II ...	21	961	26,288	502	19,908	801	14,394	679	230	19,198	2,200	6,51

B.
Rural Societies.

14	15	16	17	Loans and Deposits held at the end of the year from					23	24	25	26	Most usual rate of Interest	
				18	19	20	21	22					27	28
Sales of goods to members.	Purchase of members' products.	Cost of Management.	Share Capital paid up.	Members.	Non-members.	Societies.	Provincial or Central Banks.	Government.	Reserve Fund.	Working Capital.	Profit and loss for the year.	Usual dividend paid on shares.	On borrowings.	On lending.
...	...	544	.....	26,999	17,673	1	15,104	19,513	21,211	1,00,561	8,853	...	4 1/2	6 1/2
...	...	1,966	.....	42,732	15,207	263	61,037	9,753	14,975	1,43,967	5,136	...	6 1/2	6 1/2
...	...	1,337	280	27,530	23,600	3,977	55,799	6,316	11,206	1,27,809	4,117	...	6 1/2	6 1/2
...	...	163	.....	18,180	823	.....	1,500	4,259	3,000	27,839	1,209	...	6 1/2	6 1/2
...	...	1,702	.....	55,136	64,853	11,924	1,52,099	34,817	38,308	3,57,534	10,802	...	6 1/2	6 1/2
...	...	223	.....	11,946	12,399	7,403	16,301	404	1,725	60,178	1,410	...	6 1/2	6 1/2
...	...	1,260	.....	35,862	10,640	.....	90,308	18,352	20,006	1,75,108	6,573	...	6 1/2	6 1/2
10	...	613	.....	30,795	17,950	50	9,667	2,272	6,091	72,825	2,903	...	6 1/2	6 1/2
...	...	306	.....	9,880	549	150	4,337	5,103	3,434	23,452	1,127	...	6 1/2	6 1/2
309	...	1,000	.....	43,091	3,322	175	46,021	5,753	4,223	1,02,590	3,025	...	6 1/2	6 1/2
3	...	4,203	.....	91,426	1,85,773	2,800	6,60,807	2,997	48,958	9,92,581	19,748	...	7 1/2	6 1/2
...	...	1,950	.....	34,551	25,068	1,700	1,19,725	15,057	16,751	2,12,550	5,423	...	6 1/2	6 1/2
...	...	1,094	.....	38,211	23,902	8,533	93,373	1,409	6,136	1,73,059	7,168	...	6 1/2	6 1/2
...	...	1,121	.....	80,253	37,464	.....	66,012	4,102	9,272	1,97,103	5,285	...	6 1/2	6 1/2
...	...	1,381	.....	74,894	8,501	.....	77,719	13,975	24,351	1,99,410	8,698	...	6 1/2	6 1/2
1,602	1,308	6,434	894	205,685	64,595	78,888	3,77,039	18,979	56,692	8,22,502	23,317	...	6 1/2	6 1/2
16	...	677	.....	17,806	26,364	5,519	1,150	.....	1,963	51,332	2,050	...	6 1/2	6 1/2
...	...	229	.....	7,924	2,977	.....	3,024	.....	402	14,327	304	...	7	6 1/2
...	...	272	.....	17,261	1,815	41	3,444	3,270	1,760	27,501	717	...	7	6 1/2
1,939	1,308	26,681	674	5,76,402	5,63,470	115,359	18,60,426	1,06,450	2,92,538	88,75,379	1,13,004	...	...	...
3	...	61	3,384	2,570	14,752	.....	.....	.....	122	20,828	671	...	6 1/2	6 1/2
47	51	195	5,092	30,72	31,541	.....	700	.....	225	40,630	1,064	...	6 1/2	6 1/2
50	51	196	8,476	5,642	4,293	.....	700	.....	317	61,458	1,755	...	...	...
1,939	1,351	26,830	9,150	8,82,104	609,763	1,15,359	18,61,126	1,06,450	2,92,896	89,36,637	1,14,759	...	...	...
...	39	1	.....	62	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	62	51	...	10%	25%
...	38	1	.....	62	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	62	51	...	10%	25%
1,734	1,403	13	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	197	...	6 1/2	6 1/2
1,001	3,093	91	2,110	.....	.....	.....	1,009	.....	143	3,253	104	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
21,819	20,102	274	7,245	65	910	.....	720	.....	672	9,512	1,697	9 1/2	7	6 1/2
5,046	...	400	3,518	1,365	.....	1,000	.....	.....	.....	5,903	9	...	7	7 1/2
...	...	74	1,607	.....	.....	7,000	.....	.....	.....	8,697	1	...	6 1/2	6 1/2
...	...	69	865	2,126	637	.....	.....	.....	144	3,772	135	...	...	...
20,430	21,775	921	15,435	3,576	1,547	8,000	1,720	.....	659	81,157	2,953	...	...	...
23,430	21,818	922	15,435	3,038	1,547	8,000	1,720	.....	659	81,109	2,104	...	...	...

† For the purpose of this statement the working capital is taken to be the total of columns 17 to 23.

Classification.	Number of Societies.	Number of members.	Loans made during the year to		Receipts from Loans and Deposits repaid during the year by		Loans due by			Loans and Deposits received during the year from		
			Individuals.	Banks and Societies.	Individuals.	Banks and Societies.	Individuals.	Of which overdue.*	Banks and Societies.	Individuals.	Central Banks.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
<i>Class III—Production—Limited.</i>												
Thána	1	35	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Satara	1				Engaged in collecting capital.							
Total, Limited	2	35	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total, Class III	2	35	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
<i>Class IV—Production and Sales—Unlimited.</i>												
Ahmedabad	1	19	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	105	.....
Total, Unlimited	1	19	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	105	.....
<i>Class IV—Limited.</i>												
Ahmedabad	1	35	204	...	159	...	44	.....	...	90	.....
Thána	2	110	6,081	...	4,798	...	4,084	.....	.....	1,047	.....
East Khindesh	1	12	220	...	.....	...	220	.....	.....	108	.....
Belgaum	1	24	1,140	...	830	...	874	.....	.....	375	.....
Kolaba	1	46	2,737	...	2,020	...	716	.....	.....	2,659	.....
Total, Limited	6	227	10,382	...	7,807	...	5,938	.....	.....	4,339	.....
Total, Class IV	7	246	10,382	...	7,807	...	5,938	.....	.....	4,414	.....
Agricultural Societies, Total Presidency	808	64,046	28,73,162	27,426	23,49,301	23,433	37,93,137	2,82,961	32,873	6,41,727	9,92,714	

* The term "loans overdue" means loans due for payment which have not been paid and for which extension has not been granted by competent authority.

3—continued.

14	15	16	17	Loans and Deposits held at the end of the year from					23	24	25	26	Most usual rate of Interest.	
				18	19	20	21	22					27	28
Sales of goods to members.	Purchases of members' products.	Cost of Management.	Share Capital paid up.	Members.	Non-members.	Societies.	Provincial or Central Banks.	Government.	Reserve Fund.	Working Capital †	Profit and loss for the year.	Usual dividend paid on shares.	On borrowings.	On lendings.
...	...	115	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	111	111	48	...	6½	...
...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	Engaged	In collecting capital.	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...
...	...	115	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	111	111	48	...	6½	...
...	...	115	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	111	111	48	...	6½	...
315	332	55	.....	.....	100	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	31	...	6½	9½
315	332	55	.....	.....	100	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	31	...	6½	9½
218	267	60	289	.....	.....	107	.....	.....	.....	308	-51	...	7	9½
14,838	11,066	3,294	3,605	739	1,000	.....	.....	.....	200	5,514	324	...	6½	9½
...	760	28	37	168	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	205	108	...	6½	12½
...	2,022	396	280	.....	825	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,035	212	...	6½	9½
4,301	8,750	546	390	875	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,065	51	...	6½	9½
19,987	18,474	3,323	4,581	1,582	1,925	107	.....	.....	200	8,295	612	...	6½	9½
10,672	18,806	3,378	4,581	1,582	1,925	107	.....	.....	200	8,395	613	...	6½	9½
61,992	44,970	31,295	29,166	8,87,324	6,13,235	1,23,466	14,62,846	1,68,450	2,94,055	89,76,512	1,17,554	...	...	...

Classification.	Number of Societies.	Number of members.	Loans made during the year to		Receipts from Loans and Deposits repaid during the year by		Loans due by			Loans and Deposits received during the year from		
			Individuals.	Banks and Societies.	Individuals.	Banks and Societies.	Individuals.	Of which overdue.	Banks and Societies.	Individuals.	Central Banks.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
<i>Class I.—Credit Unlimited.</i>												
1. Bombay	10	323	43,638	4,040	24,766	4,240	47,437	3,238	4,150	20,707	...	
2. Ahmedabad	1	32	607	...	603	...	782	.....	.....	149	200
3. Broach	1	385	6,949	...	7,455	2,000	79	.....	.....	1,330	.....
4. Kaira	1	160	5,954	...	4,051	...	5,469	...	.....	234	1,500
5. Ahmednagar	8	360	11,369	...	11,832	1	9,379	42	.....	453	1,200
6. West Khândesh	1	19	1,150	...	919	...	211	241	.....	2,372	.....
7. Poona	2	123	3,446	...	2,920	...	4,316	3,070	.....	1,199	.....
8. Sâtâra	6	115	6,517	...	5,924	...	23,402	2,782	.....	3,240	.....
9. Sholâpur	1	28	515	...	41	...	1,016	.....	.....	.....	501
10. Belgaum	1	17	450	...	.....	...	450	.....	.....	515	.....
11. Kânara	2	91	1,071	...	634	...	868	40	.....	365	.....
12. Kolâba	1	36	1,188	...	1,000	...	1,188	.....	.....	.....	.....
13. Ratnâgiri	8	477	51,146	4,690	48,228	3,710	37,636	.....	1,170	6,708	2,000
Total Unlimited	28	2,165	134,119	8,730	108,357	9,951	132,514	6,413	5,320	39,201	5,400	
<i>Class I.—Credit Limited.</i>												
1. Bombay	22	15,591	18,46,597	50,470	11,40,901	40,273	15,67,211	13,021	24,381	812,891	.....
2. Ahmedabad	1	...	...	...	...	Engaged in	collected in	capital.	.....	.....	.....
3. Broach	1	12	1,655	...	1,331	...	1,651	.....	.....	500	.....
4. Kaira	2	118	2,975	...	2,887	...	2,287	286	.....	307	.....
5. Ahmednagar	2	1,711	115,374	3,151	56,760	6,807	215,287	65,437	41,098	322,401	460	
6. East Khândesh	2	409	44,075	...	34,209	...	36,932	1,649	.....	37,057	.....
7. West Khândesh	2	284	10,028	...	7,769	50	3,400	241	200	2,430	.....
8. Nâsik	1	227	12,420	...	14,757	...	7,070	5,427	.....	3,258	.....
9. Poona	8	1,404	80,927	4,222	72,640	417	101,755	32,477	5,036	29,262	.....
10. Sâtâra	2	100	3,140	...	1,003	...	3,681	.....	.....	3,271	.....
11. Sholâpur	2	553	14,709	...	7,356	...	10,025	1,617	.....	7,834	.....
12. Belgaum	6	5,026	65,930	...	64,024	2,300	112,349	30,668	1,700	48,060	.....
13. Bijâpur	2	255	6,305	...	6,311	...	10,992	6,090	.....	3,403	.....
14. Dhârwar	10	6,01	500,820	68,085	437,117	41,688	392,682	93,294	146,130	558,734	.....
15. Kânara	5	1,838	93,754	1,100	73,043	150	78,414	7,390	4,300	51,195	.....
16. Ratnâgiri	1	95	1,874	...	2,095	...	1,013	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total Limited	69	33,744	28,20,283	127,027	19,22,826	91,685	25,34,109	257,866	222,823	16,80,653	450	
Total Class I	107	35,909	29,54,402	135,757	20,31,183	101,036	26,66,623	2,66,279	228,143	17,19,844	5,850	
<i>Class II.—Purchase and Purchase and Sale Unlimited.</i>												
1. Ahmedabad	1	38	1,241	...	892	...	1,184	.....	.....	25	.....
2. Kaira	2	94	2,079	...	2,918	...	4,007	750	.....	69	.....
3. Ahmednagar	2	489	21,211	...	21,225	...	10,301	1,416	.....	36,827	.....
4. West Khândesh	2	122	13,690	...	10,471	...	3,219	.....	.....	3,000	.....
5. Nâsik	1	123	.....	...	258	...	2,019	.....	.....	.....	.....
6. Sholâpur	1	67	7,888	...	14,058	...	3,760	.....	.....	704	10,269
7. Belgaum	5	208	16,743	...	12,603	...	5,888	593	.....	31,200	.....
8. Bijâpur	2	64	402	...	1,029	...	2,127	611	.....	52	.....
9. Dhârwar	5	352	59,240	900	61,924	...	29,003	.....	1,843	21,389	.....
10. Ratnâgiri	6	215	16,681	...	14,909	...	14,811	.....	.....	2,519	2,000
Total Unlimited	27	1,772	138,911	900	140,437	...	74,717	3,370	1,848	93,834	12,239	

C.
Agricultural Societies.

Sales of goods to members.	Purchase of members' products.	Cost of Management.	Share Capital paid up.	Loans and deposits held at the end of the year from					Reserve Fund.	Working Capital.	Profit and loss for the year.	Unpaid dividend paid on shares.	Most usual rate of interest.	
				Members.	Non-members.	Societies.	Provincial or Central Banks.	Government.					On borrowings.	On lendings.
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
...	...	1,221	.....	8,045	37,818	6,550	.....	500	2,152	50,005	3,280	...	9	18½
...	...	5	.....	100	.....	.....	105	65	475	805	55	...	4½	0½
1,026	325	419	...	400	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,333	3,736	95	...	7	0½
...	...	32	.....	1,663	1,660	1,500	.....	...	344	5,171	239	...	0½	0½
...	...	139	...	4,119	225	.....	1,897	1,777	1,934	9,445	1,308	...	0½	0½
1,159	...	24	.....	62	239	.....	.....	.....	.....	300	49	...	0½	12½
...	...	10	.....	1,295	.....	.....	.....	.....	298	1,803	120	...	0½	0½
...	...	119	15,900	3,866	575	.....	.....	1,232	2,170	23,743	778	...	0½	0½
...	520	.....	.....	500	.....	46	1,046	10	...	0½	0½
...	...	9	.....	515	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	515	...	...	0½	0½
8	...	23	...	411	425	100	.....	.....	23	960	16	...	0½	0½
...	...	11	.....	400	.....	.....	.....	200	284	944	98	...	6½	0½
...	...	414	.....	12,321	10,560	.....	7,574	7,074	3,809	41,888	1,237	...	6½	0½
2,188	325	2,426	15,900	23,712	51,540	8,150	9,629	10,908	14,791	1,39,020	7,312	...	...	...
181	...	18,213	567,285	465,893	5,45,111	2,034	.....	.....	28,418	16,08,771	51,123	0½	0½	0½
...	...	24	867	.....	500	.....	Engaged	in collecting capital.	19	1,985	47	...	7	0½
...	...	4	780	435	1,167	203	.....	.....	100	2,815	105	6	4½	0½
48	...	1,688	35,407	189,821	60,888	18,703	200	...	13,281	518,190	12,635	6½	6	0½
12,629	...	943	3,993	81,950	12,719	.....	.....	.....	651	49,307	1,101	12	4 & 5	7½
...	...	230	9,355	17,324	5,037	.....	.....	.....	709	32,425	1,423	2	6	0
...	...	322	2,345	2,938	4,944	.....	.....	.....	412	10,639	399	...	4½ to 6	9 to 12
18	...	2,356	30,820	35,533	46,922	.....	.....	572	3,815	117,497	1,997	4	0½	0½
...	...	42	507	1,346	650	1,600	.....	.....	57	4,250	90	...	0½	0½
...	...	270	6,511	430	5,022	.....	.....	.....	99	12,062	509	31	0½	0½
...	...	668	24,959	90,877	8,253	.....	.....	1,026	8,830	131,045	5,759	9	0½	0½
...	...	175	4,500	6,429	.....	.....	.....	.....	877	11,806	1,220	9½	0½	0½
282	...	6,782	217,787	235,490	217,200	9,056	.....	877	53,084	734,094	...	...	...	...
44	...	852	23,441	30,724	34,311	.....	.....	.....	2,937	81,363	4,721	0½	0½	0½
...	...	16	652	100	500	.....	.....	.....	66	1,319	98	...	6½	0½
13,302	...	31,900	829,279	10,99,295	9,43,018	31,286	590	2,475	113,254	31,20,407	60,509	...	...	...
15,390	325	34,316	945,179	11,28,007	9,94,558	40,436	10,519	13,383	123,035	31,60,117	68,121	...	...	...
...	...	14	.....	190	250	.....	.....	500	244	1,184	77	...	4½	0½
5,313	1,177	64	.....	2,169	62	.....	.....	2,850	590	5,641	532	...	0½	7½ to 9½
21,444	24,034	469	1,110	4,378	3,661	.....	1,500	950	3,055	13,684	1,365	...	6	12½
...	...	14	.....	3,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,000	219	...	...	0½
...	927	.....	.....	.....	734	270	1,931	69	...	0½	0½
941	7,355	120	.....	427	.....	.....	2,230	.....	2,309	5,625	772	...	0½	0½
31,000	...	293	170	5,215	1,837	.....	.....	3,050	237	10,579	411	...	...	...
378	...	148	297	1,200	585	.....	.....	443	194	2,694	4	...	6	12½
22,126	21,453	1,120	11,535	6,680	3,783	4,600	1,280	5,912	2,659	39,429	1,700	9	6	12
...	...	163	.....	3,003	3,360	600	4,090	2,030	2,953	15,716	519	...	6½	9½
55,732	53,924	2,473	13,112	24,209	15,513	5,100	9,159	17,124	11,631	95,933	5,667	...	...	...

STATEMENT
Operations of

Classification.	Number of Societies.	Number of members.	Loans made during the year to		Receipts from Loans and Deposits repaid during the year by		Loans due by			Loans and Deposits received during the year from		
			Individuals.	Banks and Societies.	Individuals.	Banks and Societies.	Individuals.	Of which overdue.*	Banks and Societies.	Individuals.	Central Banks.	Private Societies.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Class II—Purchase and Purchase and Sale—Limited.</i>												
1. Surat	1	59	Rs.	Rs. ...	Rs.	Rs. ...	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
2. Ahmednagar	1	215	2,017	...	4,483	...	6,244	5,720	...	639	...	...
3. Poona	1	157	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	41,085	.....	11
4. Sholapur	3	400	37,433	...	28,814	...	27,338	4,042	.....	12,130	.....	...
5. Bijapur	1	134	4,305	...	4,176	...	12,248	2,100	.....	1,200	.....	...
6. Kolaba	1	20	.....	...	.....	...	67	.....	.....	.....	.....	...
Ratnagiri	3	62	.....	...	.....	...	827	.....	.....	6,058	.....	11
Total Limited	11	1,047	43,760	...	17,473	...	40,724	11,862	.....	61,762	.....	34
Total Class II	38	2,819	1,82,671	900	1,57,910	...	1,21,441	15,233	1,948	1,57,626	13,239	117
<i>Class III—Production—Limited.</i>												
1. Kolaba	1		.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Engage.
<i>Class IV—Production and Sale—Limited.</i>												
1. Kánara	1	68	14,819	610	9,736	...	18,141	.....	610	32,800	.....	...
<i>Class V—Others—Unlimited.</i>												
1. East Khándesh	1	65	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	404	.....	...
<i>Class VI—Others—Limited.</i>												
1. Bombay	1	111	.....	...	400	10,430	.....	.....	.....	39,969	.....	117
2. Kolaba	1	65	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...
Total Limited	2	176	.....	...	400	10,430	.....	.....	.....	39,969	.....	117
Total Class VI	3	241	.....	...	400	10,430	.....	.....	.....	40,373	.....	117
Total Presidency Proper	150	89,057	81,51,092	1,37,267	21,99,229	1,12,006	27,06,208	2,81,511	2,30,601	19,50,742	18,139	1,946

* The term "Loans overdue" means loans due for payment which have not been paid and for which extension has not been granted by competent authority.

Agricultural Societies.

Sales of goods to members.	Purchase of members' products.	Cost of Management.	Share Capital paid up.	Loans and Deposits held at the end of the year from					Reserve Fund.	Working Capital†	Profit and loss for the year.	Usual dividend paid on shares.	Most usual rate of interest	
				Members.	Non-members.	Societies.	Provincial or Central Banks.	Government.					On borrowings.	On lendings.
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
...	...	1	2,880	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	88	2,963	101	...	...	7½
2,355	1,100	92	1,639	2,163	612	.....	9	1,700	54	6,009	207	...	0	...
3,524	...	1,264	3,018	1,667	5,765	7	.....	.....	154	10,611	1,028	9	7½	...
100	190	480	8,193	5,914	15,823	.....	.....	897	784	31,611	873	...	6½	9½
...	...	62	7,450	...	1,200	.....	2,813	.....	304	11,707	795	...	6½	9½
247	224	16	70	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	70	-6	...	0½	9½
13,142	14,942	808	1,635	104	2,059	1,630	.....	.....	76	6,004	333	...	6½	9½
10,308	16,546	2,721	24,935	9,033	25,459	1,687	2,822	2,507	1,952	69,300	8,430	...	...	...
1,04,670	70,470	5,124	38,047	34,147	40,977	6,787	11,981	19,721	13,633	1,65,263	9,007	...	...	...
collecting capital.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...
1,34,566	...	619	1,499	20,648	11,734	.....	.....	...	610	34,491	913	...	6½	9
320	...	4	.....	234	170	.....	.....	.....	.....	40½	91	...	0	12½
...	...	366	14,635	26,543	13,393	13,752	.....	.....	.....	68,873	1,098	...	4½	...
1,526	943	717	4,220	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	4,230	-322	...	0½	9½
1,525	943	1,033	18,905	26,543	13,393	13,752	.....	.....	.....	77,593	776	...	...	...
1,754	943	1,087	18,905	26,777	13,563	13,752	.....	.....	.....	73,997	807	...	...	...
1,56,310	71,738	41,448	10,03,630	12,09,579	10,60,832	60,975	22,500	33,104	1,42,273	35,32,898	69,998	...	...	...

† For the purpose of this statement the working capital is taken to be the total of columns 7 to 23.

STATEMENT G.

CENTRAL BANKS—RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS.

Receipts.

Classification.	Share Receipts.	Receipts by Loans and Deposits from				Loans and Deposits recovered from			Income realized.				Opening balance.
		Non-members and members in an individual capacity.	Provincial and Central Banks.	Societies.	Government.	Individual members.	Provincial and Central Banks.	Societies.	Interest received.	Sale of goods to members.	Other items.	Total income of year (Columns 10-12).	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1. The Bombay Central Co-operative Bank, Limited.	1,41,350	16,15,418	3,43,000	7,36,268	...	...	...	8,10,885	1,29,608	...	1,607	1,31,305	27,593
2. The Broach Co-operative Bank, Limited.	4,500	1,30,278	...	...	...	12,230	...	54,626	5,650	...	77	5,733	19,770
3. The Surat District Co-operative Union, Limited.	2,870	85,002	...	1,021	...	8,424	...	64,774	11,165	...	1,545	12,710	6,939
4. The Barsi Co-operative Union, Limited.	1,510	34,939	...	280	...	49,990	...	7,837	6,679	...	1,248	7,927	10,771
5. The Dhárwar District Co-operative Union, Limited.	100	174	...	...	...	...	...	6,449	925	...	551	1,546	3,114
Total ...	1,50,330	18,65,861	3,43,000	7,37,509	...	70,659	...	9,44,565	1,54,103	...	5,118	1,59,211	69,472

Disbursements.

Classification.	Share Capital withdrawn.	Loans and Deposits repaid to				Loans to			Expenses.						Closing balance.
		Non-members and members in an individual capacity.	Provincial and Central Banks.	Societies.	Government.	Individual members.	Provincial and Central Banks.	Societies.	Interest paid on loans and deposits.	Dividend and bonus paid.	Stock bought.	Establishment and Contingencies.	Other items.	Total expenditure (Columns 24 to 28).	
1	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
1. The Bombay Central Co-operative Bank, Limited.	...	18,85,080	1,20,000	6,05,705	...	...	...	8,68,415	57,860	21,419	1,10,610	20,720	17,674	2,28,289	98,571
2. The Broach Co-operative Bank, Limited.	...	1,45,823	...	...	...	10,250	...	51,375	3,204	2,283	680	833	...	7,163	12,510
3. The Surat District Co-operative Union, Limited.	...	86,023	...	2	...	7,352	...	57,298	4,062	2,271	1,750	833	1,269	10,215	20,835
4. The Barsi Co-operative Union, Limited.	...	24,333	...	200	180	39,855	...	15,100	2,285	1,175	164	1,141	3,200	6,025	23,614
5. The Dhárwar District Co-operative Union, Limited.	50	3,000	...	...	...	...	...	6,000	801	...	...	289	334	1,473	834
Total ...	50	21,44,372	1,20,000	6,05,907	180	57,457	...	9,98,188	68,212	27,131	1,13,404	23,845	22,587	2,55,179	1,59,444

* Includes Rs. 2,000 stock.

STATEMENT H.

Central Banks—Balance Sheet.

Classification.	Assets.										
	Cash in hand and Bank.	Market value of investments.	Loans due by members (Individuals).	Loans due by Banks and Societies.	Interest accrued to the Bank.	Present value of stock in hand.	Other Items.	Total.	Loans and deposits from non-members and from members in individuals.*	Loans and deposits from Provincial and Central Banks.	Loans and deposits from Societies.
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. The Bombay Central Co-operative Bank, Limited.	98,571	19,851	...	17,42,418	82,146	11,030	5,905	19,60,021	10,16,270	2,23,000	1,01,359
2. The Broach Co-operative Bank, Limited.	12,510	880	24,455	51,222	6,854	...	371	90,592	40,108	...	...
3. The Surat District Co-operative Union, Limited.	20,696	1,760	20,328	89,374	5,363	53	49	1,42,818	90,607	...	1,020
4. The Barai Co-operative Union, Limited.	23,614	175	40,912	17,013	2,355	390	45	89,524	50,735	...	80
5. The Dhárwár District Co-operative Union, Limited.	554	...	...	21,759	1,545	63	...	24,213	17,414	...	...
Total ...	1,58,445	22,168	91,725	19,20,777	93,283	13,136	6,370	28,08,807	12,83,103	2,23,600	1,02,480

Classification.	Liabilities.											Remarks.
	Loans from Government.	Share capital paid up.	Interest due by the Bank.	Cost of management due.	Other Items.	Reserve fund under section 33 of Act II of 1912.	Other funds, e.g., building funds, &c.	Other undistributed profits carried forward.	Total.	Profit and loss—Column 14, Profit and Loss Statement.		
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22		
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		
1. The Bombay Central Co-operative Bank, Limited.	...	4,89,640	20,420	...	8,958	16,467	52,242	807	19,20,218	30,503		
2. The Broach Co-operative Bank, Limited.	...	38,900	1,175	...	52	2,009	71	93	92,205	4,057		
3. The Surat District Co-operative Union, Limited.	...	89,060	2,742	54	98	2,407	2,330	...	1,34,373	4,445		
4. The Barai Co-operative Union, Limited.	587	16,210	2,569	89	133	439	1,047	...	80,899	5,023		
5. The Dhárwár District Co-operative Union, Limited.	...	5,400	1,307	...	12	...	...	...	24,133	70	
Total ...	587	5,89,210	28,213	153	9,213	21,122	55,690	902	21,64,828	45,039		

* Debentures, where they exist, should be shown in this column.

STATEMENT I.

Central Banks—Profit and Loss Statement.

Classification.	Profit brought forward from last year.	Profit.					Loss.						Net profit + or loss — (Column 22 of Balance Sheet.)	Amount of Column actually received.
		Interest accrued.	By sale of goods to members.	By purchase and sale of members' products	Other items.	Total.	Interest due.	Cost of management paid and due.	Provision for bad and doubtful debts.	Depreciation of stock and buildings.	Other items.	Total.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. The Bombay Central Co-operative Bank, Limited.	868	1,91,661	...	2,500	276	1,94,437	1,18,013	19,740	...	504	14,000	1,52,257	42,178*	1,13,158
2. The Broach Central Bank, Limited.	17	6,900	...	..	465	7,365	2,392	833	...	..	52	3,277	4,087	2,089
3. The Surat District Co-operative Union, Limited.	...	9,116	...	...	337	9,453	4,114	893	...	...	...	5,007	4,446	4,070
4. The Barsi Co-operative Union, Limited.	...	9,034	...	...	197	9,231	2,579	1,003	...	24	...	3,606	5,625	6,878
5. The Dhárwār District Co-operative Union, Limited.	...	1,441	...	...	69	1,510	1,008	254	...	7	163	1,431	79	216
Total ...	883	2,18,151	...	2,500	1,344	21,995	1,29,106	22,723	...	635	14,214	1,65,578	56,414	1,26,409

* Column 22 of Statement H plus Rs. 11,375 on account of *ad-interim* dividend paid.

NO. 802 OF 1916.

From

RAO BAHADUR GOBINDRAM SALAMATRAI, I. S. O.,
Registrar, Co-operative Societies in Sind ;

To

THE COMMISSIONER IN SIND,
Karáchi.

*Registrar's Office,
Hyderabad, 4th August 1916.*

Sir,

I have the honour to submit my report on the working of the Co-operative Credit Societies in Sind for the year ending 31st March 1916. Tabular statements in the revised forms, prescribed by the Government of India in their letter No. 147—198, dated the 24th February 1916, printed as an accompaniment to Government Order No. 3534, dated the 30th March 1916, are appended.

2. I held office of the Registrar throughout the year in addition to my duties as Superintendent, Land Records in Sind.

1	Nawábsháh	District.
3	Lárkána	"
4	Thar and Párkar	"
1	Upper Sind Frontier	"
1	Karáchi	"

3. The number of Societies existing on the 1st of April 1915 was 19. In the course of the year 10 new Societies came into being, while none was cancelled. The number at the end of the year was thus 29, distributed as under:—

District.	No. of Societies.
Sukkur	7
Nawábsháh	12
Lárkána	3
Thar and Párkar	4
Upper Sind Frontier	1
Karáchi	2

The two societies in the Karáchi District are both non-agricultural. The others are all agricultural concerns. I shall deal with the two classes separately.

Agricultural Societies.

4. The number of these Societies at the end of the year was 27 as against 18 in the preceding year. Their membership rose from 1,427 to 1,786 and working capital from Rs. 58,634 to Rs. 82,259. The average number of members in each Society works out to 66 and the average capital per head to Rs. 46, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 79 and 41. The apparent decrease in the average membership is accounted for by the fact that most of the new Societies were registered towards the close of the year and had not yet attained their full numerical strength. The loans advanced to members during the year amounted to over Rs. 80,000. The period for which the loans are usually granted is one year—a term which has been fixed with special reference to the needs of the people engaged in agricultural operations, long term loans being discouraged on economic grounds.

The amount of overdue loans was Rs. 3,180 pertaining to 4 Societies, of which loans aggregating Rs. 1,648 have either been recovered or extended. The balance sheet of the Societies presents a net profit of Rs. 5,729 earned during the year, the whole of which is to be carried to the reserve fund.

5. *Sukkur District.*—The number of Societies has remained stationary. The Khairpur-Daharki Society—the oldest concern—sustained its record of good

work. Among the more recent institutions Ubauro Society deserves special mention on account of its efficient management. The Garhi-Yasin Society again accumulated arrears to the extent of Rs. 1,112, of which a sum of Rs. 308 has since been recovered or postponed. The supreme importance of exacting repayment of loans on due dates has been persistently impressed upon the President and members of this Society.

6. *Nawdbshah District*.—This district now possesses 12 Societies, evenly divided between the Sindhi Zamindárs and Punjábí Colonists. All the Societies have worked well on the whole. The following Societies are responsible for the arrears of Rs. 2,068 shown against this district :—

				Rs.
Berani	...	...	...	1,260
Jám Sáhib	...	...	...	645
Abas Kirio	...	...	...	163

The Berani Society has since succeeded in clearing off the whole of its arrears. The others are also taking steps to recover their dues.

7. *Lárkána District*.—All the three Societies of this district were created during the year under report, and two of them, *viz.*, those at Banguldero and Chausul, have been able to do a fair amount of business. The Presidents of both these Societies, Mr. Gurmukhsing Sabhachand of Banguldero and Wadero Abdullah Khan Usman Khan of Chausul, have evinced keen interest in the affairs of their Societies, specially the former, who took great pains to understand the accounts and has actually done most of the work himself. The third Society, *viz.*, that at Rato-dero, did no business until after the close of the year.

8. *Thar and Párkar District*.—The extinction of the Digri Society had left the district without any Society. The year under report, however, witnessed a revival of the movement, and no less than 4 Societies came into being—three in the Jamesabad Táluka and one in Digri. All the four Societies belong to Punjábí Colonists of Jámráo and give a fair promise of success.

I would here acknowledge the valuable help rendered by Sufedposh Ghulam Ahmed Mahomed Baksh of deh 24 Jámráo, táluka Sinjhoró, in the opening of these Societies. He accompanied me to all these places at his own expense.

The liquidation of the Digri Society is progressing apace. The latest report from the Liquidator shows that so far he has realized Rs. 5,735, of which sums aggregating Rs. 2,967 have been disbursed to creditors. The sums still remaining to be paid amount to Rs. 2,014, while the amount remaining to be collected is Rs. 1,405. The Liquidator is not, however, sanguine about the recovery of this sum, but even if it were left wholly out of account, a surplus of Rs. 754 will remain after the liabilities have been met in full. The results justify the expectations formed by me of the Society's solvency. I must, however, add that the facts revealed go to show that the Society would have been involved in a serious loss if the proposal for liquidation had been delayed.

9. *Upper Sind Frontier District*.—A special feature of the newly started Society in this district is that it is entirely a Baluchi concern. Its President Wadero Chakarkhan Bakhatalikhan Subrani, who is the soul of the Society, is a man of enlightened views and takes special interest in its management. The Society owes its existence to the efforts of Mr. Chainrai Bulchand, late Deputy Collector of that place.

Non-agricultural Societies.

10. *Karáchi District*.—The communal Society of the Bhandari Mahrattas continued to work smoothly. It claims a membership of 54 and a working capital of Rs. 1,767. The fact that it was able to declare a dividend of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. bears testimony to its prosperous condition.

Another non-agricultural Society started at Karáchi is that of the employees of the Government Central Telegraph Office. It is the first institution of its kind in the Province and has made a very good beginning. Its President, Mr. C. O'Doherty, and Treasurer, Mr. W. J. Blackwell, have taken a very active part in

the organisation and management of the concern. The account books of the Society had been nicely kept and showed that great care and attention had been devoted to this part of the work. The Society is composed of 53 members and owns a capital of Rs. 2,726.

The total amount of loans advanced by the two Societies was Rs. 6,000— all for varying terms not exceeding 18 months. The recoveries are usually effected in monthly instalments.

Audit and Inspection.

11. I audited the accounts of all the Societies with the exception of four which were registered towards the close of the year. One of these opened its account books under my personal guidance and the others were engaged in collecting funds till the end of the year. The more important of the irregularities and mistakes discovered were brought to the notice of the members at the time of the audit. Memoranda of errors were as usual communicated to the Societies concerned.

The account work in the case of 9 Societies is carried out by Pound Munshis or School Masters. In the case of the remaining Societies the books are kept by private persons, some of whom do honorary work, while others are paid something out of the funds of the Societies. In no case has the work been entrusted to tapadars.

General.

12. The results achieved during the year will constitute an important chapter in the history of the co-operative movement in Sind. Ten new Societies were inaugurated during the year and five have been registered during the few months that have elapsed since its close. The total number of Societies in existence now is 34 or nearly double of what it was less than a year and-a-half back. The increase in number is, however, not the only feature of interest. The reserve fund is steadily growing and has, in the case of Agricultural Societies, now reached the respectable figure of Rs. 17,481 (inclusive of the profits of the year under report) or 21.25 per cent. of the working capital. The Societies have not had to face any bad debts, and the amount of overdue loans forms but a small fraction of the capital engaged. Some of the Societies have also, since the close of the year, been able to secure loans on moderate rates of interest from the outside public—a sure indication of the confidence the institutions are beginning to inspire. And, not the least hopeful sign of the times is the change in the attitude of the public press which till now had been one of stolid indifference—a change which is reflected in the number of animated (though in some cases mis-informed) articles, both editorial and contributed, that of late have appeared in some of the local papers. It is true that it will be some time before the rural masses are touched and Sind can come up to the level of other provinces in this respect, but there is little doubt that the movement has taken root in the province and is destined to play an important part in the economic life of its agricultural population.

One of the greatest needs of the moment is a feeder Bank of our own for the financing of the Agricultural Societies. Most of the concerns in existence now have had substantial help from Government in the shape of loans but the annual grant for such loans is only Rs. 8,000—a sum which is proving inadequate in view of the growing needs of the Societies. Until, therefore, a feeder institution springs up, there is likely to be a demand for augmentation of the Government grant. Time is also approaching when the Registrar will require assistance, at any rate, in carrying out the audit of the accounts of the Societies which are now rapidly increasing in number. These are, however, matters on which I shall report separately in due course.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
GOBINDRAM S.,

Registrar, Co-operative Societies in Sind.

STATEMENT B.

Operations of Agricultural Societies.

Classification.	Number of Societies.	Number of members.	Loans made during the year to		Receipts from Loans and Deposits repaid during the year by		Loans due by			Loans and Deposits received during the year from			Sales of goods to members.	Purchase of members' products.
			Individuals.	Banks and Societies.	Individuals.	Banks and Societies.	Individuals.	Of which overdue.*	Banks and Societies.	Individuals.	Central Banks.	Primary Societies.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
CLASS I—CREDIT.														
<i>(b) Unlimited.</i>														
District Sukkur ...	7	787	27,034	..	24,315	..	25,173	1,112	..	201	..	..	6	..
District Nawábeháh ...	12	720	47,630	1,100	36,303	..	47,326	2,068	1,100	1,410	..	1,100	10	..
District Lárkána ...	3	134	1,245	..	..	..	1,245	..	..	2,957	..	..	3	..
District Thar and Párkar ...	4	75	1,620	..	..	..	1,620	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
District Upper Sind Frontier ...	1	70	2,602	..	..	..	2,603	..	..	1,203	..	..	..	..
Total "Unlimited" ...	27	1,786	80,131	1,100	60,618	..	77,966	3,180	1,100	5,921	..	1,100	25	..
Total previous year ...	18	1,427	64,173	..	45,965	..	58,453	915	..	2,516	..	..	25	..

Classification.	Cost of Management.	Share Capital paid up.	Loans and Deposits held at the end of the year from					Reserve Fund.	Working Capital.†	Profit and loss for the year.	Usual dividend paid on shares.	Most usual rate of interest.	
			Members.	Non-members.	Societies.	Provincial or Central Banks.	Government.					On borrowings.	On lendings.
1	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
CLASS I—CREDIT.													
<i>(b) Unlimited.</i>													
District Sukkur ...	264	..	8,704	838	..	..	7,092	7,024	24,313	1,916	..	7	9½
District Nawábeháh ...	180	18,290	8,151	..	1,100	..	15,707	4,728	47,976	3,421	..	7	9½
District Lárkána ...	50	..	2,987	..	..	..	2,950	..	5,937	158	..	7	9½
District Thar and Párkar ...	15	820	..	..	..	..	800	..	1,620	64	..	7	9½
District Upper Sind Frontier ...	20	..	1,203	..	..	..	1,150	..	2,413	270	..	..	9½
Total "Unlimited" ...	538	19,110	21,165	838	1,100	..	25,200	11,752	82,259	5,720	..	..	..
Total previous year ...	414	11,250	15,459	1,037	..	..	23,239	7,619	68,634	4,102	..	6½	9½

* The term "loans overdue" means loans due for payment which have not been paid and for which extension has not been granted by competent authority.

† For the purpose of this statement the working capital is taken to be the total of columns 17 to 23.

GOBINDRAM S.,
Registrar, Co-operative Societies in Sind.

STATEMENT C.

Operations of Non-Agricultural Societies.

Classification.	Number of Societies.	Number of members.	Loans made during the year to		Receipts from Loans and Deposits repaid during the year by		Loans due by			Loans and Deposits received during the year from			Sales of goods to members.
			Individuals.	Banks and Societies.	Individuals.	Banks and Societies.	Individuals.	Of which overdue.*	Banks and Societies.	Individuals.	Central Banks.	Primary Societies.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
			Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.			
CLASS I—CREDIT. (a) Limited. District Karachi ...	2	107	6,005	...	3,063	...	4,230	167	...	1,300	...	...	...
Total, Limited ...	2	107	6,005	...	3,063	...	4,230	167	...	1,300	...	...	...
Total, previous year ...	1	57	2,565	...	2,651	...	1,280	135	...	...	...	...	...

Classification.	Purchase of members' products.	Cost of Management.	Share Capital paid up.	Loans and Deposits held at the end of the year from					Reserve Fund.	Working Capital †	Profit and loss for the year.	Usual dividend paid on shares.	Most usual rate of Interest	
				Members.	Non-members.	Societies.	Provincial or Central Banks.	Government.					On borrowings.	On lendings. ...
1	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
		Rs.	Rs.						Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
CLASS I—CREDIT. (a) Limited. District Karachi	40	2,911	1,300	...	...	...	...	282	4,403	284	7½	6	9 and 18½
Total Limited	40	2,911	1,300	...	...	...	...	282	4,403	284	...	...	...
Total previous year	50	1,415	...	...	...	...	...	215	1,650	169	6½	...	18½

* The term "loans overdue" means loans due for payment which have not been paid and for which extension has not been granted by competent authority.

† For the purposes of this statement the working capital is taken to be the total of columns 17 to 23.

‡ Pertains to one Society, the other is new.

GOBINDRAM S.,
Registrar, Co-operative Societies in Sind.

Below letter No. 802 of the 4th August 1916 from the Registrar of Co-operative Societies in Sind.

No. 2411 of 1916.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT:

*Office of the Commissioner in Sind,
Government House, Karachi, 21st August 1916.*

Submitted to Government.

2. The year under report opened with nineteen Co-operative Societies, to which ten new Societies were added during the year. Of these twenty-nine Societies, two were non-agricultural, of which one is new. The total membership of the twenty-seven Agricultural Societies rose by 25 per cent. from 1,427 to 1,786, and the working capital by 40 per cent. from Rs. 58,634 to Rs. 82,259. The membership and the working capital of the two Non-agricultural Societies rose by 87 per cent. and 175 per cent., respectively.

3. Thus the year has been marked by a very considerable development of the co-operative movement, which has spread for the first time to the Lárkána and Upper Sind Frontier Districts, where the number of Societies established during the year was three and one respectively. The establishment of a Society by the members of the Government Central Telegraph Office, the first of its kind in Sind, is especially worthy of note. The general working of the Societies has been satisfactory. There has been a steady growth in financial stability, the reserve fund increasing in the case of agricultural societies from Rs. 7,649 to Rs. 11,752 which is 14 per cent. (and not 21 per cent. as stated in the report) of the working capital. Moreover the absence of bad debts and the small percentage of overdue loans point to sound management, while the growth of public interest and confidence in the movement is proved by the loans which some of the Societies have been able to secure on favourable terms from the outside public.

4. The co-operative movement in Sind is still very backward if judged by the standard of the Presidency. But the progress made during the year is an encouraging sign, that the apathy of the zamindár is at last beginning to yield to the advice and influence of Government officers and that some understanding of the advantages to be gained by zamindár and hari alike is being spread abroad.

5. The Commissioner has recently stated his opinion that the progress made is almost entirely due to the energy and the personal interest which the Registrar takes in the advancement of the movement, and reflects great credit on Ráo Bahádur Gobindram Salamatrai, I. S. O.

H. S. LAWRENCE,
Commissioner in Sind.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department, Bombay.

Co-operative Societies.

Annual Report on the working of the — in
the Bombay Presidency including Sind
for the year 1915-16.

GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Order No. 12748.

Bombay Castle, 27th December 1916.

Letter from the Superintendent of Land Records and Registrar of Co-operative Societies No. 802 dated 4th August 1916—Submitting the Annual Report on the working of Co-operative Societies in Sind for the year 1915-16.

Memorandum from the Commissioner in Sind No. 2411 dated 21st August 1916.

Letter from the Director of Agriculture No. 7852 dated 10th August 1916—Submitting, with his remarks, the Annual Report on the working of Co-operative Societies in the Bombay Presidency for the year ending 31st March 1916.

RESOLUTION.—Mr. Ewbank has written an interesting and instructive report on the working of the Co-operative Societies in the Presidency proper during the year 1915-16. The report is a record of further progress in the development of the movement, though the rate of increase in the number of members and the total amount of capital was slightly less than in the previous year, a fact which may be attributed in part to the absence of the permanent Registrar for the greater portion of the year and partly also to the continuance of the war exerting a discouraging influence upon new enterprise. During the year 147 new societies were formed. The total number of societies stood at 963 with 104,924 members on the roll and a total capital of nearly 97 lakhs. The increase over the figure of the previous year is 24 per cent. in membership and 19 per cent. in capital compared with increases of 27 per cent. and 23 per cent. respectively in 1914-15.

2. The number of agricultural societies rose from 674 to 808 with an increase in membership of 25 per cent. and in capital of 13 per cent. Though it is somewhat disappointing that the average working capital available per head in these societies has fallen from Rs. 70 to Rs. 62, the Governor in Council observes with satisfaction that deposits made by members and non-members have increased to 38 per cent. of the total capital, an indication of the steady growth of confidence in the financial stability of these enterprises; the increasing self-reliance of which is further proved by the growth of their reserves and by the fact that the proportion of capital represented by loans from Government has fallen from 20 per cent. to 4 per cent. in the last six years. Out of 687 societies classed at audit during the year over 76 per cent. were classed as good or fair. The growth of thrift and communal enterprise is most marked in the Dhárwár District where 120 village societies exist with a capital of over 8½ lakhs. Amongst these societies the influence of co-operation has not only led to gradual elimination of the rayats' thralldom to the sávkár but has penetrated still deeper into their social life and instances are recorded of the settlement of civil disputes and the management of trusts and bequests through the agency of these rural assemblies. In the Konkan the movement has shown but little vitality as local conditions, particularly the khoti system, are not readily susceptible to its influence. In the Deccan progress is irregular and spasmodic. Nowhere is the need greater for co-operation and cheaper methods of finance, but the ignorance of the ryots and deep-rooted suspicion and disinclination to combine for the common good have prevented a wider spread of the movement. In many centres, however, particularly under the guidance of local leaders of strong personality, excellent societies exist. In East Khándesh amongst a more enlightened and prosperous community, encouraged by the zeal of local officials, co-operation has made rapid strides. In South Gujarát real and permanent progress has been made, but in the North, so far, the movement has not yet secured a firm and wide-

spread hold upon the agricultural classes. Amongst the non-credit type of society, organised mainly for the supply to members of manure, seed, grain, agricultural implements, etc., there are indications of steady growth, but there is still a wide field for development in this direction. Special efforts have been made during the year by the Assistant Registrar, Mr. Gonehalli, to organise dairies on co-operative lines and sanitary principles. Some progress has been made and seven such dairies exist, the best of which is at Thána, but the main obstacle to rapid progress at present is the lack of capital amongst the "Gavli" class.

3. The Bombay Central Co-operative Bank, despite certain difficulties, continued to pursue its successful mission of bringing money on reasonable terms within the reach of members of rural societies. The total working capital rose from 17½ to nearly 18½ lakhs and the net profits from Rs. 38,000 to Rs. 42,000. The Bank finances directly 28 societies in the sugar-growing area on the Nira Canal. It was noted in the review of last year's report that the progress and efficiency of the societies had been hampered by the existence of a considerable amount of loans overdue by members to borrowing societies. Vigorous measures concerted during the year now under review have resulted in the recovery of all arrears due by societies to the Central Bank, while the outstanding balances due by members to the societies have been very considerably reduced and the further development of this group of very useful societies is thereby assured. The Central Banking Unions at Broach, Surat and Bársi have further consolidated their position and the creation of five new Central Banks, now under contemplation, should lend substantial aid to the growth of primary village societies. It is a matter for regret that the Dhárwár Union should again have failed to emerge from stagnation. The introduction of the system of Guaranteeing Unions—intermediary agencies between Central Banks and primary village societies and supervisors of the activities of the latter—is calculated to exert a profound influence on the future growth and stability of the co-operative movement. Several such Unions are in process of formation. The Annigeri Federation has, however, failed to realise the hopes expected of it, owing mainly to the inability of the Central Bank to accept its guarantee.

4. Non-agricultural societies comprise Peoples' Banks, Caste Societies, Societies of railway employees, Government servants, artisans and mill-hands. The success of many of these forms of co-operative enterprise is worthy of the close attention of all large employers of labour interested in the well-being of low-paid employees. Particularly remarkable are those societies of mill-hands and artisans organised in Bombay by the Servants of India Society, which, by the encouragement of thrift and self-respect amongst an improvident class, may be hoped to exert a powerful influence in the amelioration of the lower orders. In many places the success of Peoples' Banks has been remarkable, but several features of this type of society render it difficult to control when it is not subordinate to strong and influential managers. The progress of weaving societies has been noted as disappointingly slow and the Registrar attributes this to the depression caused by the high level of prices of yarn and dye without corresponding appreciation in the selling price of cloth. Many weaving societies in the Southern Division have made considerable progress under the guidance of the Weaving Inspector, while the allocation of an extra weaving assistant to the Central and Northern Divisions should lead to marked improvement in these societies. Demonstrations of improved weaving looms have been continued with some success mitigated however by the present depression in the trade. Much may be expected from the establishment of weaving schools and this form of enterprise has exerted a very marked influence on the weavers of Málegaon.

5. Amongst other manifestations of the movement may be noted the efforts of the Bombay Co-operative Housing Association, particularly evident in the success attained by the Sáraswat Housing Society. Another noticeable feature is the establishment of Co-operative Societies amongst school boys. The object of these societies, encouraged by the Educational Department, is the inculcation of the spirit and method of co-operation at the most receptive age. The transactions are simple, extending chiefly

to the purchase of articles for school use, but the Governor in Council considers that these societies, which now number 276 and are found in most districts of the Presidency, should form excellent training grounds for future managers of village societies.

6. The Governor in Council desires to accord his full appreciation of the work of the many Honorary Organisers to whose untiring zeal and local influence the advancement of the co-operative cause is, in large measure, to be attributed, and he agrees with the Director that it is due to the supervision exercised by these public-spirited workers that cases of defalcation of funds and cancellation of societies are few in number. The commendation of Government should be conveyed to Messrs. Haigh and Ewbank for their zealous and efficient administration during the year.

7. In Sind the co-operative movement has not hitherto exhibited much vitality, but there are signs that the ignorance and apathy of the zamindár and the *hári* are gradually being lessened and the work of the Registrar, Ráo Bahádúr Gobindrám Salámatrái, I.S.O., has met with a considerable measure of success. There was a welcome increase in the number of societies from 19 to 29 and of working capital from Rs. 58,634 to Rs. 82,259. The Commissioner in Sind reports a steady growth in the financial stability of these societies indicated by the absence of bad debts and overdue loans and by the increase in the reserve fund. The formation of a society amongst members of the Central Telegraph Office is worthy of note as being the first of the kind in Sind.

A. F. L. BRAYNE,
Under Secretary to Government.

G. O. No. 12748, R. D., dated 27th December 1916.

To

The Commissioner in Sind,
The Commissioner, N. D.,
The Commissioner, C. D.,
The Commissioner, S. D.,
All Collectors, including the Deputy Commissioner,
Upper Sind Frontier,
The Collector of Bombay,
The Settlement Commissioner and Director of Land
Records,
The Director of Agriculture and of Co-operative
Societies,
The Registrar of Co-operative Societies,
The Superintendent of Land Records in Sind,
The Tálukdári Settlement Officer,
The Manager, Encumbered Estates in Sind,
The Accountant General,
The Editor of Government Publications,
The Educational Department of the Secretariat,
The General Department of the Secretariat,
The Political Department of the Secretariat,
The Judicial Department of the Secretariat,
The Financial Department of the Secretariat,
The Non-official Members of the Legislative Council,
The Government of India,
The Secretary of State for India. } By letter.

With copies of the
Report.

No. of 1916.

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