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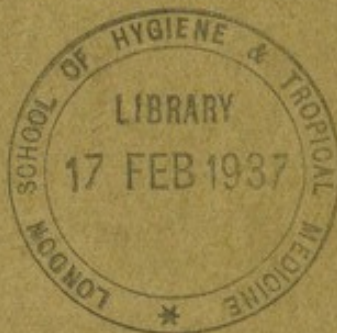
COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1783

Annual Report on the Social and Economic
Progress of the People of the
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS,
1935

*(For Reports for 1933 and 1934 see Nos. 1682 and 1726
respectively (Price 4s. 6d. each).)*

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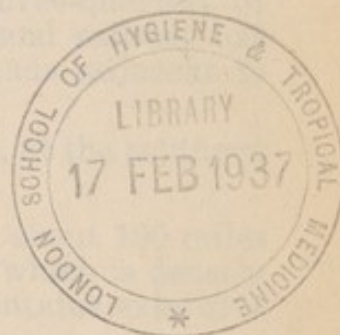
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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC
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CHAPTER I

A.—GEOGRAPHY

The Straits Settlements comprise the four Settlements of Singapore (including Christmas Island and the Cocos-Keeling group), Penang (including Province Wellesley), Malacca and Labuan. The first three were transferred from the control of the Indian Government to that of the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the 1st April, 1867, by an Order in Council, issued under the authority of an Act of the Imperial Parliament.

Singapore is an island about 27 miles long by 14 wide, and about 217 square miles in area. It is separated from the southern extremity of the Malay Peninsula by a narrow strait about three-quarters of a mile in width, across which a causeway for road and railway has now been built. There are a number of small islands adjacent to Singapore which also form part of the Settlement.

The seat of Government is the town of Singapore, at the southern point of the island.

Christmas Island is situated in the Indian Ocean about 190 miles South of the western extremity of Java. The island, which is densely wooded, has an area of about 62 square miles, and contains extensive deposits of phosphate of lime.

The Cocos or Keeling Islands lie about 700 miles south-west of Batavia. The largest is five miles long and a quarter of a mile wide. There are large coconut plantations, and copra, oil and nuts are exported.

Penang is an island about 15 miles long and 9 broad, and about 108 square miles in area. It is situated off the west coast of the Malay Peninsula, at the northern extremity of the Straits of Malacca. The chief town is George Town. On the opposite shore of the mainland, from which the island is separated by a strait varying in width from 2 to 10 miles, lies *Province Wellesley*, a strip of territory averaging 8 miles in width, and extending 45 miles along the coast, the whole containing an area of 280 square miles. The principal town of the province is Butterworth.

Malacca is a town situated on the west coast of the Peninsula about 110 miles from Singapore and 240 from Penang. It gives its name to the Settlement of Malacca, a strip of territory about 42 miles in length and varying in breadth from 8 to 25 miles, with a total area of about 637 square miles. At one time it gave its name to the whole peninsula, which is still known to the French as the Presqu'île de Malacca.

Labuan is an island, some 40 square miles in area, lying six miles off the north-west coast of Borneo, and distant about 725 miles from Singapore. It has a fine port, Victoria Harbour, safe and easy of access. Headquarters are at the town of Victoria.

B.—HISTORY

Malacca, said to have been founded by fugitives from the sack of Singapore in 1365 and known as an important independent state from early in the fifteenth century, is one of the oldest European Settlements in the East, having been captured by the Portuguese under Albuquerque in 1511, and held by them till 1641, when the Dutch, after frequent attempts, succeeded in driving them out. The Settlement remained in the possession of the Dutch till 1795, when it was occupied by the British. In 1818 it was restored to Holland, but was finally transferred to British rule by the Treaty of London in 1824, being exchanged for the British Settlements in Sumatra.

Under Malay and Portuguese rule Malacca was one of the great entrepôts for the commerce of the East. But, with the development of Dutch commerce in Java and the Malay Archipelago, its importance gradually declined and it ceased to be of consequence as a collecting centre, except for the trade of the Malay Peninsula and the Island of Sumatra. This trade it retained under Dutch rule till the founding of Penang by Francis Light in 1786. In a few years from that date its trade dwindled and it has never recovered its old commercial pre-eminence although the development of plantation rubber in the present century has restored to town and territory a large measure of prosperity.

The earliest British Settlement in the Malay Peninsula was Penang, or Prince of Wales Island, which was ceded in 1786 to the East India Company by the Raja of Kedah in consideration for an annual payment of \$6,000. In 1800, owing to the prevalence of piracy, a strip of the coast of the mainland, now called Province Wellesley, was also acquired from the Raja of Kedah, the annual payment being increased to \$10,000.

The island of Pangkor and the Sembilan Islands were ceded to Great Britain by Perak in 1826, for the suppression of piracy. In 1874 the cession was confirmed by the Treaty of Pangkor, by which the strip of territory on the mainland opposite, known as the Dindings, also became British and remained a part of the Settlement of Penang until its retrocession to the State of Perak in February, 1935.

In 1805 Penang was made a separate Presidency, of equal rank with Madras and Bombay. In 1826 Singapore and Malacca were incorporated with it under one Government, Penang still remaining the seat of Government. In 1836 the seat of Government was transferred to Singapore.

With the establishment of Penang the trade of Malacca passed to it. But no sooner was Singapore founded than Penang in its turn had to yield first place to the port with the better strategic position and came to depend chiefly on the local trade. At first inconsiderable

that trade has become large and important with the expansion of tin mining and rubber planting in the adjacent Malay States, and the development of trade with neighbouring countries.

The original city of Singapore is said to have been founded by immigrants from Sumatra. It rose to prominence in the fourteenth century but was destroyed by the Javanese about 1365. Thenceforth it was little more than a fishing village until Sir Stamford Raffles founded a settlement there in 1819 by virtue of a treaty with the Johore princes, and later acquired the whole island for the East India Company. The new Settlement was at first subordinate to Bencoolen in Sumatra, but in 1823, it was placed under the Government of Bengal and in 1826 was, as above stated, united with Penang and Malacca, under the Governor and Council of the Incorporated Settlements.

The Cocos or Keeling Islands were declared a British possession in 1857. In 1903, they were annexed to the Straits Settlements and incorporated with the Settlement of Singapore.

Christmas Island was annexed in 1888, and placed under the administration of the Governor of the Straits Settlements. In 1900 it was made part of the Settlement of Singapore.

Labuan was ceded to Great Britain by the Sultan of Brunei in 1846. It was governed as a separate Crown Colony until the end of 1889 after which the administration was transferred to the British North Borneo Company. At the end of 1905 the Governor of the Straits Settlements was appointed also Governor of Labuan, the island still remaining a separate Colony. In 1907 it was annexed to the Straits Settlements and declared part of the Settlement of Singapore; and in 1912 it was constituted a separate Settlement.

C.—CLIMATE

The mean temperature during 1935 was:—

Singapore (Kallang Aerodrome)	..	80.9°F.
Penang (District Hospital)	..	82.3°F.
Province Wellesley (Bagan Dalam)	..	80.7°F.
Malacca (Bukit China)	..	79.4°F.

The mean monthly maximum and minimum temperature varied as follows:—

		<i>Mean Monthly Maximum</i>		<i>Mean Monthly Minimum</i>	
		<i>Highest °F.</i>	<i>Lowest °F.</i>	<i>Highest °F.</i>	<i>Lowest °F.</i>
Singapore	..	87.7 Mar.,	84.8 Dec.,	78.5 July	73.4 Jan.
Penang	..	93.2 Mar.,	88.5 Nov.,	75.2 May	72.1 Jan.

The extremes of temperature (highest maximum and lowest minimum) recorded were:—

		<i>Highest °F.</i>	<i>Lowest °F.</i>
Singapore	..	91 on several days	70 on January 15th
Penang	..	96 on March 14th	68 on January 16th

There are no well marked dry and wet seasons, rain falling throughout the year.

Records for 64 years at Singapore show that the average annual rainfall is 95 inches. December is the wettest month with a little over 10 inches while February, May, June, July and September are the dry months with between $6\frac{1}{2}$ and 7 inches. Rain falls on the average on half the days in the year.

The wettest year recorded was 1913 with 135.92 inches and the driest 1888 with 63.21.

Records of 50 years at Penang show an annual rainfall of $107\frac{1}{2}$ inches, October being the wettest month with nearly 17 inches and February the driest with three inches; rain falling on the average on about 165 days in the year.

The force of the monsoon is not much felt though the prevailing winds are generally in the direction of the monsoon blowing at the time *viz.*:—

S. W. from May to October

N. E. from November to April

At coastal stations, however, the diurnal land and sea breezes are often stronger than the prevailing monsoons.

The Rainfall recorded was as follows:—

		1933	1934	1935	No. of Rainfall days in 1935
Singapore	..	82.52	106.55	72.76	177
Penang	..	97.37	137.31	107.98	193
Malacca	..	95.91	91.43	95.92	188
Province Wellesley		88.33	111.13	91.02	191
Labuan	..	121.93	124.51	140.59	187

Mere statistics, however, of temperature and rainfall give a very inadequate picture of the Malayan climate without further explanation. The characteristic features are uniform temperature, high humidity and copious rainfall. The variation of temperatures throughout the year is very small and the excessively high temperatures met with in continental tropical countries are never experienced here.

An annual rainfall about twice as great as that of the wettest parts of England must sound positively depressing to anyone who has never lived in the country, but, in fact, there is nothing depressing about the rainfall in Malaya, and the typical "rainy day" of England is unknown. The rain when it comes is heavy, frequently torrential, but generally it is soon over, and there are few days that the sun does not shine brightly for some part of the day at least. A spell of rainy weather is actually much less trying than a prolonged period of drought, or even inadequate rain, can be, and the truth is that the rain is welcomed in Malaya by everyone. After all, it is the rain that keeps the temperature within bounds, and if the devotee of golf, tennis or cricket occasionally has cause to complain when a downpour in the afternoon robs him of his usual exercise, he still remembers that it is the same element which provides for him all the year round.

the perfect putting greens, lawns and playing fields which are the envy of visitors from India and other tropical countries.

The excessive humidity, which makes the temperature so much more trying and enervating, has also its compensations, for it is probably due to the ever-present moisture in our atmosphere that sun-stroke is almost, if not entirely, unknown in this country. That the sun is not to be feared here as it is in other tropical countries is a comparatively new discovery. Not many years ago the sun was treated with the greatest respect and it was considered absolutely necessary for a European to wear a sun-helmet or double-crowned "terai" hat in the daytime after the sun was up. Now, however, ideas have changed and sun worship has become a local cult in all three Settlements, particularly in Singapore, where its finest temple is found in the palatial premises of the Singapore Swimming Club.

This is a European club, with a membership of over 3,000, which since 1931 has possessed what is probably one of the finest swimming pools in the whole Empire. The pool is 100 ft. wide and 210 ft. long, divided into a main pool 165 ft. long and a children's pool 45 ft. long. The depth varies from 4 ft. 6 in. at the shallow end of the main pool to 10 ft. at the deep end, with a depth of about seven feet half way. The pool is filled with sea water which is filtered and treated by a most elaborate and expensive process that successfully maintains at all times a purity equal to that of drinking water. The club is situated on the sea-shore at Katong, a suburb of Singapore about five miles from the centre of the town, and for members who prefer it there is also swimming in the open sea, with the protection of two "pagars" or fences to keep out the occasional sharks from the harbour that have been known to visit the sandy beaches of Katong. The club is crowded on Sundays and holidays and its regular habitués wear, the shadowed livery of the burnished sun as naturally as the Prince of Morocco himself, while the European children, who a few years ago would hardly have been allowed out of the house between the hours of nine in the morning and half past four in the afternoon, now play about the whole morning through in the scantiest of swimming suits acquiring, like their elders, a sun-bronze complexion all over.

With all its compensations, however, the climate is a very trying one. The enervating effect of continuous heat combined with high humidity is cumulative and the very monotony of the never-ending summer has a deleterious effect on the nervous system even of the healthiest. For the visitor or tourist the climate is delightful and the many amenities offered make any of the Settlements well worth a visit. It is no paradox, however, that the ideal holiday climate is not necessarily good for every-day enjoyment the whole year round. Though thoroughly appreciative of the many advantages that Malaya's eternal summer offers, particularly the all-the-year-round facilities for out-door games and sport of every kind, the European finds after two or three years continuous residence, with only local leave, that work and play alike become an effort, and that mentally and physically he is tired out. A lengthy holiday with a change to a more bracing climate then becomes an absolute necessity if health is to be maintained.

CHAPTER II

Government

The Government consists of a Governor aided by an Executive Council and a Legislative Council.

The Governor is appointed by Commission under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet, during His Majesty's pleasure. His office is constituted and his powers defined by the Letters Patent dated the 17th February, 1911, as amended by the Letters Patent dated the 18th August, 1924.

The Executive Council consists of the Governor as President, the General Officer Commanding the Troops, Malaya, the Colonial Secretary, the Resident Councillor, Penang, the Attorney-General, the Treasurer, the Resident Councillor, Malacca, two Official Members and three Unofficial Members. It is constituted, and its members are appointed, under the Royal Instructions dated the 18th August, 1924, as amended by Additional Instructions dated the 23rd February, 1931. The appointments of Official and Unofficial Members are nominative, and are subject to the approval or disallowance of His Majesty the King.

The Legislative Council is constituted by Letters Patent and Royal Instructions, and its procedure is governed by the Standing Orders made by the Council. Under Royal Instructions dated the 18th August, 1924, its constitution was enlarged and for the first time contained an elective element, provision being made for the election of two members by the Chambers of Commerce, Singapore and Penang, respectively. The Council is now composed of the Governor as President, eleven *ex-officio* Members, two Official Members, two elected Unofficial Members and eleven Nominated Unofficial Members. The appointments of the Nominated Unofficial Members are subject to the confirmation or disallowance of His Majesty the King.

Legislation may be effected by Acts of the Imperial Parliament, Orders of the King in Council, and Ordinances of the Legislative Council. The Governor convokes and prorogues the Councils, initiates legislation, and assents to or vetoes Bills, or reserves them for Signification of the Royal pleasure. The King has the right of veto on the Ordinances of the Colony.

The administration of ordinary affairs, subject to the direction of the Governor in matters requiring submission to him, is carried on in Singapore by the Colonial Secretary, in Penang and Malacca by the Resident Councillors assisted by their District Officers, and in Labuan by the Resident. The administration of the Towns of Singapore, Penang, and Malacca, is vested in the Municipalities whose members are appointed by the Governor. Similar bodies, known as Rural Boards, administer the Rural areas within the three Settlements.

The Municipalities and Rural Boards are constituted under Ordinance No. 135 (Municipal) which also prescribes their duties and defines their powers. By its provisions, the essential and ultimate control remains vested in the Governor in Council.

CHAPTER III

Population

A.—VITAL STATISTICS

In estimating the mean population of the Straits Settlements for the years 1932, 1933, 1934 and 1935 the method of calculation adopted last year has been followed. This takes account of the excess of births over deaths and the excess of emigration over immigration, of *vice versa*, since the census.

This change of method was rendered necessary by the large exodus of labourers, chiefly Chinese, Tamils and Javanese, which took place during the years 1931, 1932 and 1933. Under normal conditions these non-Malayan units form such a large proportion of the total population that the excess of emigration over immigration during the three years immediately following the census of 1931 became the dominant factor in determining the resident population, but the losses due to emigration during the slump years 1932–1934 have been regained within the last three years.

The population of the Straits Settlements on June 30th, 1935, is estimated to be 1,117,023. This estimate is derived from the estimated total of 1,057,108 for 1934, adjusted in accordance with the following:—

- (a) An excess of 15,139 births over the number of deaths.
- (b) An emigrant surplus of 64,368.
- (c) A loss of 19,592 persons resident in the territory of the Dindings ceded to the State of Perak since the last estimate was made.

The distribution of the population by race amongst the various Settlements as on 30th June, 1935, is estimated as follows:—

	<i>Singapore</i>	<i>Penang</i>	<i>Malacca</i>	<i>Labuan</i>	<i>Total</i>
European ..	9,118	1,764	369	26	11,277
Eurasians ..	7,311	2,437	2,161	38	11,947
Malaysians ..	68,972	113,615	101,963	5,067	289,617
Chinese ..	427,962	169,564	66,880	2,220	666,626
Indians ..	50,304	52,116	23,238	140	125,798
Others ..	8,643	2,408	646	61	11,758
	572,310	341,904	195,257	7,552	1,117,023

Births.—The number of births registered during the year amounted to 46,649 as compared with 42,974 in the previous year.

The birth-rate for the year was equal to 41.76 per thousand of the estimated population as against 40.65 in the preceding year.

The percentage of males born was 52.21 as compared with 51.97 during the year 1934.

Deaths.—The crude death-rate was 25.11 per thousand; that for 1934 was 26.54 and the average for the ten years 1926–1935, was 27.04 as recorded in the annual report of the Registrar of Births and Deaths.

Infant Mortality.—The corrected infantile mortality rate, (which is the lowest yet recorded), was 165.25 per thousand as against 171.87 in 1934 and an average of 181.73 over the ten years 1926–1935.

B.—MIGRATION STATISTICS

Measurements of migration are dealt with on a Malayan basis in the absence of any control between the various administrative units of the Straits Settlements and the Malay States. Migration is a subject of special interest in Malaya owing to the attraction of the country for foreign capital and for labour from India, China and the neighbouring countries of the Archipelago, and also to the situation of Singapore and Penang at the junction of ocean trade-routes. Until 1930 immigration was practically free, and one of the lucrative trades of Singapore was the importation of labourers from China. In that year a quota system was applied to the immigration of adult male labourers from China with the objects of reducing unemployment, raising the standard of labour and improving the sex ratio. In 1932 the Aliens Ordinance which is administered by the Immigration Department extended this control, subject to certain temporary exceptions, to all adult male immigrants of other than British or British-protected nationality.

Statistics of migration between Malaya and foreign countries by land, sea and air are collected by the Statistics Department and published monthly in the *Gazette*. These include particulars as to race, sex, proportion of minors, country of original departure or ultimate destination, and the Malayan port of entry. Tables are also published to show arrivals and departures of Chinese, Southern Indian and Javanese deck passengers, as indicating movements of labour. Copies of the summaries for the year are included in the Appendices.

Migration statistics are also, as already indicated, of importance as an aid to an estimation of the population in the periods between censuses.

The population of Malaya as ascertained by the census on the 1st April, 1931, was 4,385,346, that of the Straits Settlements being 1,114,015 or approximately one quarter. The populations on the 30th June, 1935, were estimated as 4,529,228 and 1,119,186, respectively. A cause of the relatively small increase in the Straits Settlements population as compared with that of the rest of Malaya is to be found in the retrocession of the Dindings (population 1931, 19,592) to Perak in February, 1935. The immigration surplus for the year was 125,206 persons as compared with 142,089 in 1934. The total gain to the population for the two years was 267,295 persons. This gain does not, however, counterbalance the emigration surplus of 353,436 persons during the period from the 1931 Census to 31st December, 1933, the net loss to the population through migration from the census of 1931 to the end of 1935 being 86,141 persons. The dominant factor in Malayan migration statistics is the movement of Chinese and Southern Indian labourers which is largely dependent on the welfare of Malaya's two major industries, rubber and tin. Immigration increased rapidly during 1934 owing to the sudden demand for estate labour after the introduction of rubber control. The surplus of arrivals over departures, however, suddenly dropped from

29,969 in December, 1934, to 12,678 in January, 1935, remained at about this average during the first half year, and declined considerably during the second half year, the figure for December being 4,461. A further reference to movements of Southern Indian and Chinese labour is made in the following sections of this chapter.

The following table shows the racial composition of the migrational surplus or deficit during the last three years:—

MIGRATIONAL SURPLUS, MALAYA						
Race		1933		1934		1935
Europeans and Americans	+	301	+	1,599	+	1,674
Europeans ..	-	72	+	263	+	145
Japanese ..	-	130	+	423	+	365
Chinese ..	-	31,178	+	61,639	+	90,986
Malays ..	+	304	+	3,425	-	3,060
Northern Indians	+	3,757	+	7,132	+	3,848
Southern Indians	-	11,175	+	66,666	+	33,045
Others ..	-	256	+	942	-	1,797
Total ..	-	38,449	+	142,089	+	125,206

During the year 1935 the total number of arrivals (to the nearest thousand) was 548,000, an increase of 11 per cent. and of departures 423,000, an increase of 20 per cent.

The majority of passengers travelled by sea. Penang and Port Swettenham were the main ports of entry for Southern Indian labourers, but for other races Singapore was the main port of entry and departure. Migration by land hardly exists, except for the ebb and flow of Malays, Chinese and Siamese resident on either side of the border between Siam and Malaya, and over a period of years the population of Malaya is little affected by it. Passenger transport by air, though small, was double that in 1934. Most of the passengers travelling by air were Europeans but increasing numbers of Japanese, Chinese and Northern Indian passengers were recorded.

C.—MOVEMENTS OF LABOUR

(i).—INDIAN IMMIGRATION*

(a) The total number of immigrants from Southern India who arrived at Penang by the British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers in 1935 was 65,191. This is a decrease of 24,637 over the figure for 1934, which was 89,828.

The immigrants were of the following classes:—

Assisted immigrants (labourers and dependants assisted to emigrate at the expense of the Indian Immigration Fund for work on estates etc., in Malaya)	20,771
Non-assisted immigrants (traders and others who paid their own passages)	44,420
Total ..	65,191

* The word immigrant, as used here in connection with Indian immigration, means a deck-passenger only, and does not include first or second class passengers.

Of the non-assisted immigrants 25,625, or approximately 58% were of the labouring classes, the remaining 18,795 being traders and others. It is estimated that about one-third of the non-assisted immigrants remained in the Colony, the remainder proceeding to the Federated Malay States and Unfederated Malay States. Of the assisted immigrants, 1,861 arrived to work in the Colony.

The following table shows the number of assisted passages taken during the last five years, for labourers and their families from Southern India to Malaya, and paid for from the Indian Immigration Fund:—

1931	..	..	..	91
1932	..	..	..	12
1933	..	..	..	13
1934	..	..	..	36,712
1935	..	..	..	16,709

The fall in the number of assisted immigrants in 1935 as compared with 1934 was due to the decline in the demand for labour consequent on the working of the Rubber Restriction Scheme.

(b) In addition to the immigrants who arrived by the British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers 1,159 deck passengers arrived by steamers of the Messageries Maritimes line.

(ii).—INDIAN EMIGRATION

(a) The number of deck passengers who left Penang for Southern India by the British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers in 1935 was 38,392 (33,726 adults, 2,444 minors and 2,222 infants) as against 28,068 (24,965 adults, 1,600 minors and 1,503 infants) in 1934.

Of the above, 29,189 adults, accompanied by 1,404 minors and 1,614 infants, paid their own passages, while 4,537 adults, 1,040 minors and 608 infants were repatriated through the Labour Department.

Of those repatriated through the Labour Department 4,105 adults, accompanied by 930 minors and 558 infants, were unfit for work, while the remaining 432 adults, 110 minors and 50 infants were repatriated at the expense of private employers or Government Departments or on free passages granted by the British India Steam Navigation Company.

Repatriations from the Colony were made up as follows:—

	<i>Adults</i>	<i>Minors</i>	<i>Infants</i>
1. Sent at the expense of the Straits Settlements Government and Indian Immigration Fund ..	588	92	48
2. Sent at the expense of estates and Government Departments ..	71	7	4
3. Carried free of charge by the British India Steam Navigation Company ..	19	4	2
	678	103	54

There was throughout the year a steadily maintained return traffic to India of labourers paying their own passages, traders and other deck passengers. The number of presumed labourers was 13,364 as against 8,196 in 1934, while the number of traders and other non-labourers was 15,825 as against 15,360 in 1934.

(b) In addition to the above, 477 deck passengers left for South India by steamers of the Messageries Maritimes.

(iii).—CHINESE IMMIGRATION

The immigration of adult male Chinese aliens arriving in the Colony from China ports (including Hong Kong) was restricted by Proclamation under the Aliens Ordinance, 1932. The quota was fixed at 4,000 a month throughout the year. This restriction applies to adult male Chinese arriving on the ships of the six quota companies. Other shipping companies are restricted to a total of 25 a month each.

Alien Chinese in possession of certificates of admission or certificates of residence issued under the Aliens Ordinance in the Colony or a corresponding Aliens Enactment in a Malay State are exempted from the provisions of Part I of the Aliens Ordinance and are therefore not counted against the quota.

The issue of permits to *bonâ fide* employers to import their own labour outside the quota was continued. One hundred and forty such permits were issued during the year.

The total number of Chinese entering the Colony under the quota during the year was 47,407.

The total number of Chinese who arrived on non-quota ships was 3,440.

The total number of Chinese who arrived in possession of certificates of admission or certificates of residence was 15,809.

The total number of Chinese who arrived on permits issued to employers of labour was 15,119.

The total number of male Chinese from China ports (including Hong Kong) who arrived during the year was therefore 81,775 compared with 52,023 in 1934, 13,535 in 1933, 18,741 in 1932 and 50,120 in 1931.

No restriction is placed on the immigration of women and children. Thirty-eight thousand six hundred and twenty-one women and 21,496 children entered the Colony from China ports. The corresponding figures for the last four years were:—

			Women	Children
1931	..	..	17,042	11,923
1932	..	..	8,652	6,141
1933	..	..	8,199	6,062
1934	..	..	29,678	17,163

The number of women to a thousand men arriving from China ports during the years 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934 and 1935 was 340, 462, 605, 570 and 472 respectively.

(iv).—CHINESE EMIGRATION

The total number of Chinese deck passengers leaving Malayan ports for China during the year was 69,025 as against 68,129 in 1934.

Fares for deck passengers to and from China were as follows:

The fares from Singapore to China ports at the end of the year were from \$10 to \$18 to Hong Kong and \$12 to \$22 to Amoy and Swatow (Straits currency).

For passengers counted against the quota from Amoy, Swatow and Hong Kong to Singapore the fares varied as follows: \$55 to \$56 (China currency) and \$55 (China currency) and \$45 to \$55 (Hong Kong currency) respectively.

For passengers not counted against the quota from Amoy, Swatow and Hong Kong to Singapore the fares were \$30 to \$46 (China currency) \$40 (China currency) and \$25 to \$30 (Hong Kong currency) respectively.

Fares for specially recruited labour (under permits to employers brought from Amoy, Swatow and Hong Kong to Singapore were \$35 (China currency) from Amoy and Swatow and \$25 (Hong Kong currency) from Hong Kong.

All the fares above quoted were subject to broker's commission

CHAPTER IV

Health

A.—PREVALENCE OF, AND MORTALITY ARISING FROM THE PRINCIPAL DISEASES

(i).—GENERAL

(1) *Malaria*.—One thousand six hundred and ninety-eight deaths were registered as caused by malaria and 3,787 deaths as due to fever unspecified, as compared with 814 and 4,503 respectively for the year 1934. The natural recession in the incidence of malaria fever during the past few years appears to have terminated and an upward trend is now evident.

(2) *Tuberculosis*.—Two thousand two hundred and sixty-seven deaths were attributed to tuberculosis as compared with 2,276 in the year 1934.

It is satisfactory to note that there is no increase in the number of deaths due to tuberculosis. The measures taken for prevention may be classified under four main headings:—

(a) *Education*.—Every endeavour is made by means of films, posters, leaflets, informal talks, etc., to educate the people in methods of cleanliness and personal hygiene with a view to avoiding infection and limiting its spread.

(b) *Improvement of housing and general sanitation*.—The Singapore Improvement Trust's policy of constructing backlanes in the congested areas, was energetically continued during the year. There are also schemes for the demolition of slums, the building of cottages and tenements and the establishment of open spaces.

(c) *Special measures of sanitation.*—Preventive and curative measures against malaria and ankylostomiasis are carried out on a large scale and have the effect of improving the general health and raising the natural resistance of the people against infection by tuberculosis.

(d) *Hospital treatment.*—Beds for tuberculous cases are available in Government hospitals and beds for the special treatment of tuberculosis exist in the General Hospitals in Singapore, Penang and Malacca, and also in Tan Tock Seng Hospital, Singapore.

(3) *Pneumonia.*—Pneumonia accounted for 2,541 deaths as compared with 2,181 in 1934, giving a percentage of 91.0 per thousand deaths.

(4) *Beri-beri.*—Nine hundred and sixteen deaths were registered as being due to this disease as against 913 deaths recorded in 1934.

(5) *Dysentery.*—Dysentery caused 411 deaths. The disease is becoming less evident.

(ii).—DANGEROUS INFECTIOUS DISEASES

(1) *Plague.*—No case occurred.

(2) *Cholera.*—One case occurred.

(3) *Small-pox.*—There were 65 cases with 21 deaths. This outbreak occurred in Singapore and was confined almost entirely to Malays.

(4) *Cerebro-spinal Fever.*—Eleven cases occurred of which nine were fatal.

(iii).—VENEREAL DISEASES

The treatment of these diseases is undertaken by a special branch of the Medical Department known as the "Social Hygiene Branch", under the control of the Chief Medical Officer, Social Hygiene.

There are 30 treatment centres in the Straits Settlements as follows:—

Singapore	..	..	..	8
Penang (including Province Wellesley)	..	..	..	15
Malacca	..	..	..	7

Singapore.—The number of new cases treated shows a slight increase on the previous year:—

1933	..	..	..	11,961 cases
1934	..	..	..	9,796 „
1935	..	..	..	9,966 „

Penang.—The figures show a decrease in 1933 of 787 cases and a still larger decrease of 1,395 cases during the year under review, as follows:—

1932	..	..	..	8,546 cases
1933	..	..	..	7,759 „
1934	..	..	..	8,169 „
1935	..	..	..	6,774 „

Malacca.—The figures are higher in 1933 and again in 1935 as compared with the year 1934:—

1933	..	..	..	3,636 cases
1934	..	..	..	3,464 „
1935	..	..	..	3,601 „

Number of Seamen Treated.—There were 969 new admissions to the clinics for sailors of whom 242 were British and 123 non British Europeans. Of the remainder 479 were Chinese, 13 Malays, 64 Indians and 48 belonged to other races.

Serological Reactions.—Sixteen thousand five hundred and seventy specimens of blood were submitted to the Kahn Test, of which 7,808 gave positive results.

Propaganda.—Pamphlets and leaflets were freely distributed to the public, and posters calling attention to the dangers of venereal disease and the facilities for free treatment were displayed throughout the town of Singapore.

(iv).—YAWS

There was an increase in the number of cases of yaws treated during the year:—

Cases of yaws treated in 1934	..	6,477
Cases of yaws treated in 1935	..	8,222

Facilities exist in most of the rural areas for the treatment of yaws, and the travelling dispensaries which visit outlying villages attract numbers of Malays who are the chief sufferers. The treatment has firmly established itself in the confidence of the villagers and few cases now remain untreated for long in the areas served by Government hospitals and dispensaries. Epidemic foci of the disease however still appear in certain areas and these accounted for most of the 8,222 cases treated during 1935.

(v).—BUILDINGS

The new General Hospital at Penang, was completed by the addition of a new administration block, containing also wards for first class patients. This building was opened for occupation in April.

B.—HOSPITALS, ETC.

(i).—HOSPITALS

Seventy-two thousand two hundred and twenty-two patients were treated in the hospitals of the Colony as compared with 57,876 in the previous year. The malaria admissions numbered 12,478 as compared with 5,638 in 1934. Admissions for venereal disease totalled 3,020 with 156 deaths, as against 3,269 with 175 deaths in the previous year. Admissions for tuberculosis were 2,447 with 868 deaths compared with 2,303 and 381 deaths in 1934. There were 1,672 admissions for pneumonia with 934 deaths as against 1,429 with 813 in the previous year.

(ii).—DISPENSARIES

There was a slight decrease in the number of out-patients treated at government dispensaries and also in the number of attendances, the figures being:—

	1934	1935
Number of Out-patients ..	217,421	215,406
Number of Attendances ..	459,337	435,514

The number of people seeking advice at the Women's and Children's Out-door Dispensary at Kandang Kerbau, Singapore, increased from 39,218 to 45,404.

At a similar dispensary in Penang the attendances for 1935 were 21,728 compared with 19,123 in 1934.

At the Women's and Children's Out-door Dispensary at Malacca, the number of attendances was 13,706 for 1935, compared with 17,966 in 1934, whilst at Merlimau and Masjid Tanah, the numbers were 2,207 and 1,582 for 1935, compared with 1,158 and 1,384 for 1934, respectively.

(iii).—MOTOR TRAVELLING DISPENSARIES

Motor Travelling Dispensaries are provided in Singapore, Penang, Malacca and Province Wellesley. They visit the outlying districts of each Settlement and dispense treatment for minor ailments. Attendances for the whole of the Colony totalled 111,498 compared with 106,747 in 1934.

(iv).—LEPER SETTLEMENTS

Pulau Jerejak Settlement.—Modern treatment for leprosy is given to all curable cases at Pulau Jerejak with encouraging results. The success so far achieved has been reflected in the number of cases discharged as free from infection which numbered 5 in 1932, 45 in 1933, 30 in 1934, and 56 in 1935. The patients are encouraged to take an active part in the work of the Settlement and 123 patients are now employed as artisans, wood-cutters, dhobies, etc. A few educated inmates serve as teachers, dressers and overseers. Many inmates interest themselves in vegetable and fruit gardening and in poultry farming. The dramatic troupes formed in the year 1933 gave several successful performances. Twenty boys attend the Chinese School and 13 attend the English School. The Boy Scouts muster 40 and have drilled regularly throughout the year while outdoor sports have been extended and have proved popular. The brass band has maintained its high standard and has given much pleasure to the inmates.

Singapore Settlement.—The Settlement at Singapore has accommodation for both males and females, but male patients are transferred to Pulau Jerejak, Penang, as early as possible. Members of the Church of England "Toc H", the Methodist Mission, and the Bethesda Mission have taken an active interest in the inmates and have regularly visited the Settlement and provided comforts and entertainment for the patients.

(v).—MENTAL HOSPITAL

There were 1,397 patients in hospital at the beginning of the year, admissions numbered 597. Discharges, deaths and abscondings accounted for a like number. One thousand three hundred and ninety-seven patients remained at the end of the year. Compared with 1934, the admissions showed an increase of 174. The annual increase in the number of mental cases is an item of considerable expense, and one over which there appears to be no method of control. Eight thousand four hundred and fifty yards of cotton cloth were woven for use in the institution and seventy thousand seven hundred pounds of vegetables were grown for the use of the patients.

A small quantity of fruit and some coconuts were harvested.

C.—HEALTH AND SANITATION

(i).—QUARANTINE

Seven hundred and fifty-six visits in Singapore and 423 visits in Penang (as against 783 and 299 respectively in 1934) were paid to ships by Port Health Officers. Four hundred and fifteen thousand five hundred and forty persons were examined during the year as compared with 391,982 in 1934.

Fifty-five thousand one hundred and forty-one persons were detained under observation in the Quarantine Stations at Singapore and Penang.

The number of persons from ships treated for infectious diseases at Singapore Quarantine Station was 19 for small-pox, 34 for chicken-pox, 14 for measles and 14 for leprosy. At the Penang Quarantine Station 18 were treated for chicken-pox, 9 for measles and 46 for leprosy.

(ii).—RURAL CONSERVANCY

Singapore.—In the more populous sections of the rural area in Singapore nightsoil removal was carried out by Chinese labour under the supervision of the Health Officer. The nightsoil of approximately one quarter of the houses in the rural area of Singapore was removed by this method. Disposal is either by trenching or septic tank treatment.

During the year 882 latrines were constructed or reconstructed, and 512 of an insanitary type were demolished.

Household refuse was collected by the Health Department and incinerated. The number of serviceable incinerators is 24.

Penang.—Extensions of conservancy measures in Penang and in Butterworth, Province Wellesley, have been continued during the year, the Rural Board employs a nightsoil contractor at a fixed monthly fee to collect the nightsoil. The Board provides a special lorry for collection of the collecting buckets and the nightsoil is dumped at sea. A disinfecting tank for cleansing the collecting buckets is in use.

The fees from the householders are collected by the Rural Board and a graduated charge is made according to the type of house.

A similar scheme was instituted in Bukit Mertajam, Province Wellesley, at the beginning of 1936, but here the nightsoil is disposed of at a trenching ground and a bucket-washing and disinfecting station is in use.

In other village areas in Province Wellesley and Penang Rural areas an authorised person collects the nightsoil and collects fees from the householders at a rate of \$1 a latrine. The Rural Board enforces the use of a latrine.

Outside the village areas the use of properly constructed latrines is increasing, particularly among Malays and Tamils; but some of the Chinese houses have still only a shallow pit latrine, which is far from sanitary, while ancient horticultural practices still subsist which make the continued use of a bucket-latrine by certain vegetable-gardeners the reverse of a sanitary improvement and an offence to more senses than one. An unobjectionable bucket system is in use on most estates which house their own labour forces, though a few have adopted bore-hole latrines.

Malacca.—One thousand nine hundred and thirty-eight new latrines were constructed and reconstructed during the year, and 664 insanitary latrines were demolished.

Fifty-eight of the new latrines were of the Yaeger bore-hole type. There are 33 village incinerators in use but many of them are very dilapidated. Four Horsfall incinerators were built during the year.

Labuan.—Conservancy was carried out by Rural Board coolies under the supervision of the Health Officer. Nightsoil was removed from all latrines of approved type in the urban and suburban areas of Victoria and disposed of by dumping in the sea half a mile from the shore during ebb tide. From 1st October, 1935, trenching of night soil was substituted.

During the year, 72 sanitary latrines were constructed and 12 insanitary ones demolished.

Household refuse was collected daily by Rural Board coolies under the supervision of the Health Department, and the method of disposal was to dump it in swamps and cover it with sand.

(iii).—ANTI-MALARIAL WORK

The protection of the population from malaria in towns and villages of the Straits Settlements is an important duty of the Government and Municipal Health Authorities in their respective areas.

Outside the Municipal Areas the Government's total expenditure made on anti-malarial measures undertaken during the year was \$161,119.96.

Anti-mosquito drainage and oiling continue to prove effective weapons of defence against malaria, and it can be said with truth that in the principal towns and on large estates protection is as complete as human effort can make it, in evidence of which statement may be cited the fact that the prophylactic use of quinine is practically unknown among Europeans in this Colony.

The rural problem, however, is not the problem of the towns, large villages and estates, where effective and economic control of malaria has already been attained by older methods applied with thoroughness and skill. In rural areas much remains still to be done and in the future it will be necessary to extend anti-malarial activities in rural Singapore, and to some extent in Penang, owing to the extensive building in these areas. Breeding grounds of *Anopheles barbirostris* which recently have been found to be giving rise to malaria will also require to be dealt with as circumstances permit meanwhile.

The continued call for economy coupled with the increase in the rural population engaged in agriculture, has directed increasing attention to the means by which the inhabitants in country districts can best and most cheaply be freed from the havoc of malaria.

Amongst the experiments tried have been the spacing of the oiling period from seven to ten days and the use of "brush oiling", but these attempts at economy have proved disappointing and a return to the old established methods has frequently proved necessary.

Encouraging results have however been recorded in places where the design of rural anti-malarial drainage has been directed to establish an improved water supply or where drainage benefits the agricultural quality of the soil to an extent that justifies expenditure upon the work.

Investigations, similarly directed, have shown that many natural methods of Malaria Control, which rely upon the effect of materials obtainable everywhere free of cost throughout the country, are often suited to rural conditions. Amongst these may be mentioned "sluicing", "herbage cover", "stone-packing", "cultivation of shade trees", "subsoil drainage with bamboo" and "fascine drainage".

CHAPTER V

Housing

In the principal towns of the Colony the various types of housing may be classified as follows:—

- (a) Houses with gardens occupied by the well-to-do residents,
- (b) Semi-detached houses or small bungalows occupied by the less prosperous, or the less well-paid of the salaried classes,
- (c) Terrace houses for clerks and people of similar standing,
- (d) Shop-houses,
- (e) Common lodging houses, which are frequently overcrowded,
- (f) Tenements in closely built areas, and
- (g) Wood-huts or semi-permanent houses in the outskirts of the city.

The houses in the first category, occupied by the European residents and the wealthier Asiatics, vary greatly in type, from the old Colonial style mostly built of wood, with its wide open verandas and large and lofty rooms, to the most modern of villas and even flats which might have been imported ready-made from Hollywood or the Riviera. In the more modern types the rooms are generally less lofty and spacious

than in the older houses, which were built before the days when cost of construction was so important a consideration as it is now, and before the discovery that, with electric fans instead of the "thermantidotes" of Kipling's day, brick walls instead of wood in the upper storey, and a better appreciation of ventilation, the best way of keeping a house cool is not necessarily the exclusion of sun-light. All however, old and new, are comfortable, handsome and roomy, and one military officer, at least, whose previous tropical service had been exclusively Indian, when asked how he liked his quarters in Singapore, replied that he had been given a house that "Generals would fight for in 'Pindi'". Nearly every house of this class stands in a compound, or garden, with lawns, tennis court and a wealth of flowering trees and shrubs, and is situated generally on the crest or side of a hill, which adds to the other amenities a good view and the advantage of a cool evening breeze. The smaller semi-detached houses and bungalows generally differ from the houses of the wealthier only in size, and nearly all in Singapore at least have the advantages of modern lighting and sanitation. The terrace houses occupied by the clerical classes are necessarily humbler in character than the "compound" and semi-detached houses. Facilities for tennis and gardening are not provided and the sites are chosen more for convenience than amenity. Even these, however, afford good accommodation, are well ventilated and in some areas in the larger towns at least have modern sanitation as well as lighting. An important development in the housing of the wealthier European classes noticed during the past year was the first introduction in Singapore of the "solo-air" system of ventilation which replaces fans by a system of fresh air delivered mechanically through ventilators into the bedrooms and living-rooms of the house. So far only a few private houses have been fitted, but it is only a matter of time until some such system of ventilation, or air-conditioning, will be common in the better class houses and the difference that this must make to the health of Europeans living in this climate is incalculable. One great disadvantage of the inevitable mosquito-net is that it keeps out air as well as the things that fly by night, and an electric fan in the bedroom is of little use except to cool one down after a bath and keep the skin dry while dressing. Under the mosquito-net the fan's breeze will only penetrate when it is too strong for health or comfort; but a solo-air outfit can be fitted to the bed, under the net, and will deliver a steady supply of fresh air the whole night long without dangerous or uncomfortable draughts. In a few years' time European residents in Singapore will probably look back and wonder how their predecessors of this generation bore the trials and discomforts of their day, much as we to-day look back with superior satisfaction to the brocaded and be-wigged days of Old John Company or even the "primitive" conditions of twenty-five years ago.

When we turn to the housing of the poorer classes, the picture is not so pleasant; and this Colony like many other parts of the world presents contrasts which the most callous cannot regard with complacency. The shop-houses built in rows or streets are generally of solid brick construction, two or more storeys in height, and in the newer districts are of satisfactory design, built to plans approved by the local health authorities. In the older parts of the towns, however, poor ventilation conduces to the spread of tuberculosis and

the absence of back-lanes hinders proper sanitation. The upper storeys of many of these houses are divided into small cubicles with temporary partitions, erected without regard to the need for light and air, and it is in these that the worst overcrowding is found. Unfortunately, too many of the labouring and artisan classes find their homes in such cubicles or in the common lodging houses of the most densely populated areas and the common lodging house frequently consists of just an overcrowded dormitory above a shop or store.

With such conditions prevailing it is not surprising that tuberculosis is prevalent in urban areas or that the infantile death rate is still high; but social workers and others who have studied the problem of slum-clearance and re-housing in the larger seaport towns at home will appreciate the extra difficulties that attend its solution in a country where the main areas affected are occupied by a transient Asiatic population inured for generations to a standard of living compared with which their present circumstances give little cause for complaint. The Government, however, and the educated elements of the population, European and Asiatic, are fully alive to the needs of the situation, and the first steps have already been taken to deal with the re-housing of the poorer classes of the population in Singapore, Penang and Malacca, the three principal towns of the Colony.

In Singapore such measures fall within the scope of operations of the Singapore Improvement Trust, a body especially incorporated for the purpose by an Ordinance passed in 1927.

The Improvement Trust has adopted a fixed programme for the driving of back lanes through congested areas, and expects that action will have been completed in all the worst areas within the next three years. It had already acquired several large blocks of slum-property before the end of 1934 and had demolished them for reconstruction or the establishment of open spaces. Further, about fifty acres of waste land at Tiong Bharu, adjoining a particularly crowded Chinese area, had been bought, filled in, provided with roads, and laid out in building lots for sale, with a view to relieving the prevailing congestion. During the year under review progress was steadily maintained in this most important work of social betterment. Fourteen new back-lanes were completed, enabling 320 more houses to be connected to the Municipal sewers, and 32 houses of unsatisfactory design were bought and demolished. At the same time plans were approved for the erection of 21 shop-houses, *i.e.* shops with tenements above, on the Trust's property at Tiong Bahru. These 21 houses of excellent modern design are to be built in two blocks, one of twelve and the other of nine houses; and work had begun on the first block of twelve houses before the end of the year. No less than 102 layouts for the development of private property on modern and sanitary lines were considered and approved, and a number of blocks of old property in the town were inspected and new layouts prepared with a view to action under the Singapore Improvement Ordinance for the compulsory demolition of the existing houses and the re-building of the areas in compliance with the requirements of the Health authorities. Unfortunately, litigation has arisen over certain of the Trust's proposals, and representations have been made to the Government in consequence that the Ordinance as at present in force

does not sufficiently regard the interests of the owner of property which is not in itself unfit for habitation but merely hampers proper development. Certain ambiguities have also been found in the Singapore Improvement Ordinance and the Municipal Ordinance which hinder action under them. The result of the legal difficulties met with has been to delay progress with some of the Trust's major schemes, but the question is engaging the attention of the Government and at, the time of writing, a representative committee has been appointed to go into the whole matter and to advise in what respects the laws require amendment to remove their ambiguities and make them more effective.

In Penang and Malacca, where the problems to be met and solved are neither so great nor so pressing as those of Singapore, all measures of town-improvement are undertaken by the Municipal Commissioners under the provisions of the Municipal Ordinance and, while development has not been possible on the same scale as the work undertaken by the Improvement Trust in Singapore, a great deal has been accomplished during the last ten years and the work is still progressing. The Health Department freely uses its powers to enforce the demolition of insanitary dwellings, and strict control of common lodging houses is maintained to prevent overcrowding and preserve a decent standard of sanitation. Special schemes of slum clearance have also been prepared, in addition to the year-by-year activities of the Municipal Commissioners, and these are being put into operation as funds and circumstances permit. For the purpose of such approved schemes a grant of \$300,000 was made to the Municipality of Penang in 1934 and the work is proceeding.

In rural districts though brick shop-houses with tiled roofs are found in the larger villages, the houses are generally of old Malay or Chinese types, built of planks with roofs of attap, a very efficient native type of thatching with dried palm fronds. The wood and attap houses are usually owned by the occupiers, and as a general rule are clean and well-ventilated, besides being admirably suited to the climate and cool and comfortable to live in. Those of the Malay small-holder or peasant are raised about four to six feet above the ground level, and are especially well-ventilated, cool and comfortable. The brick-and-tile shop-houses in the villages, like those in the towns, lend themselves to overcrowding, but the evils are less pronounced in rural areas. Planning schemes have been evolved for most gazetted villages, demolition notices are enforced against insanitary buildings whenever necessary, and the work of providing all dwellings with sanitary latrines is proceeding rapidly. For all new buildings, in Municipal and Rural Board areas, strict compliance with the building by-laws is now enforced, although it is impossible, and indeed unnecessary, to insist on the standards devised for the wealthier municipal areas in the rural areas where expense is a much greater consideration. There are no building societies in the Straits Settlements.

Labourers on rubber estates are usually housed in barracks consisting of single rooms with kitchens attached. Nearly all of these buildings conform to an approved standard design and frequent inspections by the health authorities and the officers of the Labour Department prevent overcrowding and ensure decent upkeep and cleanliness.

CHAPTER VI

Production

A.—AGRICULTURE

GENERAL

The principal crops grown in the Colony are rubber, coconuts, rice and pineapples; the areas cultivated thereunder in each Settlement during the year 1935 are as follows:—

	<i>Province Wellesley and Penang</i>	<i>Malacca</i>	<i>Singapore</i>
	<i>(acres)</i>	<i>(acres)</i>	<i>(acres)</i>
Rubber ..	84,978	190,476	55,678
Coconuts ..	44,866	13,340	8,360
Rice ..	37,140	31,360	nil
Pineapples ..	866	562	7,000

Crops of secondary importance are fruit, vegetables, arecanuts, tobacco, derris, pepper, tapioca and cloves. Of these crops only two, namely rubber and coconuts, are cultivated on large estates owned both by Europeans and by Asiatics as well as by Asiatics on small-holdings. The remainder of the crops are cultivated exclusively by Asiatic small holders.

(i).—CROPS GROWN BY EUROPEANS AND ASIATICS

Rubber.—The total area under rubber in the Straits Settlements at the end of 1935 was estimated to be 331,132 acres made up as follows:—

	<i>Estates of 100 acres and over</i>	<i>Small Holdings of less than 100 acres</i>	<i>Total</i>
P.W. and Penang ..	48,158	36,820	84,978
Malacca ..	124,281	66,195	190,476
Singapore ..	35,087	20,591	55,678
Total ..	207,526	123,606	331,132

Of the area cultivated on estates 127,508 acres were grown on European-owned estates and 80,018 acres on Asiatic-owned estates.

The average price of standard smoked sheet in Singapore for the year was 20.25 cents a pound as against 20.63 cents in 1934. From January to April the price declined from 21.25 to 18.19 cents, and rose to 20.35 cents in June. It declined again to 18.89 cents until September, when it began to rise again reaching 21.18 cents in November.

Under the International Rubber Regulation Agreement which was in force throughout the year, Malaya received a quota of 7/12ths of 504,000 tons in 1934, and of 538,000 tons in 1935. The share of Malaya's quota allotted to the Straits Settlements by the Controller of Rubber for 1934 was 7/12ths of 50,250 tons, and for 1935 was 49,300 tons, giving a permissible export of 25,544 tons for the last 7 months of 1934 and of 33,277 tons for 1935.

The method of control adopted was an assessment of the productive capacity of individual rubber holdings and the granting of export rights on the basis of this assessment. Comparatively few assessments were completed by the 1st January, 1935, and the export rights given in 1934 were provisional only. By the middle of 1935 assessment was practically complete both for large and small holdings. In the islands of Singapore and Penang, which receive special treatment under the International Agreement, owners of rubber holdings are permitted to produce only up to the amount of export rights granted to them. In the mainland settlements of Malacca and Province Wellesley owners of large holdings are credited with their export rights in the ledgers of the Controller, and the owners of small-holdings receive coupons which permit the export of 5, 10 or 25 katis or 1 or 5 pikuls of dry rubber. These rights or coupons are used to cover either direct export or sales to rubber dealers, who are in their turn permitted to export rubber to the extent of the export rights so acquired by them. Export rights and coupons issued to owners of holdings and not made use of for the purpose of export or sale are cancelled at the end of each quarter. A steady export of rubber throughout the year is thus assured.

Under the International Agreement the planting of rubber on land which was not under rubber cultivation on the 1st June, 1934, is prohibited, except that a limited area may, with the approval of the Controller, be planted for experimental purposes. The total area so approved up to the 31st December, 1935, in the Colony was 65 acres.

The replanting of areas under rubber on the 1st June, 1934, is allowed to the extent of 10% of any holding in any one year and 20% during the regulation period. The area approved for replanting up to the end of 1935 in the Colony was 752 acres.

Singapore and Penang, as free ports and markets of rubber from producing countries other than Malaya, necessarily remained outside the normal restriction scheme. As holdings in Singapore and Penang are in close proximity to markets and there would be no means of differentiating between rubber brought in from outside and rubber produced on the Islands, it was decided that production figures for Singapore and Penang should be assessed separately. Thereafter, it was laid down that nobody was permitted to purchase or receive any rubber from any producer in the Islands except on transfer of credit or coupons.

Dealers in Singapore and Penang are closely controlled and an exact record kept of all rubber shipped into the Islands. Provided it is accompanied by a proper Certificate of Origin such rubber is admitted and the corresponding credit placed against the name of the importing dealer. Added to this, a small amount of Singapore's own production comes into the hands of dealers on transfer of credits or coupons surrendered to the Superintendent's Office in exchange for further credit. Rubber which leaves the Islands is debited against these accounts, as is also rubber made use of in the manufacturing of rubber articles in the factories on these Islands. The difference represents reasonably closely the stock of rubber in the hands of dealers.

The Regulation Scheme operated with smoothness and efficiency in Malacca and Province Wellesley as well as in Singapore and Penang throughout the year.

The declared production of rubber for the Straits Settlements was 35,807 tons of which 22,549 tons were produced on large estates and 13,258 tons from small holdings. Local consumption in Singapore remained at a negligible figure so that practically the whole production was exported. The greater part of the crop was produced in the form of standard smoked sheet, but there was an appreciable export of rubber in the form of latex; the total quantity exported from Malaya in this form during the year was estimated to amount to 13,150 tons on the basis of dry rubber content.

Notwithstanding the relatively low percentage of the quota allowed for export, practically all estates have been able to produce rubber at a profit; and cultivation and manufacturing conditions have undergone further improvement while labour and salary rates have risen appreciably.

The higher prices prevailing for rubber coupled with the refusal to issue coupons for neglected holdings resulted in the maintenance of a fairly high level of upkeep of small holdings throughout the Colony.

Intensive surveys made throughout the year of the areas out of tapping on small holdings indicated that there was a steady increase in the number of holdings untapped. Thus at the end of March it was estimated that 15.4 per cent. of the total area was untapped, in June it had risen to 18.9 per cent., in September to 20.6 per cent. and in December to 28.4 per cent. The principal reason for this is the relatively high prices which have prevailed for export coupons as compared with rubber. In consequence a steadily increasing number of small holders have preferred to sell their export rights in the shape of coupons rather than to tap their trees and sell rubber with coupons attached.

Diseases and pests of rubber were on the whole less in evidence this year than usual. Towards the end of the year with the advent of the wet weather the incidence of Mouldy Rot appreciably increased, but not to a serious extent, and it is satisfactory to record that, as a result of the methods of persuasion and demonstration that have been adopted of late years in the control of diseases on small holdings, conditions in this respect have materially improved. Leaf mildew due to *Oidium Heveae* appeared in Province Wellesley and Malacca, but the incidence of this disease was relatively slight and much less in evidence than in the previous year.

Further additions were made to the staff of Asiatic Rubber Instructors appointed by the Rubber Research Institute of Malaya, who are placed, for purposes of supervision, under the control of Agricultural Officers of the Field Branch of the Department of Agriculture. During the year Instructors were stationed in Province Wellesley and Malacca and the results of their work are already becoming apparent. The introduction of a small smoke-house which can readily be constructed by small holders at very little cost merits mention. By the end of the year a number of these had been erected on small holdings throughout the Colony, thus promoting the

production of rubber of low moisture content. The Instructors have continued their demonstrations and lectures on the correct maintenance of small holdings, disease control, tapping systems and preparation of good quality sheet, and reports show that in consequence the general standard of small holders' rubber is steadily improving. It is anticipated that the reduction in tapping, to which attention has already been called, will have a beneficial effect by providing a resting period which will favour bark renewal.

Coconuts and Coconut Products.—Coconuts are grown both as an estate crop and also on numerous small holdings in all three Settlements. The areas under cultivation are shown below:—

	Areas grown on Estates of over 100 acres	Areas grown on Small holdings of less than 100 acres	Total
P.W. & Penang ..	19,773	27,093	46,866
Malacca ..	—	13,340	13,340
Singapore ..	3,159	5,201	8,360
Total ..	22,932	45,634	68,566

On estates coconuts are almost exclusively grown for the production of copra for export. There is a considerable export trade in fresh nuts to Burma from Province Wellesley & Penang, while in addition large quantities of fresh nuts are sold for consumption in Penang and for transport and sale in inland markets. The total number of nuts exported amounted to 10,636,400 as compared with 10,143,900 in the previous year. Supplies of nuts for this trade are mainly derived from the Settlements of Penang and Province Wellesley and from South Kedah. Competition for the purchase of fresh nuts was sufficiently keen to produce some diminution in the output of copra on small holdings by Malay producers in Province Wellesley, and competition began between Malays and Chinese for the purchase of nuts for export. In Malacca a considerable proportion of the produce is sold as nuts for consumption in inland markets, while a small amount of copra of indifferent quality is produced. In Singapore practically the whole of the produce finds its market in the city as fresh nuts. In addition, throughout the Colony coconuts are largely used by the small holders themselves as a food and for the production of oil for domestic purposes, and there is a considerable sale for coconuts at all village fairs.

The total annual consumption of coconuts in Malaya is considerable, though far less than in Ceylon. It is estimated to be 100 nuts a head of the whole population annually, while it is estimated that in the coconut growing areas consumption of coconuts amounts to one nut a head of population daily.

It is noteworthy that in striking contrast with conditions on the Malabar Coast of India, for example, very little use is made in Malaya of the by-products of the coconut industry. Coconut charcoal is not made and the production of coconut coir as a small holders' industry is practically nonexistent, although a certain amount of coir is produced by prison labour.

There are nine oil mills in the Colony, two in Singapore one in Malacca and six in Penang, which extract oil from locally produced and imported copra. The total production of coconut oil from the oil mills of Malaya as a whole is estimated to be approximately 60,000 tons per annum of which 35,000 tons are exported. A further marked increase occurred in the factory production of coconut oil during the year. It is impossible to obtain exact figures of the total production of coconut oil on account of the considerable but unascertained production of oil on small holdings; it has, however, been estimated that the total production of coconuts for Malaya amounts to 900,000,000 while, on a similar basis, that of the Straits Settlements amounts to 101,000,000 nuts per annum.

Local prices for coconut products improved considerably during the year. The average price in Singapore for "sun-dried" copra was \$4.53 a pikul as compared with \$2.94 a pikul in 1934 and \$3.89 a pikul in 1933. The corresponding price for Mixed copra was \$4.15 as compared with \$2.44 in 1933. The price for "sun-dried" opened at \$4.21 in January and rose to \$4.60 in February, thereafter it steadily declined until it reached \$3.84 in August. Subsequently the price recovered and in December averaged \$5.46 a pikul for "sun-dried" quality. The average price for coconut oil was \$9.13 a pikul and that of copra cake was \$1.55 a pikul as compared with \$5.96 and \$1.28 respectively in 1934.

As the result of the marked rise in price for coconut products which occurred during the year, conditions both on estates and small holdings improved considerably. On most properties production again became profitable, and a marked improvement in the standard of cultivation has followed.

Copra produced by estates in the Colony has always borne a good reputation, but that produced by smallholders of low quality had been for many years and was becoming even worse, when, in 1929, research work was undertaken to improve the quality of Malayan copra, and active propaganda started for the dissemination of information among small holders. Since that date a marked improvement has been noticed in the quality of Malayan copra, particularly on small holdings in Penang and Province Wellesley. The Association of Small Copra-Kiln Owners formed in that Settlement during the previous year functioned throughout 1935 with considerable benefit to its members. A new small copra-kiln of cheap construction, suitable for small holders, has been recently designed by the Officer in Charge of Copra Investigations, and efforts are now being made to popularise it.

Courses of training in the preparation of good quality copra were again given at the Experiment Station at Klang to Students of the School of Agriculture, to Agricultural Officers from various States and Settlements, and to Penghulus and Headmen from various parts of the country.

During 1935 further effect was given to a number of recommendations of the Vegetable Oils Committee. Among these may be mentioned the organisation of a special section of the Annual Malayan Exhibition at Kuala Lumpur dealing with coconuts and coconut products. The section was designed especially to encourage the production of high grade coconut products, to give an idea of the

possible range of production of the coconut industry and to show the opportunities existing for developing new products.

Coffee.—Coffee is grown to a small extent both on estates and on small holdings in the Settlement of Malacca. It is mainly grown as a catch-crop between young rubber but a small amount of pure stand exists. The produce is entirely consumed locally and it is for the most part manufactured under rather crude conditions by Chinese and Malay producers. Although it is better than might be expected, yet in quality and in appearance it is distinctly below the produce of the Netherlands Indies of which there is a considerable import into Malaya. The Asiatic population of Malaya are habitual coffee drinkers; no village is without its coffee shop, and there is room for a considerable increase in the local production of coffee.

Prices in Singapore averaged \$9.78 a pikul for Palembang and \$15.85 a pikul for Sourabaya coffee. The total imports of coffee into Malaya amounted to 7,867 tons. Nett imports of coffee amounted to 5,287 tons.

(ii).—CROPS GROWN EXCLUSIVELY BY ASIATICS

Rice.—Rice is extensively cultivated in Province Wellesley, Penang and Malacca; the total area under the crop being nearly 70,000 acres. It is grown exclusively by Asiatics on holdings the average size of which is about two acres and a half. It has been estimated that a holding of this size in Malaya will yield sufficient rice to support a family of six people and still leave some surplus available for sale.

The crop is cultivated both on coastal alluvial lands and in the bottoms of the shallow valleys which are frequently found inland in many parts of Malaya. The difference in the terrain gives rise to two sawah types of rice field, one forming the continued stretches of rice-land such as are seen in the coastal areas of Province Wellesley and Malacca, and the other a series of separate areas of sawah of varying size separated from one another by low hills extending over considerable distances as in the inland districts of Malacca.

Rice (padi) has been cultivated in Malaya since very early times, and its best rice-lands compare favourably with those of any other part of the world. It is a striking fact that, despite the much higher profits that have at times been offered by other crops, especially during the years of high prices for rubber and coconuts, padi cultivation has persisted.

The encouragement of rice cultivation has for long been sympathetically regarded by the Malayan Governments, but in 1930 the need for active steps to encourage the local production of rice received a greater measure of attention and a Committee was appointed to make recommendations for the extension and improvement of the rice industry. As a result various measures for the improvement of rice cultivation have been undertaken, including particularly, the establishment of a separate Irrigation Department for the construction of works and the improvement of water control in padi fields. Scientific services for the investigation and improvement of padi cultivation have been extended and more instruction has been given to the peasantry.

Consequently the padi (rice) production of the country has risen markedly since 1931. At present the total output of rice for the whole Peninsula is about 300,000 tons whereas in 1930 it amounted to only 150,000 tons. Contrary to the custom of half-yearly planting which prevails in many rice producing countries, the cultivation of one rice crop per annum is standard practice throughout the Malay Peninsula. Experiments in growing two rice crops per annum have been tried, but they do not show conclusively that the results give an adequate return for the additional labour involved, and the Malay never wastes labour.

A more important consideration however, is the fact that leaving the rice fields to lie fallow between two crops of rice undoubtedly helps to maintain their fertility and there are indications that the cost of production would be enhanced by the inevitable purchase of artificial fertilisers, if the Malay adopted a system of two harvests a year.

Practically everywhere in Malaya rice is grown by the transplanting system of wet cultivation, the grains being sown in seed beds and the plants transplanted into the fields when they are about six weeks old. The method of raising the seedlings varies in different parts of Malaya. In some places dry nurseries are sown, while in others wet nurseries are used. The preparation of the land for planting is done either by plough usually drawn by buffaloes, or with the use of hand-implements, either the shorthanded hoe, locally known as the "changkol", or the "tajak", scythe-like implement with a sharp cutting-edge. Transplanting is carried out by means of an implement known locally as "kuku kambing", (goat's hoof), while the padi is reaped either with the sickle or with the hand-knife known as the tuai or pisau menuai.

The area planted with rice in the Straits Settlements in the season 1934-35, and the total yields, are shown below:—

Territory	WET		DRY		TOTAL	
	Acres	Gantangs	Acres	Gantangs	Acres	Gantangs
Province Wellesley	32,500	13,598,000	570	112,000	33,070	13,710,000
Malacca ..	31,360	13,231,000	..	..	31,360	13,231,000
Penang ..	4,070	2,355,000	..	..	4,070	2,355,000
Total ..	67,930	29,184,000	570	112,000	68,500	29,296,000

The total area planted was 2,050 acres less than in the season 1933-34, while the total production of padi was 128,000 gantangs less.

Early in the season weather conditions, particularly in the north of Province Wellesley, gave rise to some anxiety but on the whole the season was an exceptionally favourable one and the return was decidedly satisfactory. The returns amounted to 414 gantangs per acre in Province Wellesley, 421 gantangs per acre in Malacca and 577

gantangs per acre in Penang. The mean yield for the whole Colony was 428 gantangs per acre which is little short of the record high yield obtained in the previous year.

The price of rice appreciated considerably during 1935. Production and stocks in rice-producing countries appear to have been normal and the increase is probably due less to the stock position than to the improved purchasing power of the consumer, coupled possibly with increased handling charges.

During the latter part of the year there was a sharp rise in price but this higher level was not maintained. The range of prices of padi was from 6-10 cents a gantang in Malacca and from 6-12 cents a gantang in the Penang Settlement. Complete statistics of planting for the 1935-36 season are not yet available, but there appears to have been some decrease in the area planted.

Manurial and cultivation experiments were continued during the year, but so far failed to throw any light on the remarkable bar which has been shown to exist in many areas of Malaya, *i.e.* that when the yield of padi amounts to about 480 gantangs per acre, further addition of artificial manures does not succeed in raising the yield. On the other hand certain areas exist, particularly in Penang, where yields of double this value are obtained. The question is still under investigation.

Pineapples.—Pineapples are grown for canning, on an extensive scale, in the Settlement of Singapore only, although small areas are cultivated in the other two Settlements for local consumption. In Singapore this industry operates in close association with the much larger industry in the adjoining State of Johore. Formerly pineapples were cultivated exclusively as a catch crop between rows of young rubber trees, but with the growth of the canning trade and the restriction on the planting of rubber this practice is less prevalent, and pineapples are being more and more cultivated as a principal crop.

In the pineapple-canning industry attention has been given to the improvement of manufacturing methods. Formerly, the conditions under which pineapples were canned left much to be desired, processes were crude and the factories were distinctly insanitary. Considerable progress however has now been made, and legislative powers to enforce improvement have been provided in the Pineapple Industry Ordinance, 1934, which requires the registration of pineapple factories and empowers the Registrar to refuse to register a insanitary factory. The same Ordinance provides for the marking of all tins and packages with a registered mark, to enable consignments to be traced back to the factory of origin, for the introduction of grading and inspection and for the general regulation of the industry. A start was made on these lines, during the year 1935, with the improvement of pineapple factories in Singapore, and it is anticipated that by the end of 1936 all the four pineapple factories on Singapore Island will have been completely reconstructed.

The present acreage under pineapples shows a decrease of 500 acres in 1935, being 7,000 acres of which 5,000 acres were planted as a sole crop, the remaining 2,000 acres being planted in mixed cultivation. At the end of the year four canneries were working, part of their supplies being drawn from Johore and a quantity of fruit also

being sent from the Klang District of Selangor. Prices for pineapples were fairly good throughout the year. A Co-operative Selling Agency among packers was started in the middle of the year. This Agency operates by fixing of figures of production and allotting a quota to each factory in proportion to the number of its shares in the combine. The Agency was registered for a period of six months, and during that time was successful in raising prices from \$2.35 to \$4 a case.

The Pineapple Experiment Station on Singapore Island, which is supported by the Governments of the Straits Settlements, Johore and the Federated Malay States, continued its investigations into the manurial and cultural requirements of the crop; and good work was done on the improvement of the pineapple by selection.

In September, 1935, a Canning Research Officer was appointed. The appointment is, in the first instance, for three years and half of the cost is borne by a grant from the Colonial Development Fund, the remaining half being contributed by the Straits Settlements, Johore and the Federated Malay States. From September until December, this officer underwent special training at the Fruit and Vegetable Canning Research Station at Campden, Gloucester. He arrived in Malaya early in 1936.

Fruit.—The large demand for fruit is by no means satisfied by local production, and there is considerable import from the Dutch East Indies and from China. The total value of the import of fresh fruit into Malaya for the year 1935 was \$2,317,177.

Fruit is grown largely on Malay small holdings, and in most kampongs fruit trees are found. There are, however, some fruit orchards on Penang Island, and a few in Malacca, cultivated by Chinese. Apart from pineapples, the range of fruit cultivated is very extensive and includes mangosteens, pulasans, rambutans, durians, chikus, belimbings and langsats. It is estimated that in the Colony some 7,989 acres were planted with fruits of various kinds, excluding pineapples, but including 1,433 acres of bananas. The main fruit season was a good one in all three Settlements, although the secondary fruit season was rather late and distinctly poor. In Singapore a number of small holdings were cleared of rubber for fruit cultivation. A brisk demand exists for planting material of fruit trees of known good quality, arrangements for the propagation and distribution of fruit trees at the various Agricultural Stations were further extended during the year.

Vegetables.—The production of vegetables for sale in towns by Chinese market gardeners is an important minor agricultural industry, particularly in Singapore, where there are about 3,000 acres of vegetable land under cultivation consisting mostly of small holdings, and the output of fresh vegetables varies between 12 and 15 tons a day. The Department of Agriculture continued to maintain close touch with these activities in Singapore, Malacca and Penang through Chinese Sub-Inspectors of Agriculture.

Tobacco.—This crop is grown almost entirely by Chinese, usually in rotation with vegetables. The planted area varies considerably at different periods of the year, under the influences of season and prevailing prices. The tobacco grown is of a coarse type and is usually made up in primitive factories by Chinese into fine-cut leaf

suitable for pipe and cigarette smoking or into cheap cheroots for local consumption. It was estimated that the area under tobacco at the end of 1935 was 260 acres. Prices have ranged from \$20 a pikul up to \$50 a pikul of leaf, according to quality and the condition of the market. Production was estimated at approximately 298,000 lbs. and valued at \$75,000.

For a number of years experiments were carried out in Singapore on the production of flue-cured leaf, which yields the yellow Virginian type of tobacco suitable for making cigarettes. These experiments showed, however, that the climatic conditions in Singapore are unsuitable for its manufacture.

Tuba Root.—Increasing interest is being shown in the cultivation of tuba root (*Derris* spp.) for export. It is grown for use as an insecticide in spray washes for plants and in cattle and sheep dips. The plant from which derris is prepared is a native of the Malay Peninsula and its toxic properties have long been known to the Malay population, where its use as a fish poison is traditional. Its development as an article of commerce for the preparation of insecticides is, however, a matter of comparatively recent growth.

The area planted with derris root in Singapore increased to 750 acres, as against 650 acres last year; and the exceptionally high toxic content of the root from the Changi district of Singapore has resulted in a demand for cuttings with which the supply cannot keep pace. The reason for the high quality of the Changi derris is under investigation, while the unusual methods of cultivation practised in Singapore are being studied in a series of experiments which have been laid down at the Central Experiment Station at Serdang.

The price of Changi tuba reached the very high level of \$85 a pikul; and, with the sale of cuttings at \$10 a thousand, it is a very profitable crop. The external demand for cuttings of *Derris elliptica* has continued to be high, and large consignments of planting material were shipped, principally to Japan and the Netherlands Indies.

Cloves.—Cloves are cultivated on an area of 378 acres in the Settlement of Penang. The crop is exclusively grown by Chinese and is sold partly for local consumption and partly for export. It is noteworthy that the quality of Penang cloves is considered to be equal to the highest grade of Zanzibar cloves.

During the year prices for dried cloves ranged between \$30 and \$35 a pikul according to quality, representing a further drop from the low price of the previous year. At such prices it is quite impossible to manure clove trees adequately; and unless the situation improves a considerable decline in production and export seems possible.

(iii).—LIVESTOCK

The Colony, unfortunately, depends largely on foreign sources for its supply of livestock for slaughter, and for its requirements in the way of animal products, such as milk, butter, eggs, and so forth. An endeavour, however, is being made to provide more grazing for buffaloes, for agricultural and other purposes, and this should improve the present position considerably. The local production of swine, too,

has markedly increased, but, although the Straits Settlements could if necessary produce all the pork needed for local consumption, Singapore at present depends largely on outside supplies, chiefly from the Netherlands Indies. Local swine, however, appear to be very healthy, and, as a result of careful inspection at the abattoirs, cysticercus infestation is almost non-existent in local animals. The existence of this parasite, which is frequently found in the carcasses of imported swine, is very important from the point of view of public health, since one stage in its life cycle is passed in human beings.

Work has commenced in Singapore on the registration and licensing of all pig-styes, but it will be some time before the work is completed. Similar action will be taken, subsequently, in the remaining Settlements.

The Municipal Abattoirs in Singapore and Penang provide a very essential and efficient service, the animals being humanely handled and meat produced in a state fit for human consumption. Unfortunately, however, in all Settlements there are private slaughter houses over which there is little or no supervision. In Province Wellesley alone there are no less than 35 of these.

Dairies are principally owned and run by Northern Indians. The type of dairy animal used is frequently unsatisfactory, and the conditions under which the milk is produced and distributed leave a great deal to be desired. In Singapore, however, there are two dairy farms, the Singapore Dairy Farm and Malayan Farms Ltd., both under European management, which supply first-class produce. At the two farms about 150 imported European cows are milked, and at the same time an equal number of dry cows, bulls, and calves are kept. All fresh fodder is produced on the farms and other foods are imported from Europe, Australia and the United States of America. Altogether there are about 60 acres of land in grass yielding on an average about 28 tons an acre of cut grass. The dairy cattle include Ayrshire, Guernsey, Jersey, Illawarras and Friesians. At one farm the milking is done by hand, and at the other, by machine. All operations are under the closest European supervision and the milk produced is of high quality and meets all requirements of the health authorities.

Poultry farming in all Settlements is carried out more or less haphazardly, as a side-line to other occupations. The local production of poultry and eggs for food is on a far greater scale than is commonly realized, but there is reason to believe that so long as poultry and eggs can be easily imported, the local production will remain more or less stationary.

Prices—Cattle.—During the early part of the year, when there was an excessive importation of cattle from Siam, the price of Siamese animals in Singapore reached the lowest record for many years, viz. 5 to 6 cents per lb. live weight, as compared with 6½ to 7 cents in 1934. The price for cattle from Bali, however, varied continually between 6½ and 8 cents per lb. live weight, while 6¾ to 7 cents per lb. was paid for animals from Indo-China.

Sheep and Goats.—The price of Australian sheep remained reasonably constant during the year at rather less than the average

price for the previous year. Australian sheep vary between 70 and 100 lbs. live weight, and the average price was \$8 a head. Calcutta sheep average 75 lbs. live weight and the price varied from \$10 to \$12 a head. Indian goats average 100 lbs. in weight and the price was usually between \$14 and \$17 a head.

Swine.—There was little if any variation in the price of pigs during the year. Pigs from Bali (Netherlands Indies) and Saigon (Indo-China) were bought for about 22 cents a kati, Singapore and Johore pigs for about 16 cents a kati, and pigs brought in junks from Chinese ports were sold for about 20 cents a kati. Local pigs average 80 katties, and Bali and Saigon pigs 90 katties, live weight.

Poultry.—The market prices of local poultry were as follows:—

Fowls.—Capons 47–59 cents, and chickens 33–41 cents a kati.

Ducks.—37–45 cents each.

Disease of livestock caused only small losses during the year. There was some mortality among swine in Singapore from swine-fever, which was probably introduced by imported animals. Occasional outbreaks of a disease in poultry due to a virus infection occasioned some loss. Other diseases introduced by imported animals *e.g.* rinderpest and foot-and-mouth disease were controlled at the quarantine stations and at the abattoirs. During an outbreak of rinderpest in Singapore opportunity was taken to make detailed observations on the disease in local and imported cattle.

The following table gives the census of livestock in Singapore, Penang and Province Wellesley, and Malacca:—

	<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Buffaloes</i>	<i>Sheep and Goats</i>	<i>Swine</i>
Singapore	4,196	777	6,461	127,468
Penang and Province Wellesley	8,184	6,369	12,723	50,868
Malacca	5,367	10,537	10,146	20,402
Total	17,747	17,683	29,330	198,738

The following table gives the imports and exports of livestock during the year:—

IMPORTS OF LIVESTOCK					
	<i>Oxen</i>	<i>Buffaloes</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Goats</i>	<i>Swine</i>
Singapore ..	14,552	181	42,234	2,889	116,235
Penang ..	1,381	2,305	8,205	5,184	18,918
Malacca ..	1,081	39	330	504	2,220
Total ..	17,014	2,525	50,769	8,577	137,373

EXPORTS OF LIVESTOCK					
	<i>Oxen</i>	<i>Buffaloes</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Goats</i>	<i>Swine</i>
Singapore ..	626	77	4,906	359	1,125
Penang ..	20	229	1,718	599	582
Malacca ..	225	138	11	419	1,261
Total ..	871	444	6,635	1,377	2,968

(iv).—AGRICULTURAL INSTRUCTION

Preparations were begun in 1935 for the opening of a new Agricultural Station in Penang, and further progress was made with the development of the small Agricultural Station in Labuan. The Agricultural Stations at Bukit Mertajam in Province Wellesley, and at Sungei Udang in Malacca, as well as the Pineapple Station on Singapore Island continued operations during the year and served as centres for demonstration, instruction and experiment, as well as sources of supply of planting materials.

A Farm School in connection with the Sungei Udang Agricultural Station in Malacca was opened on the 2nd September with a full complement of twenty-five students. The school made an excellent start and the large number of crops grown on the Agricultural Station provides wide scope for practical instruction. At the Bukit Mertajam Station a "holiday course" was held in the month of April for seven pupils from the local High School.

There was a continued improvement in the general standard of work in school gardens, of which there were 105 in the Colony, and the "home-garden movement" to encourage pupils in elementary schools to make and keep gardens in their own homes, continued to meet with gratifying success. At the end of 1935, in fact, there were probably more than a thousand of these home-gardens in the Settlement of Malacca alone. An interesting new departure during the year was the holding of a show for school-gardens produce in Malacca in November.

Two successful District Agricultural Shows were held in Malacca, at Alor Gajah and Jasin respectively, and district competitions were held at two centres in Malacca and in Penang at seven centres and Province Wellesley as part of the All Malayan Padi and Rubber Competitions. The winning exhibits from the district competitions were despatched to Kuala Lumpur for display in the final stages of the competitions which took place at the Malayan Agricultural Exhibition in August.

Agricultural shows are now very firmly established institutions in Malaya and play an important part in the improvement of peasant agriculture.

The Rural Lecture Caravan of the Agricultural Department made tours in Malacca and Province Wellesley during the year. The lectures, film displays and exhibits as usual were much appreciated and drew large crowds at every centre visited.

The Malayan School of Agriculture, at Serdang, near Kuala Lumpur, which is supported jointly by the Federated Malay States and the Straits Settlements Governments had a very successful year. When the school year closed in April, there were seventy students on the books and at the opening of the next session in May the number had risen to seventy-five, this being only four short of the maximum capacity of the school. Six scholarships given by the Straits Settlements Government were held at the school throughout the year. Of forty-six students who left school in April, thirty-four have obtained employment either in the Government Service, the Rubber Research Institute of Malaya or in private companies.

(v).—METHODS AND CONDITIONS OF RECRUITING
SOUTH INDIAN LABOUR

The elaborate machinery which exists for the recruitment, in normal times, of South Indian labourers, required for work on rubber, coconut and oil-palm estates, is utilised also to supply labour required for the Railways, the Municipalities and such Government Departments as the Public Works Department.

The recruiting of labourers in South India is conducted in accordance with provisions of the Indian Emigration Act, 1922, and the rules made thereunder. There are special provisions in the Indian Act for the recruitment of labourers for skilled work, but the recruiting of skilled labourers in British India for work in Malaya is practically non-existent.

The basis of the system of recruiting unskilled South Indian labourers is the Indian Immigration Fund. This fund is maintained by contributions from all employers of South Indian labourers including the several Governments of Malaya. It forms no part of the general revenue of the Government and may be spent only for the purpose of assisting immigration or on measures designed for the welfare and protection of South Indian labourers, such as the maintenance of "choultries" (free lodging houses) and a home for decrepit Indian labourers, the repatriation of labourers to India and the assistance of those in need of relief. During the lean years from 1930 to 1933 the resources of the Fund were extensively used for the repatriation of labourers wishing to return to India.

From the Fund are paid the general expenses of recruiting, the principal items being (a) cost of the train fares of recruited emigrants from their homes to the Depôts at Negapatam and Avadi, (b) care and feeding of all assisted emigrants in the Emigration Depôts at Negapatam and Avadi while awaiting shipment (c) steamer passages (from Madras or Negapatam) to the Straits, (d) expenses of quarantine on arrival at Penang and Port Swettenham, (e) transport from ports of disembarkation to places of employment in Malaya and (f) payment of recruiting allowances to employers by whose agents the emigrants have been recruited.

Recruiting agents, known as kanganies, are sent over by individual employers to recruit for their particular places of employment and receive remuneration in the form of commission from these employers. A "recruiting allowance" is paid to the

employer in re-imbursement of this expenditure and other incidental costs not met from the Fund.

The kangany or agent who recruits must fulfil the following conditions before he can obtain a licence:—

- (i) he must be a South Indian of the labouring classes.
- (ii) he must have been employed as a labourer for a period of not less than three months on the place of employment for which he intends to recruit.

Licences are issued by the Deputy Controller of Labour in Penang and are endorsed by the Agent of the Government of India. The number of labourers each kangany is authorised to recruit is limited in the first instance to twenty and the maximum commission is limited to Rs. 10 for each labourer recruited.

On arrival in India the kangany takes his licence for registration to the Malayan Emigration Commissioner in Madras, an officer of the Malayan Civil Service appointed by the Malayan Governments with the approval of the Government of India to supervise emigration to Malaya, or to the Assistant Emigration Commissioner in Negapatam. Only on endorsement by one of these officials does the licence become valid. The period of currency of the licence is usually six months and is limited, in any case, to one year.

After registration of his licence the kangany proceeds to the office of his employer's financial agents, where he obtains a small advance (usually about Rs. 20) before leaving for his own village to inform his friends and relations of the conditions of labour on his estate.

When the kangany finds people willing to emigrate he must supply them with a copy of the official pamphlet giving information about Malaya and must obtain their receipt for it. He must then produce them before the Village Headman, whose duty it is to satisfy himself that there is no valid objection to their emigration. If so satisfied, the Village Headman initials the entry of the intending emigrant's name on the back of the licence. When the kangany has collected a number of intending emigrants and obtained the necessary authorisation from the Village Headman, he takes them to the Emigration Dépôt at or near the port of embarkation, *i.e.*, Avadi or Negapatam, either himself pre-paying the train fare, which he afterwards recovers, or getting the fares paid by one of the Recruiting Inspectors or Agents employed at the charge of the Fund. These two dépôts are maintained by the Fund and intending emigrants are housed and fed in them, free of charge, until they embark for Malaya.

Before they are permitted to embark all emigrants are inspected by the officials of the Indian Government—the Protector of Emigrants and the Medical Inspector.

After the emigrants are shipped the kangany receives his commission, less the amount of his advance from the financial agents, unless he is himself returning to the Colony in which case he is paid the balance due to him on arrival at the estate.

The commission of Rs. 10 is sufficient to cover all legitimate charges and is purposely kept low to prevent the kangany from dealing with professional recruiters.

The recruiting allowance which the employer receives from the Fund has varied from \$3 to \$20 and is at present fixed at \$10 for every female recruit or male recruit accompanied by his wife and \$8 for every male recruit not accompanied by his wife. The amount of the allowance now fixed is designed to cover all legitimate out-of-pocket expenses leaving a margin just sufficient to induce employers to recruit up to their requirements.

Assisted emigration however is not confined to labourers recruited by kanganies for individual employers. An agricultural labourer who is physically fit can, on application to the Emigration Commissioner or his Assistant and on production, where necessary, of a certificate from his Village Headman, obtain a free passage to Malaya at the expense of the Fund, without incurring any obligation to labour for any particular employer on arrival.

The number of these non-recruited emigrants has been steadily increasing during recent years. They are usually labourers who have been in Malaya before and are returning to their old places of employment. As they are not recruited, neither kangany's commission nor recruiting allowance is payable on their account, but each receives a gift of \$2 and a free railway ticket to his destination on discharge from the immigration depôts in Malaya. This gift of \$2 is made to ensure that each labourer will not suffer from lack of food while seeking employment.

Assisted immigration from India was suspended in August, 1930, but was resumed in May, 1934, since when recruiting licences have been issued only in a limited number of special cases, the great majority of assisted emigrants to Malaya being non-recruited labourers.

The Controller of Labour, Malaya, as *ex-officio* Chairman of the Indian Immigration Committee which is composed partly of unofficial members, administers the Indian Immigration Fund.

All labourers, whether recruited by kanganies or non-recruited, are landed in Malaya free of debt and any labourer may terminate his agreement with his employer by giving one month's notice of his intention to do so. There is no "contract" or indentured labour in the Colony.

There were 77 European-owned, and 249 Asiatic-owned estates in the Colony, employing 13,200 and 1,416 South Indian labourers respectively, on the 31st December, 1935. The retrocession of the Dindings to the State of Perak accounts for a reduction of 14 in the number of European-owned estates.

B.—FORESTRY

Territorial charge of the forests of Singapore continued under the Commissioner of Lands, the Forest Officer being fully occupied with the organization of supplies to, and the marketing of the output from, the local sawmills. The island carries no forest capable of producing raw material for the mills, which are peculiarly favourably situated for obtaining their log supplies from Sumatra *via* the sheltered waters of the Straits of Malacca. About 65 per cent. of the total import came from this source, as against 32 per cent.

from the Peninsula. The location of the mills is such that they cannot be served by the railways except with double handling and lorry transport through the streets of Singapore, an uneconomical and unsatisfactory method by comparison with direct shipment. The most obvious remedy would seem at first sight to be transference to sites where local supplies would not be handicapped, and the propriety of this step was considered when work on the Civil Aerodrome necessitated improvements to the Kallang Basin. But since action on these lines would have had the effect of driving the millers across the straits, where they would still have been able to dominate the Singapore timber market, it was thought preferable to interfere as little as possible with their present arrangements and to work for a better organization of local supplies.

Malayan exports of sawn timber and sleepers, which are shipped almost entirely from Singapore, declined in value from \$564,221 to \$469,462, a state of affairs that suggests a falling-off in trade, but is actually due to a very large increase in local demand supplemented by the requirements of the Admiralty and their contractors. There was a decline of over \$45,000 in the value of shipments to British territories and of \$54,851 to foreign countries, decreases being registered in the trade with China, Mauritius, Arabia, and the Netherlands Indies, offset to some extent by increases to South Africa, Hong Kong, Persia, Aden, and the United Kingdom. The last named market is still extremely selective and not very remunerative, but prices improved towards the latter half of the year as a result of which the rate of shipment was doubled and the total of 19,707 cubic feet exceeded the 1934 figure by 1235. The outlook for 1936 is considered to be very promising.

The only other Settlement participating in the export trade was Malacca, whence an experimental shipment of *meranti* logs was shipped to Europe. The forests of Malacca are amongst the most highly organized in the country, but they have suffered hitherto from lack of enterprise on the part of the inhabitants, who have been content to import much of their sawn timber from Singapore or the Netherlands Indies. Negotiations were proceeding towards the end of the year as a result of which it is hoped that a sawmill, capable of supplying the bulk of the Settlement's requirements, and of absorbing the regulated output of the surrounding forests, will be started in Malacca at an early date. The forests of Penang and Province Wellesley are mainly hilly, and the former are largely in the nature of amenity reserves, though they contain superior hardwoods in fair quantity, which form a useful source of local supply.

The forest reserves of the Straits Settlements at present occupy 128 square miles, or 10 per cent. of the area of the Colony. The Singapore reserves amount to 23 square miles, but, as they contain little valuable forest, they will probably be gradually revoked.

Revenue showed an increase from \$32,083 in 1934 to \$34,595 in 1935, if from the 1934 figures is excluded the revenue then collected in the Dindings which in 1935 was paid to the State of Perak. Expenditure rose from \$68,676 to \$74,358, the cost of the new Singapore forest organization outweighing the saving on account of the retrocession of the Dindings.

The Federated Malay States organizations for forest research and education, forest engineering and marketing also serve the needs of the Colony. The main research organization deals with forest botany, œcology, silviculture, wood technology, timber testing and investigation of forest products generally, and a school for training forest subordinates is attached to it. The Forest Engineer is concerned with the improvement of methods of extraction, conversion and transport of timber and other forest produce. The Timber Purchase Section serves as an agency for direct purchases of timber on behalf of government departments, but with the appointment of a forest officer in Singapore it has been possible to put an increasing number of purchasers in direct touch with the mills and to simplify to some extent the transactions involved.

C.—FISHERIES

At present the supply of fresh fish for the Singapore market is not altogether satisfactory. Japanese fishermen land approximately 50% of the supplies, and another 30% is taken in the waters of the Rhio Archipelago and imported on ice by local dealers. Local fishermen cannot face this competition, and it is therefore desirable that some constructive scheme should be put into operation to assist them. Steps are therefore being taken to provide a vessel fitted with refrigerating equipment to remain in attendance on the fishing fleets at sea; and it is hoped that, if the experiment proves successful, private enterprise will commission more vessels similarly equipped.

A continuous weekly examination was made during the year of the catches taken by seine net or fishing-stakes off Singapore, to ascertain whether any excessive destruction of young fish of economic importance was taking place, particular attention being given to those of the larger kinds such as Parang (*Chirocentrus*), Tenggiri (*Cybium*), and Kerapu (*Epinephelus*).

The investigation is incomplete but there are already indications that relatively few immature fish of the larger varieties are destroyed. The small fish are usually a heterogeneous assortment of mature fish which may, or may not, be valuable as food.

A considerable amount of work was undertaken to increase the period of storage of dried bilis (*Stolephorous*). These fish are sometimes caught in large quantities, but they cannot be handled in some of the remoter parts and consequently are wasted.

The best method of preservation is storage in a vacuum, but for this method power and air-tight metal containers are required, the cost of which is beyond the means of the average fish-dealer. It has been necessary, therefore, to find an alternative method and storage in carbon dioxide (CO_2), and mixtures of air and CO_2 , has been tried. Although it is not so effective as storage *in vacuo*, this method may prove a good substitute for the more expensive one. The containers need not be so well made and CO_2 is cheap and easily obtainable in cylinders.

An attempt was made to market locally-grown sponges, but the results were not encouraging. The quality is poor and supplies are neither abundant nor regular. Some sponge cuttings which were planted out are living but growing very slowly.

The introduction of a simple diving apparatus has proved very acceptable to the builders of fishing-stakes, and a number of equipments have been made locally. Usually all tying and lacing of the large fishing-stakes is done by hand under water in depths up to forty feet by divers without equipment of any kind. The work cannot be done properly and in many cases bleeding from the nose and ears results from working in this crude way. The equipment simply consists of a helmet of galvanised iron fitted with a window, which is slipped over the head. A supply of air is delivered through a stout rubber tube by a large motor-tyre foot-pump. This enables the work to be done in comfort and safety, as the wearer can easily remain under water for half an hour at a time.

The experimental fish-cultivation station in Singapore was closed at the end of the year and another opened in Perak, where indigenous carp will be tried as objects for fish culture. As an experiment an attempt is being made in Malacca to convert an area of fresh water near Jasin into a fish-producing area, which it is hoped will ultimately be run on co-operative lines by local Malays. The preliminary snagging has begun. The area is Crown land at present held by the Fisheries Department under a temporary occupation licence, but as soon as it is ready, and the waters have been stocked with carp and gourami, it will be handed over to the Malay co-operators entirely. Meanwhile, however, it is proving no easy task to persuade the future beneficiaries to give any gratuitous assistance in the shape of labour.

The trout ova which arrived in Penang last April and were transferred to the Cameron Highlands have done well. Over 5,000 well-grown fish were liberated in the highland streams and appear to enjoy their new surroundings. There is every likelihood that trout fishing will shortly be established as the major attraction of Malaya's principal holiday resort.

Revenue in 1935 amounted to \$12,373 an increase of \$916 over that of 1934. There were 11,356 fishermen employed of whom 6,113 were Malays, 3,865 Chinese and 1,063 Japanese.

Statement showing quantity of fresh fish landed in the Colony during the year 1935:—

Penang	4,093 tons.
Province Wellesley	3,071 „
Malacca	2,729 „
Singapore	12,612 „
Labuan	132 „
Total	22,637 „

D.—MINERALS

Mining operations in the Colony are confined to the Settlement of Malacca, where tin is mined and to Christmas Island, where deposits of phosphate of lime are worked by the Christmas Island Phosphate Company. There are coal deposits in Labuan but these are not at present being worked. On the 1st April, 1934, the tin mines of Malacca were brought formally within the scope of the

International Tin-Restriction Scheme by the coming into operation of Ordinance No. 10 of 1934. By agreement with the Government of the Federated Malay States a fixed exportable allowance not exceeding 58.24 tons of tin per annum was allocated to the Settlement. This figure represents 1,296 pikuls of tin-ore, and the actual production during 1935 was 1,152.27 pikuls. At the end of the year there were only four producers. Royalty amounting to \$9,343 was paid.

The smelting of tin at Singapore and Penang is one of the principal industries of the Straits Settlements. The year's production, as declared by tin smelters, amounted to 61,923 tons, as compared with 49,637 tons in 1934, an increase of 24.7 per cent.

Imports into Singapore and Penang of tin-in-ore, assessed at 75.5 per cent. by weight of ore imported amounted to 16,634 tons from countries outside Malaya as compared with 16,587 tons in 1934, and to 42,327 tons from the Malay States and Malacca as compared with 37,786 tons in 1934, a total of 58,961 tons as compared with 54,373 tons in the previous year. Exports of smelted tin amounted to 62,248 tons. The price of tin was £228 a ton at the beginning and £217 a ton at the end of the year. The highest and lowest prices during the year were £245 and £208, and the annual average was £225. The average price in 1934 was £230.

The production of phosphates of lime, as shown by exports from Christmas Island was 147,929 tons. Of this, 116,678 tons were exported to Japan, 23,050 tons to Sweden, 5,170 tons to the Union of South Africa, 2,084 tons to Java, 647 tons to Singapore, and 300 tons to Port Swettenham. The labour force consisted of Chinese recruited in Singapore for work on the Island.

CHAPTER VII

Commerce

The foreign (external) trade of Malaya, representing the Colony of the Straits Settlements, the Federated and the Unfederated Malay States, in merchandise, bullion and specie and Parcel Post, amounted in value to \$1,063 (£124) millions, as compared with \$1,040 (£121) millions in 1934, an increase of 2.2 per cent. Imports increased by \$8 millions or 1.7 per cent. and exports by \$15 millions or 2.6 per cent. The increase in both imports and exports was spread over the majority of the principal products, the largest increases being in the imports of rice, copra, kerosene, motor cars, dredges and dredging materials, and in the exports of tin, copra, motor spirit, coconut oil, rice, kerosene, palm oil, pineapples, arecanuts, iron ore, and sago flour. There were, as a counterpoise, considerable decreases in the imports of pepper, cotton and artificial-silk piece-goods (due to textile quota regulation), rubber, sticklac and cycle parts and a decline was also noted in the exports of rubber (due to Rubber Regulation), sticklac and cotton piece-goods. Exports of rubber decreased by approximately \$20,546,000 in value, but the value of tin exported increased by about the same amount (\$20,570,000), and on the whole a general improvement was noticeable both in the entrepôt trade and the trade in domestic products.

The trade of the Straits Settlements is not recorded separately but the greater part of Malaya's trade passes through the ports of Singapore or Penang, and the large transshipment traffic, which comprises so valuable a part of Malayan commerce passes almost entirely through these ports which are nodal points for the collection, grading and distribution of goods for the whole of Malaysia, especially the neighbouring territories of the Netherlands Indies. The \$1,063 millions of external trade consisted of \$479 millions of imports and \$584 millions of exports, the corresponding figures for 1934 being respectively \$471 millions and \$569 millions. The value of bunker coal, oil fuel and stores taken on board ships on foreign trade routes for their own consumption amounted to \$12 millions and if this is added to the excess of exports there was a favourable trade balance of \$117 millions, as compared with a favourable balance on the same basis of \$108 millions in 1934.

There is need for some caution in the use of statistics for measuring Malayan trade, because a considerable portion of the declared trade values for Malaya, and for the Colony, represents the import and export of mineral oils. Singapore by virtue of its geographical position and proximity to the oil fields is a natural storage and distributing centre for this commodity, and distribution is effected as far as Africa on one side and Australia on the other. The following figures show the trade in mineral oils in 1935 and its relationship in value to the gross trade of Malaya:—

TRADE: MINERAL OILS, 1935

VALUES IN \$,000

	<i>Imports</i>	<i>Exports</i>	<i>Total</i>
Lubricating Oil ..	1,926	400	2,326
Kerosene ..	11,887	8,076	19,963
Liquid Fuel ..	11,913	3,473	15,386
Motor Spirit ..	47,710	40,338	88,048
A.—Total ..	73,436	52,287	125,723
B.—Malaya ..	479,000	584,000	1,063,000
C.—Percentage A and B	15	9	12

Of the \$1,063 millions, representing the external trade of Malaya, \$909 millions or 86 per cent. indicate the direct foreign trade of the Straits Settlements. The value of imports was \$435 millions and of exports \$474 millions. The figures indicate an increase in gross Colony trade and in the proportion of Malayan trade carried by Colony merchants, since 1934 when the Colony's \$428 millions of imports and \$459 millions of exports amounted to 85 per cent. of Malaya's external trade.

Of Malayan trade, and the same can be said of that of the Colony, the percentage with the United Kingdom decreased from 16.8 to 15.9 but with British Possessions it increased from 13.4 to 15.4; there was, therefore, a net increase with all British countries of 1.1 per cent.

The following is a table of the trade values geographically apportioned:—

	<i>Imports</i>	<i>Exports</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>\$ in millions</i>		
1. United Kingdom ..	75	94	169
2. British Possessions ..	82	81	163
3. Continent of Europe ..	23	74	97
4. United States of America	9	214	223
5. Japan ..	30	53	83
6. Netherlands Indies ..	151	39	190
7. Other Countries (principally Siam) ..	106	27	133
Total ..	476	582	1,058
Parcel Post, all countries ..	3	2	5
Total from Trade ..	479	584	1,063
Favourable Balance ..	105	—	—
	584	584	—

Detailed information regarding the trade of Malaya is contained in the regular periodical publications of the Department of Statistics.

The Regulations made in 1934 for the control, under a quota system, of imports for Malayan consumption of cotton and rayon piece-goods manufactured in foreign countries, continued in force throughout the year, and further restrictions on trade were imposed in connection with the sanctions ordained against Italy under the Covenant of the League of Nations. Notwithstanding these restrictions, however, and the continued operation of the tin and rubber control schemes, it can be said that on the whole the Colony's tradition of free-trade was maintained. Apart from excise duties on liquors, tobacco and petroleum imposed solely for revenue purposes, there are no import duties in the Straits Settlements, and commerce and passenger traffic flow with a freedom that in these days is remarkable.

CHAPTER VIII

Wages and the Cost of living

A.—WAGES

Standard rates of wages for Southern Indian labourers are prescribed by law in certain key districts in Malaya and these rates tend in practice to regulate the rates of wages earned in other districts and by labourers of other races. There was no change in standard rates during the year.

In the Colony, the only key district in which standard wages were in force was Province Wellesley where the prescribed rates were 40 cents a day for an able-bodied adult male labourer, 32 cents for an able-bodied adult female, and 16 cents for children of 10 years and

over. No Indian child of under 10 years of age may be allowed to work.

The average retail price in Penang per gantang (8 lbs.) of Rangoon No. 1 Rice which is the variety most commonly used by South Indian labourers in Malaya, rose from 20 cents in January to 21 cents in February, and from May gradually climbed to 25 cents in August at which price it remained steady for the remainder of the year. The wholesale price averaged \$3.56 per pikul (133 1/3 lbs.) in Singapore as compared with \$2.76 in 1934, the highest figure being \$3.86 (*i.e.* 23 cents per gantang) in October, and the lowest \$2.89 (17 cents per gantang) in January. (Estate managers buy rice wholesale and retail it—without profit—to their labourers). The rise in the price of rice was offset by falls in other items, in the standard budget of a South Indian labourer, which showed only a slight increase in Penang (2.9%) and Singapore (3.6%) while on the other hand it fell in Malacca by 2.1%.

In the island of Penang daily rates for South Indian agricultural labourers ranged from 35 to 68 cents a day for a male adult, and from 28 to 32 cents a day for a female adult, while children received 16 to 35 cents a day. Normal rates ranged about 40 cents for a male and 30 cents for a female.

In Singapore the daily earnings of South Indian labourers on estates ranged from 32 to 55 cents a day for adult males, from 28 to 32 cents a day for adult females and from 20 to 25 cents a day for children, the great majority of tappers being paid by results. Chinese tappers were paid by results, at rates varying from 21½ to 31½ cents a lb., and their earnings ranged from 42 to 55 cents a day. In Government Departments and under public bodies the minimum rate for unskilled South Indian adult males was 40 cents a day, 45 to 50 cents a day being normal rates.

In Malacca on estates adult South Indian males earned 30 to 50 cents a day, adult females 25 to 45 cents a day and children 10 to 20 cents a day, the lower rates being found in the third quarter of the year on Asiatic properties. The higher rates were paid to store and factory workers.

In Government Departments the rates ranged from 40 to 90 cents a day for adult unskilled males, 40 to 50 cents a day being normal.

The figures given above do not refer to skilled labour which commanded higher rates. Earnings of Javanese on estates were about the same as those of South Indians. In Province Wellesley the labour forces are very settled, for on the older properties where South Indian labour has been employed for many years, the majority are locally born. Many of the estate labourers in Province Wellesley are not entirely dependent on their cneck-roll wages, and the same position is frequently met with in Penang and is increasingly common in Singapore.

Every employer is bound by law to provide at least 24 days' work in every month to each male or female labourer employed by him. There is no indentured labour.

The Workmen's Compensation Ordinance (No. 9 of 1932) is administered by Commissioners, one in each centre (Singapore, Malacca, Penang and Province Wellesley) who is assisted by the Labour Department. Health and Labour Departments are invested with powers under the Labour Ordinance, to enforce proper conditions of health and work and protection from machinery is secured under Ordinance No. 42 (Machinery). For further particulars, reference is invited to the Blue Book, Section 23.

B.—AVERAGE PRICES AND THE COST OF LIVING

For average prices, declared trade values, exchange, currency and cost of living, reference is invited to the separate report on this subject (No. S. 4) published annually by the Statistics Department. The average weighted index of commodity prices in Singapore, represented by 17 principal commodities (15 wholesale and 2 retail) increased by .8 per cent. as compared with 1934, due principally to increases in the prices of coconut oil, copra, palm oil and rice. There were increases also in the prices of areca nuts, damar, gambier, pineapples, sago flour, tapioca and tea. The prices of rubber, tin, pepper and rattans declined. The price of tin was £228 per ton at the beginning and £217 at the end of the year, the highest and lowest prices being £245 and £208, respectively. The price of rubber was 6 $\frac{3}{8}$ pence per lb. at the beginning and 6 $\frac{7}{16}$ pence at the end of the year, the highest and lowest being 6 $\frac{11}{16}$ pence and 5 $\frac{3}{16}$ pence, respectively. The following index numbers show changes in commodity values during the last five years:—

1931	1932	1933	1934	1935
41	37	45	63	64

The tendency for retail values was to rise, as shown by an increase of 3.1 per cent. in the index of food prices, representing the mean of the differences of the average of the two years in Singapore, Penang and Malacca.

Municipal assessment values increased by 0.6 per cent. in Singapore, but declined by 1.1 per cent. in Penang and 2.5 per cent. in Malacca, as compared with those of 1934.

There was a general increase in the cost of living for all communities and the index numbers for the Asiatic, Eurasian and European standards given below show that costs were higher, in respect of all three standards, than in 1914.

Standard	1914	1934	1935	Percentage increase + or decrease - in 1935 as compared with 1934
Asiatic	100	103.2	108.1	+ 4.7
Eurasian	100	108.5	109.0	+ 0.5
European	100	124.4	124.7	+ 0.2

CHAPTER IX

Education and Welfare Institutions

A.—GENERAL

Educational facilities are provided in English, Malay, Chinese and Tamil.

Schools are either Government, Aided by Government, or Private.

All schools, (other than those in which the teaching is of an exclusively religious nature) in which fifteen or more persons are habitually taught in one or more classes, and all supervisors, committees of management and teachers of schools, must be registered in accordance with the Registration of Schools Ordinance, 1926. To be a supervisor, a member of the committee of management or a teacher of an unregistered school is an offence against the Ordinance. Under the Ordinance the Director of Education may refuse to register any school that is insanitary or that is likely to be used for the purpose of propaganda detrimental to the interests of the pupils or as a meeting place of an unlawful society. The Director of Education may also, in certain circumstances, refuse to register a person as a supervisor, a member of a committee of management or a teacher. The Director of Education, however, interferes as little and as seldom as possible.

There was constituted in 1909 an Education Board, composed of four official and four unofficial members, with the following functions:—

- (i) to determine the amount of fees to be charged in Government schools, and to receive all such fees;
- (ii) to submit to Government the Annual Estimates for educational purposes and to make recommendations thereon;
- (iii) to advise the Government as to the purpose for which moneys devoted to education should be expended and upon any matters connected with education which may from time to time be referred to it by the Governor.

This Board receives, in addition to the school fees, the proceeds of an education rate of 2 per cent. on property in municipalities and 1 per cent. on property in rural areas.

B.—ENGLISH EDUCATION

The "English Schools" are those in which English is the medium of instruction. Few of the pupils are English-speaking when they join. The lowest class may be composed of children speaking between them some seven or eight different languages or dialects, those speaking one language or dialect being generally quite unable to understand those speaking any of the others. In the circumstances the use of the "Direct Method" of teaching English is practically obligatory. Children are accepted into the lowest class at the age of six or seven and are given an education which ends as a rule with their presentation at the Cambridge School Certificate Examination, though a few stay on and prepare for the London Matriculation Examination.

The fees for pupils enrolled before the 1st January, 1934, are \$30 (£3. 10s.) a year for boys and \$24 (£2. 16s.) a year for girls for the first six years (*i.e.* for the years spent in the two Primary Classes and in Standards I to IV inclusive) and \$48 (£5. 12s.) a year for boys and \$36 (£4. 4s.) a year for girls for the remaining period. The rates for boys and girls enrolled on or after the 1st January, 1934, are \$36 (£4. 4s.) a year for the first eight years (*i.e.* up to and including Standard VI) and thereafter \$72 (£8. 8s.) or \$108 (£12. 12s.) a year, according to the results of an examination, the successful pupils up to 50% of the available places paying the lower fee and the remainder paying the higher one.

Attendance is not compulsory.

In 1935 there were 24 Government and 33 Aided Schools in the Colony, 28 in Singapore, 20 in Penang, eight in Malacca and one in Labuan.

The average enrolment was 25,254 pupils (9,557 in Government and 15,697 in Aided Schools).

Of the 25,254 pupils in English Schools, 21,709 were receiving elementary education (*i.e.* up to and including Standard VI) and 3,545 secondary education (*i.e.* above Standard VI).

Two thousand four hundred and sixty seven (or 11.28%) of those receiving elementary education and 1,008 (or 28.43%) of those receiving secondary education were enjoying free education. Of these free scholars 607 were Europeans and Eurasians, 1,107 Malays, 1,515 Chinese, and 206 Indians, while 40 belonged to other races.

The Aided English Schools are managed by various missionary bodies—the Christian Brothers, the Methodist Episcopal Mission, the Church of England, the Portuguese Catholic Church, and the Sisters of the Holy Infant Jesus.

The Government pays to such schools monthly grants equal to the difference between their revenue and approved expenditure. The approved expenditure includes Government rates of pay for the lay staff, rates and taxes on school premises, the cost of minor repairs and equipment, and salaries in respect of European Missionary teachers at the rate of \$3,000 (£350) a year for men missionaries and \$1,800 (£210) a year for women missionaries. Allowances at these rates, however, are payable only to 16 per cent. of the total authorised staff in boys' schools and 25 per cent. of that in girls' schools. The other missionary teachers, European and Asiatic, are paid at the rate of \$1,440 (£168) a year for men and \$1,200 (£140) a year for women. In Christian Brothers' Schools and Convent Schools no distinction is made between European and Asiatic Missionary teachers who are paid at a flat rate of \$2,400 (£280) a year for men and \$1,500 (£175) a year for women. Under certain conditions capital grants amounting to half the cost of approved new buildings are also paid by the Government.

The Government Afternoon Schools in Singapore continued the useful work that they have carried out since their initiation in 1930. These schools accommodate pupils who are unable to gain admission to Government or Aided morning schools: some, but by no means all, of the pupils are over-age for the morning schools. The afternoon schools are staffed by qualified and trained teachers for whom

employment cannot be found in the regular Government or Aided Schools. During 1935, the schools were re-organised so as to ensure liaison and co-operation with the morning schools. In one of the schools special attention was paid to manual work of value to the over-age boy unsuited to literary studies. The workshop was erected by the boys themselves under the direction of the instructor. The enrolment of the afternoon schools in 1935 was 844 pupils as compared with 787 in 1934. The total expenditure was \$31,924.95 and the total revenue \$28,056.

The private English schools may be divided into two main classes:—

- (a) those controlled by religious bodies and accommodated in proper school buildings;
- (b) those carried on by individuals for profit and accommodated in any sort of building—shop-house or private house, office or godown.

In 1935 there were 5,856 pupils in private schools in Singapore and 46 in Labuan. With a view to improving the staffs of these schools the minimum scholastic qualifications for registration as a teacher was prescribed as the Junior Certificate Examination. Selected teachers from private schools in Singapore were also permitted to join Physical Training classes for Government and Aided School Teachers.

In January, 1935, a Conference of the Heads of Singapore Government and Aided English Schools was held under the presidency of the Inspector of Schools and proved a useful channel for the exchange of ideas on school organisation and method.

In May, 1935, one of the European masters on the Singapore staff of the Education Department was appointed Group Supervisor in charge of a group of schools with locally-trained headmasters, and one of the European mistresses was appointed a Primary Supervisor in charge of the Primary classes in the same schools. The main duty of the Supervisors is to improve methods of teaching, particularly in the English subjects. The arrangement was experimental and its effects cannot yet be judged.

There is no central College for the training of teachers for English Schools. Such training was until recently supplied at Normal Classes held at one centre in each of the three Settlements but these classes have been suspended temporarily, as the supply of teachers has overtaken the demand. A Normal Class for Primary teachers will however be opened in 1936.

Nine men and six women were allowed to present themselves at a final Normal Class Examination held in 1935, and of these five men and six women passed.

There were Post Normal Classes in Singapore in 1935, for which certificates of attendance and achievement were awarded. These classes provided courses for Games Masters, and courses in Physical Training (Elementary and Advanced), and Speech Training. A notable and successful innovation was a course in Malayan Plant Life, conducted by the Assistant Director of Gardens. The interest shown in all these classes and the keenness with which they were attended were exceedingly gratifying. The Singapore Teachers'

Association had a varied and valuable programme of professional, social and athletic activities in 1935, and its annual Journal ("Chorus") formed a valuable record of educational thought and progress in Malaya.

Secondary teachers are recruited mainly from Raffles College. In 1935 ten Raffles College graduates were appointed to Government and Aided Schools in Singapore and six to schools in Penang. In addition ten Normal trained teachers were also appointed to Singapore schools.

C.—VOCATIONAL AND INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION

Technical Education.—Pupils from the Straits Settlements are admitted to the Government Technical School at Kuala Lumpur in the Federated Malay States where courses of training are given for students from the Public Works, Railways, Electrical, and Posts and Telegraphs Departments, and accommodation provided also for a class conducted by the Survey Department for its own subordinates.

In the Government Evening Classes in Singapore, courses were provided in Plumbing (including practical plumbing), Electrical Engineering, Machine Design, Surveying, Quantity Surveying, Structural Engineering and Chemistry. The classes with the highest average attendance were those in Electrical Engineering (39) and Quantity Surveying (25). In all classes, those with small as well as those with high enrolments, the interest and the diligence of the students were most commendable.

The Government Evening Classes in Singapore continued to provide Nautical courses which were attended by men who came from all over the Peninsula. The numbers in these classes were limited in accordance with the requirements of the Port. The standard of work is being gradually raised but this is found to stimulate rather than to diminish enthusiasm. In 1935 men from the Marine Police were admitted to qualify to take charge of Police launches. The local nautical examinations were taken: twenty-three qualified, eleven as helmsmen, ten as gunners and one as local-trade master.

A new class in Radio Engineering was started in the Government Evening Classes in Penang. There were 46 students in the class.

Agricultural Education.—There is no school of agriculture in the Straits Settlements but pupils may proceed to the School of Agriculture at Serdang, near Kuala Lumpur, in the Federated Malay States, where one-year and two-year courses of study are followed. Government provided a number of scholarships to this school in 1935.

Three Singapore English schools maintained vegetable gardens during the year and received help and advice from the Agricultural Department which reported favourably on the work done. In addition, eight Malay schools had gardens.

As in 1934, a six day Agricultural Course was run at Bukit Mertajam in Province Wellesley. The number of boys attending the course was 28, of whom 13 were Malays. One of these students obtained a Major Scholarship at the School of Agriculture later. A start was made also with a poultry farm at Bukit Mertajam, with cross bred Rhode Island Reds.

Practical and theoretical gardening is a subject on the curriculum of the higher standards in Malay schools at Penang where land suitable for gardening is available. There were 46 schools with vegetable gardens, which were regularly inspected by officers of the Agricultural Department. Three schools had rice plots, seven schools had orchards and 2,432 pupils had home gardens.

Gardening continues to be of a high standard in the vernacular schools at Malacca. One thousand one hundred and ninety-eight boys had home gardens. In addition to the annual inter-school Garden competition, 1935 was noteworthy for the holding in Malacca town on 16th November of the first Malay Schools' Agricultural Show. No fewer than 400 exhibits were received for this show which attracted great attention and was highly praised by the Director of Agriculture, who presented the prizes. The exhibits were sold for the benefit of the Poppy Day Fund.

Poultry keeping was commenced as an experiment at Pengkalan Balak School in Malacca, with the advice and co-operation of the Agricultural Officer. It is too early to say whether it can be brought to the necessary stage of showing a profit on working, but the increase in the production of chickens has so far been very satisfactory.

Commercial Education.—Courses of study covering two years are provided by the Commercial Department of Raffles Institution in Singapore, and the Government Commercial Day School in Penang, and in the Government Evening Classes in Singapore courses were given in Shorthand, Typewriting and Book-keeping. The examinations of the London Chamber of Commerce were taken by the pupils in these courses and the attendance and interest were well maintained though enrolments were not high.

The Government Evening Classes at Penang provided courses in Secretarial Practice, Book-keeping and Accountancy, Shorthand and Typewriting, and one hundred and twelve students took the examinations of the London Chamber of Commerce. The total expenditure on these classes was \$4,545 and the total revenue \$2,430.

Evening Classes were also held regularly at Malacca, but Shorthand and Typewriting were the only subjects taught. Thirteen candidates sat for the London Chamber of Commerce Autumn Examinations. These classes fill a definite need in Malacca, where there exists no other means of obtaining commercial education.

Industrial Education.—(a) The Singapore Trade School continued to do good work. A three year course is provided. There were 80 students in the general mechanics training course (which includes machine shop practice, general fitting and bench work, blacksmith's work and motor mechanics), namely 37 in the first year, 20 in the second year and 23 in the third and final year. The electrical course (which includes electric wiring and fitting) was taken by 20 students, 13 in the first year and seven in the second year class. Of the total number of students 18 were taking the plumbing course, ten in the first year and eight in the second year course.

As in past years, outside work was undertaken in order to give students practical training. Altogether 66 cars were repaired or overhauled and nine other outside jobs were undertaken. The total sum collected for the outside work amounted to \$3,055.

Expert engineers have expressed the opinion that the standard of work of the students at the school is comparable with that of an apprentice in England with the same length of training and that the scope of the instruction is wider than that obtaining in most workshops. The work of the plumbing section, both the first and second year class, is regarded as being of a very high standard. All the students who completed the third year course in general mechanics obtained posts, and out of 76 students who have now completed the Trade School course 72 have subsequently found employment. The services of the Advisory Committee, which includes several prominent local engineers among its members, have been of the greatest value to the school.

During the year a donation of \$10,000 was received from the Ho Ho Biscuit Company to endow Scholarships tenable at the Singapore Trade School in commemoration of the Silver Jubilee of H. M. King George V. Two of these scholarships of the value of \$12 a month each are offered for award in 1936. The Singapore Urban Co-operative Societies Union and the Jaffnese Co-operative Society have also offered scholarships for sons of their members who go to the school.

Fees, \$36 (£4. 4s.) a year, were introduced in 1935 and did not reduce the number of applicants for admission. Exemption from payment of fees is granted to a limited number of poor students: 16 were exempted in 1935.

(b) The enrolment at the Penang Trade School reached 120 in May including 35 new students. Of these twenty-two had free places. The general level of the work in this school was satisfactory but it was found that some boys who had only passed Standard IV were not up to the general standard.

A new open blacksmith's shop was built and the garage extended in 1935. A 6½" and a 4" lathe were installed. Maintenance Contracts for Excise, Posts and Telegraphs, Police and Medical Departments were undertaken. The General Hospital was supplied with trollies, operating table and 100 steel beds and the Penang Swimming Club with 24 steel chairs. The gross revenue from outside work was \$7,500, of which \$2,060 was profit and paid into revenue. Fees amounted to \$2,367.

Twenty-eight third year students left of whom 27 obtained a certificate. Thanks to the help of members of the Advisory Committee, all were found satisfactory employment in the Municipality, Harbour Board, Borneo Company, and other commercial firms. Ten of the 76 students at the end of the year were Malays.

(c) The Malacca Trade School opened in February, 1935 with 18 students taking the 1st year course in carpentry. Twenty-one boys were on the roll at the end of the year, eighteen of these being Malays and three Eurasians. The absence of Chinese applicants for admission was noticeable. The preponderance of Malays creates difficulties, for the reason they have generally had only a vernacular education, and usually suffer financial disabilities, but the progress of the school was satisfactory.

The adaptation of the old Hospital buildings at Durian Dau to house the Trade School, was carried a stage further by the renovation of quarters for subordinates, levelling of a football field and construction of a road round the whole area.

D.—UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGIATE (POST-SECONDARY) EDUCATION

The highest educational institutions in Malaya are the King Edward VII College of Medicine and Raffles College, both in Singapore. The course at the College of Medicine covers six years and is recognised by the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom. Licentiates of the College are thus able to secure admission to the Colonial List of the Medical Register and to be registered as medical practitioners in any part of the British Dominions.

There is also a fully organised dental school in which a five years' course of training is given, the Diploma in Dental Surgery entitling its holder to practise in Malaya.

A four years' course for a diploma in Pharmacy, entitling the holder to register under the Registration of Pharmacists Ordinance and to hold a licence under the Poisons and Deleterious Drug Ordinance, thereby enabling him to practise as a dispenser in Malaya, was started in June, 1935.

Raffles College was opened in 1928 in order to place education of a University standard within the reach of all youths in British Malaya who were capable of profiting by it, and to meet an urgent need for qualified teachers for secondary classes. It provides three-year courses in Arts and Science, and Diplomas are awarded to successful students.

The College awards annually ten Entrance Scholarships of value of \$720 per annum tenable for three years, and a limited number of Second and Third Year Exhibitions, not exceeding \$500 per annum are available for students who show exceptional ability during their first or second years at College.

Two scholarships, known as Queen's Scholarships, the value of which may amount to £500 for the first year and £400 for any subsequent year, up to six years in all, are awarded every year after examination and selection. The examining body is appointed by the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate and it is a condition that no scholarship shall be awarded to a candidate who, in the opinion of the examining body, is not fit to study for an honours degree at Oxford or Cambridge. Queen's Scholars are ordinarily required to proceed to a residential college at Oxford or Cambridge.

The annual examination for these scholarships, the twelfth since they were restored by Government in 1923, was held in October. The successful candidates were NOEL L'ANGELLIER of the Raffles Institution and AHMAD BIN MOHAMED IBRAHIM of Raffles College. The former is taking Law and the latter Law and Economics, both at Cambridge University. Fifteen candidates competed at the examination.

E.—VERNACULAR EDUCATION

Malay Vernacular Schools.—Malay vernacular education is entirely free. School buildings (as a rule), quarters for staff, staff, equipment and books are all provided by Government.

The aim in these schools is (i) to give a general and practical education to those boys who have no desire for an education in English, and who will find employment either in agriculture or in appointments in which a knowledge of the vernacular is all that is required, and (ii) to provide a sound foundation in the vernacular on which an education in English can be superimposed for boys who desire to proceed eventually to an English School.

The school course normally lasts five years, during which period the pupils pass through five standards. The subjects of the curriculum are Reading and Writing (in the Arabic and Romanised script), Composition, Arithmetic, Geography, Malay History, Hygiene, Drawing and Physical Training. Boys do Basketry and Gardening in addition, and girls do Needlework and Domestic Science.

In 1935 there were 211 Malay vernacular schools with an average enrolment of 24,110 pupils. The figures for 1934 were 219 schools and 23,946 pupils, but nine boys' schools and one girls' school were handed over to the Perak Government on the retrocession of the Dindings. There is also an aided Malay school at Pulau Bukom, near Singapore, at which the number of pupils increased from 51 in 1934 to 63 in 1935.

Those who are to become teachers in the Malay vernacular boys' schools are selected from the pupils who have shown promise. As pupil teachers they both teach and study till they attain their sixteenth birthdays about which time they sit for an examination qualifying for admission to the Sultan Idris Training College at Tanjong Malim in the Federated Malay States. If they do sufficiently well they are accepted into the College and put through a three-year course. Graduates of the College are designated "Trained Teachers".

A Malay Women Teachers' Training College was opened at Malacca in February, 1935, with an enrolment of 24 students drawn from the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States. One student from Pahang was asked to discontinue her studies because of poor scholarship and lack of promise of improvement. During the first term and during the first month of the second term many cases of fever occurred, but for the last six weeks of the year the College was free from illness of any sort. The students submitted to medical examination and carried out the treatment prescribed without undue coercion, but personal cleanliness was still rather unsatisfactory at the end of the year though much had been achieved by strict supervision and individual attention. There was no trouble over discipline and behaviour, which were excellent. Generally speaking the only capacity shewn by the students on admission was some aptitude for careful workmanship in crafts. Otherwise they had little ability and their mental activity was not of a high order. It was not surprising therefore that, while industrial subjects progressed satisfactorily, only fair improvement was shown in the others. Great keenness was exhibited at the start over badminton, netball and

tennikoit (deck tennis) and there was soon marked improvement in skill, alertness and sense of play; but it was found that enthusiasm waned rapidly if the students were not helped in the organisation of their games by the European staff. Badminton tournaments were held at the College and at two of the other girls' schools in Malacca and the College players advanced from third place to second place in the course of them. At an open day for European ladies and English School teachers the students acted as hostesses and gave a performance of "Cinderella" in Malay. Visits were paid to places of historic interest and to such centres of activity as the Post Office and an Aerated Water Factory, etc.. The students were also taken to see suitable films. The Principal considers that the experiment is justifying itself in the happiness shown by the students, in their adaptability to their new life and in their improved health, but that the personal interest and strict supervision of a devoted staff is necessary if progress in mental, domestic and leisure-time activities is to continue.

In Singapore there were special classes for teachers in the Malay schools in practical teaching, Art, Physical Training, and tropical diet, the last being conducted by the Professor of Biochemistry of the King Edward VII College of Medicine. There were also needlework classes for women teachers.

The special class in Domestic Science for selected girls from the Malay schools, which was started in 1934, was converted into a special school (Rochore Girls' School) in 1935. A two-year course is provided in which emphasis is placed on handwork, art, nursing, needlework and cookery and homecraft generally. English is also taught, and in the teaching of nursing and hygiene valuable assistance was obtained from the Government Health Department.

Carpentry, fretwork, chick-making, cotton-printing, net-making and book-binding were taught in a number of vernacular schools.

The Singapore Malay Teachers' Association had a very full and successful programme of professional, social and athletic activities and like the sister Association of the English schools published its annual journal ("Saujana").

Chinese Vernacular Schools.—There are no Government Chinese schools in the Colony. The number of Chinese schools receiving grants-in-aid in 1935 was 10 in Singapore, 22 in Penang and three in Malacca and the total grants paid to these schools was \$49,308.

The grants to Chinese vernacular schools are in two grades \$10 a year or \$5 a year for each pupil in average attendance. In order to qualify for the higher grade schools must teach English for a certain number of hours each day with reasonable efficiency and must employ for that purpose a teacher who holds the minimum qualification of a Junior Cambridge Certificate or a certificate recognised by the Director of Education as of equal value.

There are three types of schools:—

- (i) those managed by properly constituted committees;
- (ii) pseudo-public schools, *i.e.* schools organised by one or more teachers who choose their own "committee members"

- (iii) private schools run by a teacher who relies on the school fees for his livelihood, these schools being usually small and old in type.

There are several free schools at which a nominal fee of 50 cents (1s. 2d.) a month is charged. The fees in other schools are usually round about \$2 (4s. 8d.) a month.

In almost all the private schools the native dialects of the pupils are still used in teaching, but in the other schools Colloquial Mandarin is the almost universal language of instruction. English is taught in many of the large schools and in some of the smaller. The standard is very low, but attempts have been made to improve it by insisting on a minimum qualification of a Cambridge Junior Certificate from teachers engaged solely to teach English, and by having a standard curriculum drawn up for the guidance of teachers of English.

The Primary course in Chinese schools normally occupies six years. The Government has little if any control over the fees charged, the hours of attendance, or the length of holidays in any except the Aided Schools. The usual school subjects are found in the curriculum.

The Chinese High School at Singapore, continued its first year secondary course and also started a second year one. It is hoped to start a third year secondary course in 1936. In Penang there were two schools for boys which provided a secondary education together with a primary course. In Malacca there was one, but the course of study there was not complete. Four girls' schools in Singapore and two in Penang provided a Normal Class. One girls' school in Singapore provided a Physical Training course.

An Inter-School Sports Meeting and a Children's Fair were held in Singapore as part of the Silver Jubilee Celebrations. The Fair, which was attended by 11,000 boys and girls from 180 Chinese schools, proved a great success.

An Inter-School Examination, the first of its kind, for Chinese Schools in the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States was organised by the Department of Education and was held simultaneously in all three Settlements on December 2nd and 3rd. In the three Settlements, 896 pupils (595 from aided schools) representing 39 schools, of which 21 are aided, took part in the examination. A total of 193 pupils, 122 from aided schools, attained the pass mark. It is intended to make this examination an annual event, and though the result for this year may be considered unsatisfactory, it is fully expected that results will show a great improvement in the future. The examination is looked upon with favour by the Chinese community.

At the close of 1935 there were 430 registered schools with 1,518 registered teachers and 32,486 pupils (of whom 8,308 were girls). The figures for 1934 were 403 schools with 1,323 registered teachers and 28,874 pupils.

Tamil Vernacular Schools.—There were no Government Tamil Schools in the Straits Settlements. Most of the Tamil schools in Penang and Province Wellesley, and all those in Malacca, were estate schools founded either voluntarily or by order of the Controller of Labour. The remainder were private schools run by mission bodies or committees.

Education is entirely free in estate schools; in some of these the children also receive free uniforms (from toddy-shop profits) and the parents a gift of rice if attendance is satisfactory. The schools run by Christian Missions or Indian Associations usually give free education to the poor. In proprietary schools the fees seldom exceed \$1 (2s. 4d.) a month.

No Singapore schools were in receipt of grants-in-aid. In the five private Tamil schools there were 156 pupils, 57 girls and 99 boys.

As in 1934, 21 schools in Penang received grants-in-aid early in 1935. Three of these are estate schools in the Dindings, which are now administered by the Perak Education Department. There remain eighteen grants-in-aid schools in this Settlement, 14 on estates, two run by Indian Associations, and two by the Roman Catholics. At the end of the year there were in all 29 Tamil schools in Penang with 54 teachers and 1,603 pupils (of whom 636 were girls).

The general standard of the schools has substantially improved during the last twelve months. In most cases suggestions and criticisms made in 1934 have been carefully acted upon. School gardens have increased in numbers and efficiency, and the custom of providing uniforms is spreading. Septic tank latrines have been provided for several estate Tamil schools. Caledonia Estate School continues to maintain its excellent standard. Only two schools, Caledonia and the Convent, possessed trained head teachers.

The results of the Annual Examination of Tamil vernacular schools in Malacca, show that there has been an appreciable improvement generally. Managers have carried out many, in some cases all, of the recommendations, made by the Education Department concerning accommodation, equipment and teaching conditions. Eight schools with a total enrolment of 253 pupils received grants-in-aid, and the number of schools seeking registration and endeavouring to earn a grant is increasing.

The grant has been raised from \$6 to \$8 a pupil per annum as from 1st July, 1935.

There is no provision in Malaya for the training of Tamil teachers. Though there is no policy of co-education, a number of girls attend boys' schools. There is only one Tamil vernacular school for girls in the Colony, the Convent Tamil School at Penang, and even this has a few boys in its lower classes.

F.—MUSIC, ART, DRAMA AND RECREATION

Music.—Lessons in musical appreciation were as in past years given in many schools. Part-singing and sight-singing of a high standard were continued at several schools. The wireless was used in three Singapore schools, and several schools maintained school orchestras.

Children's Concerts as in many years past were arranged, and the Singapore Children's Orchestra formed in 1933 gave a successful concert in aid of the Unemployment Fund. The Orchestra and the Children's Concerts are under the direction of a Committee that receives a small grant from Government funds. Major E. A. BROWN, O.B.E., was again the Chairman and the moving spirit until his

departure on furlough towards the end of the year when Mr. R. A. WADDLE, another enthusiastic worker for these causes, took his place.

Art.—This subject has been given a great deal of attention in all English schools in Singapore and Penang and the standard of work is high. In Singapore, during the year, special attention was paid to the Primary classes in English schools and as a result the work in these classes showed a notable improvement in teaching, execution, taste and general usefulness. In the elementary classes, observational drawing was further supplemented by more extensive creative work. From Standard IV upwards, and in some schools in even lower standards water-colour was in general use as the medium of expression. Plant study was particularly successful in schools where the work was correlated with nature study. Applied design was given a practical bias even in the lowest classes and was largely adapted to various book-crafts in the form of stick-printing, paper-cutting and applique-marbling, stencilling, book-binding, block-printing, lettering, manuscript-writing and simple illumination. Other crafts practised in elementary classes were basketry, the decoration of soft fabrics by means of stitching or stencilling, wood staining and fretwork in wood. In the girls' schools, special attention was given to plant study and the correlation of design with needlecraft.

In the Singapore Malay Schools there was further improvement in art and handwork due chiefly to the work of the teachers' classes. The 1935 classes for teachers provided courses in pastel drawing and simple handicrafts and in object and plant drawing in pencil and pastel.

The classes in Singapore for teachers in English schools included the concluding lessons of the course in school handicrafts begun in 1934 and also a special class for advanced students and for teachers seeking help and advice in problems of school work. In order that the general public might have some idea of the work done in these classes an exhibition of work that included all the finished work of the students was held. There was a very large attendance of the public and the exhibition was also visited by conducted classes of children from the upper and middle classes of the schools.

Carpentry is now established in all the Government English schools in Penang, where 286 boys were regularly instructed. Little progress has yet been made in the Aided Schools, but a beginning has been made in the Anglo-Chinese School at Nibong Tebal in Province Wellesley.

Drama.—This very important aid to self-expression and to language teaching was much used in all schools, English and vernacular. The lowest classes of the English and Malay schools act simple plays and dramatize stories. In the higher classes more ambitious presentations, such as scenes from Shakespeare, are attempted.

The Singapore Teachers' Association had a very active dramatic branch that produced scenes from King Henry V (the set play for the 1935 School Certificate Examination) and two short modern

plays; and parts of well known Tamil dramas are frequently acted in Tamil schools.

Recreation.—Adequate provision was made in all schools, English and Malay, for recreation. The more popular games, football, cricket, and hockey, were played in all boys' schools. Provision was made in some schools for badminton, tennis, volley ball and basket ball. Malay schools are particularly keen on association football and have football leagues of their own.

All English schools held annual sports meetings, while Malay schools ran district and central competitions in physical training and games. Facilities for indoor games, such as ping-pong and badminton, were often to be found, and a number of schools possess see-saws, swings, slides, etc., for the younger children.

Organised games were conducted in most of the girls' schools in the time allotted for physical training. In Malay girls' schools folk games were included in the Physical Training as part of the curriculum.

Special courses in the new Physical Training Syllabus of the Board of Education were arranged in Singapore for teachers in English schools, for which 144 teachers entered, the practical tests following the courses being conducted by the Inspector of Schools.

The various boys' and girls' organisations continued to exercise a beneficial effect on the character and activities of their members. The Cadet Corps provided valuable training in leadership, the Scout and Guide movements with their junior organisations, the Cubs and Brownies, laid emphasis on service to the community, and the Boys Brigade and the parallel girls' organisation, the Life Brigade increased in numbers and in influence. Training camps for Scout and Guide officers increased efficiency in these movements, particularly in the Malay Schools.

The celebrations in connection with the Silver Jubilee of His late Majesty King George V left an indelible impression on the children of the Colony. The girls and boys were given an important part in the celebrations and enjoyed to the full all the festivities of the Jubilee week.

G.—ORPHANAGES AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS

The St. Nicholas Home (a Church of England institution supported by the Government), receives blind and physically defective children, without restriction as to race or religion, from all over Malaya. There was an average of 16 boys and girls in the Home during 1935. This Home is at Penang. It gives instruction in Braille by a qualified instructor.

There are fourteen orphanages in the Colony (four in Singapore, five in Penang and five in Malacca), with 1,461 orphans in 1935 maintained by various religious bodies. Most of these orphanages receive some measure of Government support.

The orphans are educated in their own language and, in addition, receive an elementary English education. The girls are then taught housekeeping and needlework. They generally marry or take up domestic service when they leave, but some continue their education at English schools and become teachers or hospital nurses. The boys go to English schools where they receive the same treatment as ordinary pupils.

Po Leung Kuk Homes, established in connection with rescue work among women and girls, are maintained at Singapore, Penang and Malacca. The Homes are supported by private and Government subscriptions, and are supervised by committees of which the Secretary for Chinese Affairs is the Chairman.

Victims of traffickers, women and girls discovered on boats from China in suspicious circumstances, as well as mui tsai who complain of ill-treatment, are detained in the Homes, where they remain until suitable arrangements can be made for their welfare.

The Home in Singapore has accommodation for 300.

CHAPTER X

Communications and Transport

A.—SHIPPING

Communications by sea between the various Settlements are frequent and regular.

A weekly mail service between Singapore and Labuan is maintained by ships belonging to the Straits Steamship Company. Vessels belonging to this Company also ply regularly from Malacca to Penang and Singapore, and there are Chinese-owned vessels engaged in coastal trade. Most of the mail and passenger ships which call at Singapore call at Penang also. Christmas Island is served by the s.s. "*Islander*" which belongs to the Christmas Island Phosphate Company and maintains a five-weekly service.

The Colony is very favourably situated for communication by sea with other countries, as Singapore is a nodal point for traffic between Europe, the Netherlands Indies, British India and the Far East.

The tonnage of all vessels entered and cleared at the five ports of the Colony (Singapore, Penang, Malacca, Labuan and Christmas Island) during the year 1935 was 47,410,813 tons, being 711,405 tons more than in 1934. Particulars are shown in Appendix "C". The increase at Singapore was 174,626 tons, and at Christmas Island 21,363 tons. Penang, Malacca and Labuan combined showed an increase of 515,416 tons.

The figure for merchant vessels above 75 tons net register increased by 953,379 tons.

In the last six years the combined arrivals and departures of merchant vessels have been as follows:—

1930	46,588,856 tons
1931	*43,632,445 "
1932	43,424,295 "
1933	43,056,128 "
1934	44,006,480 "
1935	44,959,859 "

B.—ROADS

At the end of the year the total mileage of metalled roads in the Colony was 963½. The Public Works Department maintain 718½ miles of this total, and the remainder, 245 miles, is maintained by the Municipalities of Singapore, Penang and Malacca. In addition the Public Works Department maintains 94 miles of natural roads and hill paths.

The mileage in the various Settlements is given below:—

SETTLEMENT	MUNICIPAL	GOVERNMENT ROADS			TOTAL ROADS MILE- AGE
	Roads and Streets	Metalled	Unmetalled and Natural	Total	
Singapore	159.99	141.01	2.63	143.64	303.63
Penang	67.81	74.02	35.55	109.57	177.38
P. Wellesley	..	178.47	26.87	205.34	205.34
Malacca	17.19	305.19	7.46	312.65	329.84
Labuan	..	19.78	21.20	40.98	40.98
TOTAL	244.99	718.47	93.71	812.18	1,057.17

Expenditure.—On the 812 miles of road entrusted to their charge the Public Works Department spent \$705,060.88, of which \$452,705.62 was for maintenance and the remainder, \$252,355.26, for reconstruction and remetalling.

The cost of maintenance was \$557.40 a mile compared with \$553 for the previous year. The Singapore Municipality spent \$134,290.75 on maintenance and \$32,330.69 on reconstruction, making a total of \$166,621.44 for the year compared with \$210,175.00 for 1934.

The Penang and Malacca Municipalities spent \$97,205.96 and \$49,392.46 respectively compared with \$93,358.00 and \$33,616.00 for the previous year.

The principal road reconstruction work in the Colony was carried out on the Singapore-Johore main road, where 3½ miles were widened and reconstructed, asphaltic concrete surfacing being laid down for 3 miles of this distance.

A number of bullock carts still exists in rural areas but more lorries are being used for the transport of goods, and hired cars and seven-seater buses for passengers are increasing in numbers. In

* The decrease is partly due to the change in classification from "under 50 tons" in 1930 to "75 tons and under" in 1931.

Singapore, Penang and Malacca 7,204 rickshaws were licensed at the end of the year.

The numbers of cars and motor lorries licensed at the end of the year show increases for Singapore and Penang and a decrease for Malacca as follows:—

			1935		1934	
			Cars	Lorries	Cars	Lorries
Singapore	..	..	7,765	2,246	7,246	2,111
Penang	..	..	2,277	489	2,087	385
Malacca	..	..	1,061	236	1,171	244
			11,103	2,971	10,504	2,740

In Singapore public transport is provided by the Traction Company which operates a fleet of 108 electric trolley buses and 102 omnibuses on routes 25 and 35 miles long respectively.

In Penang there is a service of electric tramcars and trolley buses: the former carried 3,313,107 passengers on a route 5¾ miles long and the latter 6,295,897 over a route of 8 miles. The Penang Hill Railway, owned by the Municipality, serves the Hotel and Hill bungalows and carried 137,550 passengers to and from this Hill Station 2,250 feet above sea level.

C.—RAILWAYS

The railways in the Colony are owned by the Federated Malay States Government. Singapore is connected with the mainland by a Causeway carrying both railway and road, but communication between Prai and the island of Penang is by ferry. Malacca is linked to the system by a branch line from Tampin.

From Province Wellesley a line runs North to the Siamese frontier station of Padang Besar and there connects with the Royal State Railways of Siam. Through traffic was opened on the 1st July, 1918, the distance from Singapore to Bangkok being 1,195 miles.

The day and night mail trains running between Singapore and Prai are provided with restaurant or buffet parlour cars and sleeping saloons. The journey of 488 miles takes approximately 22 hours allowing for a break of approximately 3 hours at Kuala Lumpur which is situated 246 miles from Singapore.

D.—AIRWAYS

Imperial Airways and the Royal Netherlands Airways each provide fast, regular and reliable bi-weekly services, the former plying between Singapore and London and the latter between Singapore and Amsterdam and between Singapore and the Netherlands Indies. The aircraft of both companies call at Penang and/or Alor Star (Kedah) en route.

Combining with the Royal Netherlands Airways (K.L.M.) is the Royal Netherlands Indies Airways (K.N.I.L.M.), operating between Medan and Batavia *viâ* Singapore on a bi-weekly schedule. A weekly service between Batavia and Singapore *viâ* Palembang is also in operation.

Qantas Empire Airways came into operation in December, 1934, linking up Singapore and Australia and thus completing the England-Australia Air Service. The service is at present a weekly one but the Company is making arrangements for its duplication on a twice weekly basis. The usual time in transit between Australia and Singapore is 4 days.

A number of experimental flights have been made by Imperial Airways between Penang and Hong Kong (*viâ* Saigon) but no regular service has yet been established.

There are as yet no internal Colony services in Malaya.

Singapore Civil Aerodrome.—It is expected that this Aerodrome will be ready for use early in 1937.

The aerodrome, situated some two miles only from the centre of Singapore, lies between the business area and the residential area on the eastern outskirts of the city. Approximately 259 acres of tidal swamp are being reclaimed and 7,000,000 cubic yards of filling will be required. When the work is completed, Singapore will possess a landing ground 1,000 yards in diameter, and an extensive and sheltered anchorage for seaplanes.

Pending the completion of the Civil Aerodrome commercial aircraft are allowed to use the R.A.F. ground at Seletar.

Penang Civil Aerodrome.—This aerodrome was opened to air traffic on the 29th September, 1935.

The landing area comprises—

- N.E.—S.W. Landing strip 950 yards $\times$ 200 yards with asphalt macadam runway 60 yards wide down centre. (Macadamised turning and parking areas available at both ends 133 yards wide); and a
- N.W.—S.E. Landing strip 800 yards $\times$ 200 yards. Grass surfaced.

Since the opening of the aerodrome to air traffic there have been 145 arrivals and departures including 41 by Service aircraft, in addition to daily use by the Penang Flying Club.

Flying Clubs.—"Taxi-flights" can be made by arrangement with the Malayan Flying Clubs who own 14 light aircraft.

The Royal Singapore Flying Club has completed its seventh successful year. It owns three Moth seaplanes and two Moth landplanes.

The Penang Flying Club at the end of the year added a Leopard Moth to its fleet of three Major Moths and continues to operate from the Penang Aerodrome.

Administration.—A Directorate of Civil Aviation was established towards the close of the year, the Director of Public Works being appointed for the time being to carry out the duties of Director of Civil Aviation in addition.

7.—POSTS, MONEY ORDERS, TELEGRAPHS, TELEPHONES AND WIRELESS

(i).—Posts

The multifarious activities of the Posts and Telegraphs Department are at the constant service of the community, not only in the larger townships of the Straits Settlements, but also in the more remote villages.

The primary function of the Post Office may be regarded as that of public letter carrier but its other services, such as the telegraph, telephone, wireless, money order and savings bank play a large part in the everyday life of the mercantile community and the private individual.

There are now 42 Post Offices in the Straits Settlements providing full postal facilities and 15 Agencies at which limited services are provided. In addition there are 95 persons licensed to sell stamps. The number of letter-posting boxes exclusive of those at post offices and agencies, was 201 on the 31st December, 1935.

During the year under review the continued improvement in general trade conditions had its effect on the volume and value of business transacted by the Department. The estimated number of postal articles dealt with during the year was 47,690,578 representing an increase of 6.3 per cent. over the estimated number dealt with during 1934. These figures include official, ordinary, registered and insured articles, printed papers, commercial papers, sample packets and parcels.

Weekly sea-borne mails to and from Europe were conveyed alternately by vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company and by the British India Steam Navigation Company *viâ* India. The average time taken in transit in each direction was 22 days. In addition to these regular services, mails containing correspondence specially superscribed for conveyance by other lines were also despatched and received.

The most interesting development in the air mail services of Malaya during 1935 was the introduction on the 3rd October of an additional service by Imperial Airways to and from Great Britain and intermediate countries. This afforded a regular twice-weekly service leaving Singapore and Penang each Sunday and Thursday morning.

The twice-weekly service for specially superscribed correspondence for the Netherlands air service to Amsterdam and London continued to operate but the times of despatch from Singapore *i.e.* Wednesday and Saturday afternoons clash to some extent with the departures of the Imperial Airways services.

Air mail services as follows are now in regular operation:—

- (i) Imperial Airways to Siam, India, Iraq, Palestine, Egypt, Europe generally and Great Britain with connection at Alexandria to the Sudan, Kenya, Tanganyika, Northern and Southern Rhodesia and South Africa. Twice-weekly.

- (ii) Qantas Empire Airways service (in connection with above service) to Java and Australia. Once-weekly.
- (iii) Netherlands (K.L.M. and K.N.I.L.M.) air service to Java. Thrice-weekly.
- (iv) Netherlands (K.L.M.) air service to Northern Sumatra (Medan), Persia, Holland and Great Britain conveying only specially superscribed correspondence to the latter two countries. Twice-weekly.

The air-mail habit in Malaya is steadily growing and far greater use is being made of the facilities provided.

The biggest air-mail despatched from this country is that to London by Imperial Airways and the following particulars regarding that mail will give some indication of the general growth in air-mail traffic. The average weekly weight which in January was about 210 lbs. steadily increased until by the end of November it reached 332 lbs. The exceptionally heavy Christmas and New Year air-mails despatched to London during the three weeks ending the 21st December totalled 1,536 lbs. compared with 869 lbs. during the corresponding three weeks of 1934.

(ii).—MONEY ORDERS

Money Order business showed a very satisfactory increase and during the year the value of issued and paid orders amounted to \$7,990,913 as compared with \$6,195,142 in 1934.

(iii).—TELEGRAPHS

The Eastern Extension Australasia and China Telegraph Company, Limited, owns and operates ten submarine cables radiating from Singapore:—

To Penang 4, thence to Madras	..	..	2
to Colombo	..	..	2
to Deli	..	..	1
To Batavia 2, thence to Cocos	..	..	1
To Banjoewangi 1, thence to Port Darwin	..	..	1
To Hongkong 1, thence to Manila	..	..	1
thence to North China	..	..	1
thence to Macao	..	..	1
To Cochin China 1, thence to Hongkong	..	..	1
To Labuan 1, thence to Hongkong	..	..	1

The Postal Telegraph System connects the three Settlements of Singapore, Penang and Malacca and is also interconnected with the corresponding systems in the Malay States of Perak, Selangor, Pahang, Negri Sembilan, Kedah, Johore, Kelantan, Trengganu and Perlis, the whole forming the Malayan Telegraph System. The rates for telegrams are uniform at all offices in the Malayan Telegraph System. Communication with the International Telegraphic Cable System is *viâ* Singapore and Penang.

Teleprinter working on all main telegraph circuits has been very satisfactory.

The total length of wire in use for telegraph lines in the Straits Settlements at the 31st December, 1935, was 463 miles consisting of 345 miles in overhead lines, 83 miles in underground cables and 35 miles in submarine cables.

At the end of the year there were 41 telegraph offices in the Straits Settlements and during the year 674,728 telegrams were dealt with, representing a decrease of approximately .5 per cent. compared with 1934.

(iv).—TELEPHONES

The number of direct exchange lines connected to the Straits Settlements Telephone System on the 31st December, 1935, was 1,670, an increase of 65 compared with 1934. These figures do not include lines in Singapore, where the telephone system is operated by the Oriental Telephone and Electric Company, Limited, under licence.

The total number of telephone instruments installed was 2,635 and other miscellaneous circuits numbered 138.

The revenue derived from telephones was \$376,209, an increase of \$17,961 compared with 1934. Of this revenue \$133,929 was derived from trunk and junction services.

The total length of wire in use for telephone lines in the Straits Settlements was 6,617 miles consisting of 2,851 miles of overhead wire, 3,636 miles of wire in underground cables and 130 miles of wire in submarine cables.

Eighteen telephone exchanges were in operation at the end of the year. The semi-automatic exchanges at Bayan Lepas and Batu Ferringhi opened last year were converted to full automatic to provide greater capacity for development. The number of junctions connecting Bayan Lepas with Penang was also increased.

On 1st July, 1935, the rates for trunk calls booked after 9 P.M. were reduced from one half to one quarter of the full fees chargeable during the day.

Additional Radio-Telephone services between Malaya and North Sumatra, Macassar (Isle of Celebes) and Bangkok (Siam) were inaugurated during the year.

The new Penang Hospital has been equipped with a large Private Branch Exchange staffed by operators of this Department.

(v).—WIRELESS

The two Government Wireless Stations at Paya Lebar (Singapore) and Penaga (Province Wellesley) operated satisfactorily throughout the year.

A remote control receiving station was opened at Telok Ayer Tawar in Province Wellesley to work in conjunction with the Penaga transmitting station. A similar receiving station is in course of construction at Toa Payoh (Singapore) to work in conjunction with the Paya Lebar transmitting station.

Ship to shore services are carried out at Paya Lebar and Penaga on both medium and short waves.

Short wave fixed services are carried out between Paya Lebar, Kuching (Sarawak) and Christmas Island and between Penaga and Bangkok (Siam) during landline interruptions.

British Official Wireless Press is received at Penaga.

The Penaga Station also communicates with aircraft.

The third annual Wireless Exhibition held in Penang in December under the auspices of the Penang Wireless Society was opened by His Excellency the Governor and High Commissioner speaking from Singapore by means of the ordinary telephone circuits on the 5th December.

His Excellency's speech was heard at the Exhibition by means of loud-speakers and was also radiated by a special broadcast arranged by the Penang Wireless Society.

CHAPTER XI

Banking, Currency, Weights and Measures

A.—CURRENCY

The standard coin of the Colony is the Straits Settlements silver dollar. This and the half-dollar (silver) are unlimited legal tender. There are subsidiary 20 cent, 10 cent and 5 cent silver coins and a 5 cent nickel coin, which are legal tender up to two dollars. There are also copper cents, half-cents and quarter-cents, but the quarter-cent has practically disappeared from circulation. Copper coin is legal tender up to one dollar. Currency notes are issued in denominations of \$10,000, \$1,000, \$100, \$50, \$10, \$5 and \$1. Notes of the first two denominations are used mainly for bankers' clearances.

During the War, and for some years after, notes for 25 cents and 10 cents were issued.

In 1906 the Currency Commissioners were empowered to issue notes in exchange for gold at the rate of \$60 for £7, and by order of the King in Council gold sovereigns were declared legal tender at this rate, the sterling value of the dollar being thus fixed at 2s. 4d. Gold, however, has never been in active circulation in the Colony, and when Great Britain abandoned the Gold Standard during the War and again in September, 1931, the local currency automatically followed sterling, to which it is linked at 2s. 4d. to the dollar.

The Currency Commissioners may accept sterling in London for dollars issued by them in Singapore at a fixed rate of 2s. 4 ³/₁₆d. to the dollar, and *vice versa*, may receive dollars in Singapore in exchange for sterling sold in London at the rate of 2s. 3 ³/₄d. to the dollar. The exchange fluctuations in the value of the dollar may therefore vary between these two limits. Excluding subsidiary coins, the currency of the Colony in circulation at the end of the year consisted of \$77,122,486.25 in notes and \$3,035,919 in dollars and half-dollars, while there were still in circulation bank notes issued by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China to the value of \$135,795, compared with \$135,965 at the end of 1934.

At the beginning of the year the Currency Notes in circulation amounted in value to \$75,786,490.20. There was a demand by the public for currency during the year and the consequent expansion in the note issue amounted to \$1,191,900. Currency notes were also issued in exchange for silver current coin during the period under review, the result over the whole year being that on 31st December, 1935, the note circulation stood at \$77,122,486.25.

It is a requirement of the law that a portion of the Currency Guarantee Fund, being not less than 2/5ths of the notes in circulation, shall be kept in "liquid" form, *i.e.* in current silver coin in the Colony and in Cash on deposit in the Bank of England, Treasury Bills, Cash at call, or other easily realisable securities in London. The balance can be invested and is known as the Investment Portion of the Fund.

The liquid portion of the Currency Guarantee Fund held by the Commissioners at the end of the year against the note circulation amounted to \$42,486,648.64, consisting of \$10,344,109.32 in silver and \$2,306,798.18 on deposit with the Government, held locally, and £3,480,836.9s.4d. in sterling and short-dated investments in London.

The investment portion of the Currency Guarantee Fund at the end of the year consisted of investments valued at \$103,487,499.96 and cash awaiting investment amounting to \$1,229,895.64.

The excess value of the Fund, including cash at Bank \$31,806.43, over the total note circulation at the end of the year was \$70,114,981.42, compared with an excess of \$72,652,450.84 at the end of 1934.

There was a net issue by the Treasury of \$261,899.60 in subsidiary silver coins during the year.

Excluding the amount held by the Treasury, \$10,365,505.60 was in circulation at the end of the year in subsidiary silver and \$722,824.50 in currency notes of values less than \$1. The value of notes below \$1 in circulation at the end of 1933 was \$724,075.95 and at the end of 1934 \$723,459.20.

Fifteen million six hundred and fifty-five thousand nine hundred and forty-five and a quarter notes to the value of \$46,700,053.95 were destroyed during the year as against 15,014,899½ notes to the value of \$64,057,047.75 in 1934.

B.—BANKING AND EXCHANGE

The following Banks had establishments in the Colony during the year:—

- The Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.
- „ Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.
- „ Mercantile Bank of India, Limited.
- „ P. & O. Banking Corporation, Limited.
- „ Eastern Bank, Limited.

Messrs. Thomas Cook & Son (Bankers), Limited.

The Netherlands Trading Society (Nederlandsche Handel Maatschappij).

- „ Banque de L'Indo-Chine.
- „ National City Bank of New York.

- The Netherlands India Commercial Bank (Nederlandsche Indische Handelsbank).
 „ Sze Hai Tong Banking and Insurance Company, Limited.
 „ Bank of Taiwan, Limited.
 „ Yokohama Specie Bank, Limited.
 „ Oversea-Chinese Banking Corporation, Limited.
 „ China and Southern Bank Limited.
 „ Kwong Lee Banking Company.
 „ Lee Wah Bank, Limited.
 „ United Chinese Bank, Limited.

During the year under report the sterling demand rate (bank opening rates only) ranged between $2/4\frac{1}{8}$ and $2/3$ 11/32. The higher rate was obtainable only in January.

POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK

The number of depositors in the Savings Bank on the 31st December was 41,467 as compared with 37,339 on the 31st December, 1934, an increase of 4,128. During the year 9,818 new accounts were opened while 5,690 accounts were closed.

The amount standing to the credit of the depositors on the 31st December was \$9,072,069 as compared with \$7,711,658 on the 31st December, 1934. The average amount to the credit of each depositor was \$207 and \$219 at the end of 1934 and 1935 respectively.

The book value of the investments held by the Savings Bank on the 31st December was \$10,847,366 and the market value of these investments according to the Stock Exchange quotations on the same date was \$10,792,135.

The Savings Bank Fixed Deposit Scheme was discontinued from 1st October, 1935 and no new Fixed Deposits were accepted after this date. The number of depositors on 31st December, 1935 was 480 and the amount standing to their credit was \$371,860 an average amount to the credit of each depositor of \$775 compared with \$676 at the end of 1934. During the year 228 accounts were opened while 42 accounts were closed.

C.—WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

The standard measures recognised by the laws of the Colony are as follows:—

- (a) Standard of Length, the Imperial yard.
- (b) Standard of Weight, the Imperial pound.
- (c) Standard of Capacity, the Imperial gallon.

Among the Asiatic commercial and trading classes Chinese steelyards (called “daching”) of various sizes are generally employed for weighing purposes.

The following are the principal local measures used with their English equivalents:—

The chupak	..	..	equals	1 quart.
The gantang	..	..	„	1 gallon.
The tahl	..	..	„	1 $\frac{1}{3}$ ozs.
The kati (16 tahils)	..	..	„	1 $\frac{1}{3}$ lbs.
The pikul (100 katis)	..	..	„	133 $\frac{1}{3}$ lbs.
The koyan (40 pikuls)	..	..	„	5,333 $\frac{1}{3}$ lbs.

CHAPTER XII

A.—PUBLIC WORKS

Public works in the Straits Settlements are administered by the Director of Public Works, who is stationed in Singapore and is assisted by the Deputy Director and Head Office Staff, and the Government Architect and Staff. Work in each of the other Settlements is controlled by a local head, or Settlement Engineer who corresponds with, and takes his instructions from, headquarters in Singapore in all matters of major importance. The approved establishment of the department includes twenty-six fully qualified European Engineers and four Architects.

During 1935 the total expenditure for Public Works in the Straits Settlements was \$6,271,656.39 compared with \$5,950,594.53 for the previous year. The details are shewn in the following table:—

Head of Estimate	Expenditure	Settlement	Total Expenditure	Expenditure Extraordinary
	\$ c.		\$ c.	\$ c.
Personal Emoluments	566,915.43	Singapore ..	4,004,419.81	2,658,159.08
Other Charges ..	151,454.51	Penang ..	1,171,799.69	769,958.41
Public Works Annual-ly Recurrent ..	1,729,515.85	Province Wellesley	409,930.27	118,847.31
Public Works Extraor-dinary ..	3,781,849.12	Malacca ..	650,876.60	227,660.01
Work for other Depts.	41,921.48	Labuan ..	34,630.02	7,224.31
Total ..	6,271,656.39	Total ..	6,271,656.39	3,781,849.12

Annually Recurrent expenditure was as follows:—

	1934	1935
	\$	\$ c.
Roads, Streets, Bridges and Canals	709,459	537,539 07
Buildings and Miscellaneous Works (including Sea and River Works) ..	940,409	1,191,976 78
	<u>1,649,868</u>	<u>1,729,515 85</u>

Expenditure under Public Works Extraordinary on reconstruction and special works under the heading Roads, Streets, Bridges and Canals was \$341,800.87 in addition to the maintenance expenditure. The maintenance of 812 miles of road outside the Municipal areas cost \$452,705.62 or \$557.40 a mile.

Buildings and Miscellaneous Works.—The extraordinary expenditure under this heading amounted to \$3,653,048.25 and the following important works were completed:—

Penang.— General Hospital—Technical Block and First Class Wards.
Civil Aerodrome.

Malacca.— Sea Wall for New Reclamation.
Relaying Two Groynes at Portuguese Settlement.

The following major works were in hand but not completed at the close of the year.

Singapore.—New Convict Prison.

Civil Aerodrome.

Beach Road Reclamation.

Penang.—New Leper Camp—Pulau Jerejak.

Malacca.—Extension of Southern Groyne.

Waterworks.—The Municipalities of Singapore, Penang and Malacca control their own water supplies which are up-to-date and excellent. Water can be drunk from the tap as safely here as in the leading towns in England. The various installations in the rest of the Straits Settlements are controlled by the Public Works Department and were well maintained throughout the year.

Electric Light and Power.—In Singapore and Penang, the Municipalities own and operate their own power stations. In Singapore an additional power station is owned by the Singapore Harbour Board. The Penang Municipality supplies current for Butterworth and Bukit Mertajam in Province Wellesley, on contract. In Malacca, a private company supplies electricity in the Municipal area. Outside these areas the Public Works Department maintains small supplies and the total expenditure on these and the maintenance of the installations in Government buildings in 1935 was \$222,774.

Reclamation.—An area of 47 acres is being reclaimed near Beach Road in Singapore by dumping mud obtained from dredging the Singapore River, Seaplane Channel, and other places of a similar nature. In the course of the year 191,000 cubic yards of mud were shifted in this way.

The dredging fleet of five dredges was partly employed on the conservancy of the Singapore River, but for the greater part of the year work was concentrated on the seaplane channel for the civil aerodrome.

Sewage.—In Singapore, pumping plants, disposal works and sewers are owned and controlled by the Municipality but there still remains a considerable portion of the town in which sewers have not yet been installed. Where possible Government buildings and quarters are connected to the sewers but in other parts septic tank installations are relied on for water borne sewage. Departmental labour was used for the maintenance of all sanitary installations in Government buildings.

General.—At the beginning of the year the Public Works Department had 38 contracts in hand 249 were entered into during the year and 247 finished leaving 40 to be completed in 1936.

B.—DRAINAGE AND IRRIGATION

Penang Settlement.—The total area of land under cultivation with rice (padi) in the Settlement of Penang, including Province Wellesley, is about 40,000 acres, and of this area about 87% has now been brought under the control of the Department of Drainage and Irrigation by the declaration of Irrigation Areas under the provisions of the Irrigation Areas Ordinance.

Penang and Province Wellesley consist largely of old settled districts in which the cultivation of rice has been carried on for many generations and forms the main economic support of the Malay population. The "sawahs", or rice fields, are subdivided into a number of small plots, each of which is separated from its neighbours, and entirely surrounded, by a low bund of earth. When the young shoots, raised in a nursery, have been planted out each plot is flooded and the plants grow in water until the ear is full and the time comes for ripening the grain before harvesting it. The land is then drained and the water returned to the neighbouring stream from which it was taken. The work of the department, since it first began operations in this Settlement in 1933, has been mostly concerned with the restoration and improvement of existing sawahs within the framework of already constructed roads and drainage systems; and the need for such work was very great, particularly in Province Wellesley, where the rice sawahs are mostly situated in the flat coastal plains and the opening up of the hinterland had resulted in serious deterioration of the rivers by silting which was beyond the capacity of the peasant-cultivators to remedy.

Province Wellesley.—One of the first duties of the Drainage and Irrigation Engineer, who was appointed in 1933, was to open up and regrade a number of old drains and water-courses which had already been noted by the Agricultural Officer as urgently in need of reconstruction.

The work thus begun in 1933 was continued through the next two years and by the end of 1935 one hundred and fifty-two miles of drainage channels in Province Wellesley had been cleared and regraded. The object of this work was the prevention of untimely flooding and the regulation of the water supply, and in the principal sawahs, now declared to be Irrigation Areas, this object has been largely attained. Flooding has been reduced, in duration and magnitude, and fields which three years ago were standing always under water can now be drained as required so that the soil may be aerated, water levels reduced to make easier the ploughing of the land with buffaloes, and the earth dried in due season for the ripening of the grain and the harvest of the crop.

The following is a very brief account of the work done on these lines in the principal irrigation areas of the Province. For more detailed information those who are interested should consult the "Annual Report on the Drainage and Irrigation Department of the Colony of the Straits Settlements for the year 1935", by the Director of Drainage and Irrigation, which is published separately.

The principal sawahs in Province Wellesley are:—

<i>Northern District</i> —Penaga Area		..	6,800	acres
—Sungei Dua Area		..	9,000	"
<i>Central District</i> —Sungei Kulim Area		..	3,500	"
—Kubang Semang Area			6,200	"
<i>Southern District</i> —Sungei Acheh Area		..	4,550	"

Penaga Area.—A sum of \$39,000 (\$5.75 an acre) has been spent on controlled drainage of this area. At one place a small bund, 53 chains long, was constructed in 1935 to give protection from sea water to some 300 acres drained by a stream known as the Sungei

Kedah, which at the same time was cleared of snags and secondary forest. The yield from some 40 acres of this area had fallen as low as 80 gantangs* (bushels) an acre in recent years owing to destruction of crops by sea water, but now that sea water has been excluded the crop is reported to be promising. To the south and east of this area the Tembus River, which forms the southern boundary of about 2,240 acres of rice land, has been desilted and regraded and the spoil used to form bunds on both banks, which serve to retain water on the land and to exclude sea water therefrom in the tidal portion of the river. Further south again the similar treatment of two streams, the Sungei Lahar Endin and the Sungei Megat Dris, has already brought some seventy acres of new rice-land into cultivation and has made 230 acres more available for planting.

Sungei Dua area.—Eleven channels have been cleared of snags and vegetation and seven of these have been desilted and regraded throughout, during the last three years. This work has entailed the excavation of 48,000 cubic yards of earth and silt, and the clearing of a great variety of vegetation, from grass and water-weeds to forest trees, along a total length of more than eighteen miles of channel. The cost of the work to date is \$7,730. (\$1 an acre).

Sungei Kulim area.—The total cost of drainage and control carried out in this area over a length of some 25 miles of channel amounts to \$11,115, (\$3.20 an acre). From the principal stream, the Sungei To'Tongkat, well over 1,000 tons of timber were removed.

Kubang Semang area.—This is the third largest rice-growing area in the Settlement, and has about 6,200 acres of sawah. The main streams on which it depends for water and drainage had become so overgrown, as the result of silting from the large quantities of sand washed down from the cultivated sides of the hills, which at this point approach closely to the coast, that their courses had become almost indistinguishable from the prevailing swamp, and some of the smaller drains had silted up completely and been planted as part of the adjoining fields. Clearing and regrading began in 1933 and to date \$7,250 have been spent in restoring some twenty miles of drains. Control gates have also been constructed in the streams and drains and already the restoration has had a marked effect on the area. Throughout a long period of drought in the 1935-1936 planting season the necessary water level was maintained in the fields, a thing that would have been impossible in similar circumstances before the department's improvement of the area.

Sungei Acheh area.—Of the 4,550 acres in this area 375 acres are new land awaiting development. The latter is part of the revoked Sungei Acheh Forest Reserve and has been reclaimed from inundation by sea water by the construction of a bund, 2½ miles long, constructed by the Malay peasants themselves from Sungei Acheh to the Perak boundary, where connection is made with the new coastal bund on that side. Clearing of the revoked Forest Reserve was begun in 1935 and it was possible to plant 20 acres with rice during the current season. The whole of the Sungei Acheh area is served by a system of 29 miles of drainage channels which have all been cleared and regraded during the past three years at a cost of \$7,596.

* A gantang of unhusked padi weighs about 5½ lbs.

The year 1935 was marked by an important advance in the economic progress of Province Wellesley when irrigation waters were brought for the first time to the Acheh area from the Krian Irrigation Works in Perak. This was accomplished by the reconstruction and extension of the Krian Works and the enlargement of the main canals to carry the extra water which is delivered to the Acheh area through a syphon under the boundary road between the Settlement and the State of Perak. The cost of the extension and reconstruction of the Krian Irrigation Works is estimated at \$375,000 and is being borne in equal shares by the Straits Settlements and Perak Governments. The distribution system within the Acheh area comprises some 6½ miles of canals which have been constructed during the year largely by local Malay labour.

Muda Bund.—Apart from the work of reconstruction in the sawahs, the department completed during the year a major engineering work in the construction of a new bund along the southern bank of the Muda River, which forms the boundary of the Province, dividing it from the State of Kedah to the north. This bund replaces an old one, built many years ago by private enterprise, which had been maintained by the Government for half a century. The purpose of the bund is to confine the flood waters of the Muda River to its own course and prevent flooding of the northern part of the Province lying below the flood levels of the river.

In 1934 the river, which drains an area of some 1,600 square miles of Kedah territory, extending to the Siamese and Perak boundaries, and is subject to heavy annual flooding, was found to be eroding its banks dangerously near to the bund at three places, and at one of these the position was viewed with grave concern for the reason that it appeared to be the site of a breach in an older bund the ends of which are still visible. The construction of a new bund on a retired line 3,000 feet long was decided upon immediately. The work began in September, 1934 and was completed early in 1935 at a cost of \$25,000, including the cost of a secondary bund 1,000 feet long built as a first line of defence, and of the further strengthening of the bund for one mile of its length.

Penang Island.—The Sungei Pinang Irrigation Area of 1,450 acres stretches southward from the Pinang river for about 3½ miles and is reputed to contain some of the best padi land in Malaya. The northern third is severed from the rest of the area by a stream called the Sungei Rusa, which brings down from the cleared slopes of Penang Hill large quantities of sand and gravel that have raised its bed and banks above the surrounding rice lands which it no longer drains. In times of flood, the banks are breached and the silt of the river is spread over the adjacent village with its orchards and rice-fields. Severe damage was done to this area by the Sungei Pinang in the torrential flood of 1932, when 120 acres of agricultural land were buried in three feet of sand as the result of a landslide. The channel of the Sungei Pinang was completely silted and, when the flood subsided, no definite course remained. The upper half of the valley floor lay deep in silt, houses were buried and trees stood stark and dying, while in the lower half the rice fields became a lake of stagnant water. During the past two years, the work of

restoring the channel of the Sungei Pinang by training-fences has been in hand, and the village is slowly coming to life again. The villagers are beginning once more to plant coconut and betel on the flats reclaimed by the silt deposit and to restore their forsaken homes; and after three years the rice land has again been planted. The irrigation headworks, destroyed by the flood, have now been restored and during 1935 the intake and the first section of the canal, carried in a sunken pipe across the devastated area, were constructed.

Malacca.—In the Settlement of Malacca, 31,350 acres of padi (rice) were planted during the 1934–35 season and the average yield, calculated by the Agricultural Department, at 419 gantangs (bushels) an acre, compares favourably with that of previous years.

The main padi areas of Malacca are in the low-lying flat areas along the Coast, extending in patches from the Linggi River on the Negri Sembilan Boundary to the Kesang River on the Johore Boundary, and in the valleys of the Malacca River, Parit China, Sungei Duyong, Sungei Siput, Sungei Bahru and Kesang River. There are innumerable small inland areas of padi scattered throughout the Settlement occupying the bottoms of the valleys and receiving drainage water in addition to direct rainfall for irrigation.

Out of an area of 1,500 acres made available for new padi-planting by the scheme for the drainage of the Bachang Area, about 3 miles from Malacca town, which was completed during 1934, only 185 acres had been taken up and planted in 1935. This is a disappointing result, but these newly-planted areas attracted much attention by the contrast they presented with the adjoining waste land, and the result has been a promising increase in enquiries for irrigable land in those parts. The population of Malacca is predominantly Malay and in view of its natural increase at a rate of about 1,000 a year, and the essentially agricultural character of the Settlement, there is little doubt that all this land will gradually be taken up.

In the Tanjong Minyak area over seven miles of main drains and bunds, and thirteen miles of irrigation channels, were constructed for the benefit of 2,700 acres, of which about 1,600 acres were in cultivation already before the inception of the scheme. A further 560 acres have since been cultivated and the area is altogether a very promising one.

During the year new headworks were constructed for the irrigation of the river-valley of the Sungei Putat. The river was deepened and canalised for a distance of three miles and a quarter from the headworks, and a control gate and a bund 3,532 feet long were constructed at its outlet into the Malacca River. Five miles of irrigation channels were provided and the water supply can be further augmented at the headworks by a pipe line supply from the Ayer Keroh Reservoir—the old water-supply for Malacca town, now disused. The total area thus benefitted is 960 acres. There is a long established Malay settlement covering about 160 acres along the fringe of the valley and the restoration of their rice lands is certain to help considerably in raising the standard of living of the cultivators.

Malacca River Conservancy.—It had become manifest by 1934 that the deterioration of the Malacca River by silting was becoming steadily worse and that if the problem were not resolutely tackled the destruction of all the agricultural lands in the valley would be merely a matter of time. A sum of \$200,000 was allocated for a scheme of dredging and provision was made in the 1935 estimates for the expenditure of a first instalment of \$50,000. It was not, however, possible during the year to do more than provide and test the machinery for carrying out the dredging. The total area affected by the scheme is 5,300 acres, of which 3,864 acres are alienated land. Although nearly all the area was at one time cultivated with rice, it has gone out of cultivation steadily during the last 30 years and most of it is now an impenetrable swamp. But once the drainage of this valley has been restored there should be no difficulty about bringing the whole of it into cultivation again.

A Committee has been appointed to investigate also the silting of the lower reaches of the Malacca River, particularly where it passes through the municipal area of Malacca town. Investigations were in hand at the close of the year.

A scheme of controlled drainage was undertaken in the valley of a stream called the Parit China to provide better drainage and irrigation for 800 acres of existing rice-land; to protect 470 acres of existing rice-land from inundation by tidal waters; and to reclaim 770 acres of swamp and abandoned rice-land. The scheme involved the deepening, widening and bunding of the Parit China for a distance of four miles; the construction of a tidal gate and regulator; the cutting of four miles of subsidiary drains and the erection of a coastal bund a mile and a half long. Work was completed in time for the 1935 padi season and the scheme functioned satisfactorily.

The schemes mentioned above were the principal undertakings of the department in Malacca during the year, but do not exhaust the list of its activities. Many smaller schemes, and improvements in older irrigation works, were carried out. In one place by the employment of fifty local Malays a small bund was erected which successfully brought back into cultivation some thirty acres of old rice-land that had been abandoned as useless; and, for another area of two hundred acres which was formerly dependent entirely on rain-fall for its cultivation, an experimental pumping scheme was introduced. This scheme started working on the 20th September and water was delivered daily to the rice fields until the 12th October, after which there was abundant rainfall and it was only necessary to run the pump for an hour or so in four or five days.

The space given in this general report to the activities of one department reflects the importance attached to the work now being done by the Irrigation Engineers in collaboration with the Agricultural Officers for the reconstruction of the rural areas. Besides the economic gain of an increased internal food-production, this work has also great social and ethnological importance to justify the interest taken in it; a fact which is fully appreciated in the neighbouring states by the Malay Rulers, who realise how closely the progress, even the survival, of Malay civilisation depends upon the economic security of the "raiat", the peasant owning and tilling

his own land. The real Malay is a peasant-cultivator by heredity and tradition. He does not take kindly to the life of the town or to regular work for wages in the employment of another person. The typical Malay settlement or "kampong" is a cluster of houses standing in a grove of palms and fruit trees, generally on slightly rising ground above and adjoining the flat valley bottom in which are laid out, like a gigantic chess-board, the individually-owned, but of necessity co-operatively worked, rice plots of the villagers. Thirty or forty years ago, life in one of these small communities must have seemed to the Malay kampong-dweller as nearly elysian as mortal lot can be. Secure in the possession of his goods, his simple needs amply satisfied with the produce of his own land—fish from the sea or stream, rice from the sawah and fruit, fowls and eggs in plenty—he led a life of contentment and leisure and regarded doubtless with philosophical indifference, as an affliction from God beyond human remedy, the malaria that racked his bones and sapped his energy and slew so many of his children. This indifference, of course, was not shared by the Government, whose officers, as the country developed and the public services expanded, devoted more and more time and money to the improvement of education and medical services in the rural areas, without observing in the general prosperity which flooded the country during the second decade of this century, how far the very development which was providing the funds for their fight against such scourges as malaria and ignorance was effecting at the same time a revolution in the countryside. The Malay peasant was not slow to realise how easily money could be made by planting rubber. Indigenous fruit trees and palms were cut down to make way for the planting of the imported rubber tree, frequently even on land little suited to its cultivation. In some places even sawah land was drained for the same purpose, and the change in rural economic conditions was reflected in social changes which to some observers seemed to indicate a deterioration of character. The Malay's instinctive love of leisure became a real dislike of effort and labour and a taste for luxury and display replaced the simpler ideals of an earlier generation. The slump in rubber in 1921 first opened the eyes of the authorities to the implications of this change, and every effort was then made to persuade the Malay peasant of the danger that was threatening his economic and social welfare. These efforts, however, were quickly negated by the rapid recovery, as it seemed, of the rubber-planting industry under the Stevenson Restriction Scheme; and it was not until the great slump occurred in 1931 and 1932 that the Malay realised the wisdom of those who had been trying for the last ten years to impress upon him the importance of his ancient husbandry. The distress throughout the peninsula was great at that time, but none suffered less than the Malays of those country districts in which old habit and the instinct of the race had preserved the sawahs from encroachment or neglect. The Malay was quick to learn the obvious lesson, and this prompt appreciation of realities on the part of the simple peasant affords perhaps the best vindication of the policy which the Malayan Governments have followed so long and so persistently and is a most encouraging augury for the future.

CHAPTER XIII

Justice, Police, Prisons and Reformatories

A.—JUSTICE

By a new Courts Ordinance passed in 1934, which replaced the former Ordinance No. 101 (Courts), the following Courts are constituted for the administration of civil and criminal law in the Colony:—

- (a) The Supreme Court;
- (b) District Courts;
- (c) Police Courts;
- (d) Coroners' Courts.

In addition to these a Court of Criminal Appeal, was created under the provisions of an Ordinance passed in 1931 which was brought into force on 1st September, 1934.

The Supreme Court is composed of the Chief Justice and three or more Puisne Judges. It is a Court of Record, and consists of—

- (a) the High Court which exercises original criminal and civil jurisdiction, and appellate criminal and civil jurisdiction in cases tried in District and Police Courts; and
- (b) the Court of Appeal which exercises appellate civil jurisdiction in cases tried in the High Court.

The original criminal jurisdiction of the High Court is exercised in sessions called Assizes at which trials are heard by a Judge sitting with a jury of seven persons. From a conviction in a trial at the Assizes of the High Court an appeal now lies to the Court of Criminal Appeal, mentioned above. An appeal in civil cases may lie from the Court of Appeal to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

A District Court, presided over by a District Judge and having both civil and criminal jurisdiction is constituted in each of the three Settlements of Penang, Malacca and Labuan. In Singapore, however, where the work of the courts is much heavier, there are two District Courts, one for civil and the other for criminal cases. The civil jurisdiction of a District Court is limited to suits involving not more than \$500, when a District Judge presides and \$100 when an Assistant District Judge presides.

Police Courts exist in varying numbers in each Settlement, the Governor having power to constitute as many Police Courts in each Settlement as he thinks fit. The jurisdiction of the Police Courts is, in the main, criminal, and is regulated by the Criminal Procedure Code, but certain additional powers and duties are conferred upon them by other Ordinances.

Coroners' Courts exist in each Settlement; a Coroner is appointed by the Governor either for the whole Settlement or for a district thereof.

The Courts Ordinance also provides for the appointment of Justices of the Peace. Justices of the Peace are not Courts and have no power to try cases.

The Criminal Procedure of the Colony is governed by the Criminal Procedure Code while Civil Procedure is governed by Rules of Court made under the Courts Ordinance of 1934. Civil Procedure in District Courts is governed by certain portions of the Civil Procedure Code which was repealed by the Courts Ordinance with a proviso that certain of its provisions relating to proceedings in the District Courts should continue to apply to such proceedings until superseded by District Court Rules under the Courts Ordinance, which have still to be framed.

B.—POLICE

(i).—ORGANISATION

The Straits Settlements Police Force is organised on a territorial basis. Each Settlement is in the charge of a Chief Police Officer, whose command is divided into a number of territorial divisions and departmental branches superintended, in most cases, by gazetted officers. In Penang and Malacca the Chief Police Officer is responsible directly to the Inspector-General for the whole of the Police arrangements of the Settlement. In Singapore the Chief Police Officer performs similar duties, but in addition there are the following independent branches:—

- (a) The Special Branch which is almost wholly absorbed in work of a political kind and is not concerned with the investigation of any crime that is not of a political or subversive nature. This branch is the central investigating and recording machine for the Colony in all matters of the type with which it is designed to deal and in Settlements other than Singapore operates largely through the local Chief Police Officers and the Detective Branches.
- (b) The Dépôt, at which recruits for the Settlements of Singapore, Penang and Malacca are concentrated. The Commandant of the Dépôt is responsible directly to the Inspector-General for recruiting men for the uniformed branch of the Malay, Indian and Chinese contingent in Singapore and for all training schemes. The Chief Police Officers in Penang and Malacca select their own recruits and each Chief Police Officer selects his own plain clothes men.
- (c) The Financial Branch.

Working in direct liaison with the Police are the Deputy Public Prosecutors in Singapore and Penang, officers of the Attorney-General's department who are in immediate charge of the Police prosecuting staffs in the lower criminal courts. The Deputy Public Prosecutor at Singapore includes the Settlement of Malacca in his jurisdiction.

(ii).—CRIME

Seizable offences during 1935 numbered 5,538, a slight increase over the previous year. In 1934, however, the crime wave was abnormally low and the number of offences recorded in 1935 though higher is still well below the yearly average. The number of arrests effected was 2,485, of which 1968 resulted in convictions.

This increase in seizable crime, for which Singapore and Penang were entirely responsible, was spread over all types of offences, slight increases being recorded in murders, robberies and the various types of theft. In Province Wellesley and Malacca there was a slight improvement.

The numbers of prosecutions under the Merchant Shipping, Municipal and Minor Offences ordinances and under the gambling and chandu-revenue laws remained much the same as in the previous year. There was a slight increase in the number of prosecutions under the traffic laws.

Reports of non-seizable offences totalled 113,004 as compared with 103,754 in 1934, the greater portion of the increase being accounted for by minor prosecutions instituted by the police, which numbered 85,498.

The total value of property reported lost through crime during the year was \$389,623.62. By far the greater part of this loss was due to criminal breach of trust, which accounted for \$139,902.13. The value of property recovered by the Police was \$50,338.54.

The activities of illegal secret societies were responsible for three deaths, only half the number arising from similar causes that occurred in 1934; but the figure for 1934 was a high one. Hokkien societies were responsible for one of these murders, while the other two were the work of Cantonese gangs. Societies of other Chinese clans showed no activity during the year. Crimes of this sort were confined almost exclusively to Singapore, society and faction troubles in Penang and Malacca being negligible.

The permanently resident population of this Colony is extremely well-behaved and law-abiding, but Singapore is one of the seven largest sea-ports in the world and its population of nearly half a million includes a large floating population which comprises many dangerous elements. The anti-social proclivities of these are kept in restraint only by unceasing vigilance on the part of our local "Scotland Yard", whose task is made much harder, in small as well as greater matters, by the reluctance of an Asiatic public, however law-abiding itself, to volunteer information to the Police, probably the result of an atavistic fear of the lawless man, and generations of experience of the wisdom of minding one's own business, rather than of any conscious bias against the forces of law and order. In such circumstances another year of comparative freedom from lawless outbreaks and serious crimes of violence reflects the greatest credit on the officers and men of the Straits Settlements Police, a force of whose smartness, efficiency and intrepidity the Colony is justly proud. The picture however was not always so bright. Ten years ago Singapore was in a fair way to earning a most unenviable reputation as the Chicago of the Far East and it was not until 1930 that the Inspector General of Police was able to report that the reorganisation of the criminal intelligence service to meet the gangster menace had at last secured victory for the Police in their incessant war against organised crime. The work of succeeding years has consolidated that victory and after the grim records of ten years ago the police reports of to-day make satisfactory but dull reading.

Occasionally, however, even to-day, some startling crime occurs to check complacency and shew how far are the victors from being able yet to rest on their laurels. One such instance was the murder in 1934 of Inspector POPEJOY by a Cantonese gun-man who, meeting him in broad daylight at the door of a pawn-shop in a populous street in the centre of the town, imagined quite mistakenly that the Inspector knew him and was going to arrest him. No such tragedy, fortunately, marred the records of 1935, but one major incident, known as the Al-Junied Road murder or "Crooked-Mouth" Khing case, is worth recording. The story is this. Sometime in 1935 a horde of bandits led by "Crooked-Mouth" Khing raided the home of a Chinese politician in Southern China, murdered the owner, and carried off into captivity a son, a grandson and a young and pretty daughter-in-law. Four days later this girl, who had been raped and brutally ill-treated returned to the village to die. News of this outrage was sent to the politician's elder son, who lived in Singapore and he immediately went to China, ransomed his brother and son, and brought them back to this Colony. Shortly afterwards, the bandit Khing had trouble with his own friends and, knowing himself in mortal danger, escaped from China to Singapore. Here presumably he hoped to make his life anew with the proceeds of his past misdeeds, but on the 4th November he was found lying dead in Aljunied Road. He had been strangled, thrown on the road and run over by a motor-car. The dead man was a stranger in Singapore and unknown to the police; but the fresh wheel marks of a car were found on the verge of the road about fifty yards from the corpse, which shewed that a car had been turned at that spot and that each of its four wheels had a tyre with a different tread. From this, the car was traced to a place in Johore, many miles from Singapore, and inside forty-eight hours the deceased had been identified and the three men who had "taken him for a ride and bumped him off" were under arrest. These three proved to be hired assassins, who had no personal grudge whatever against the dead bandit; and in due course they paid the supreme penalty in Singapore gaol. The alleged instigators of the crime, the son and nephew of Crooked-Mouth Khing's victim, escaped from the Colony in a junk, and in the circumstances the sternest moralist might forgive a hope that they will never be brought to book.

Apart however from such exceptional cases, crime here, as in other parts of the civilised world, is for the most part sordid or petty. In the long procession of unfortunate victims of their own passions or despair, who pass daily through the courts, the master-criminal of popular fiction is seldom met with, and premeditated offences against property are usually the work of silly knaves whose lack of education or intelligence makes the fight between them and society a very one-sided affair. Typical of such was the case of the Chinese who burned down his house in order to collect an insurance of \$3,000, and succeeded in the process in burning down no less than ten shop-houses. He was arrested but released on bail of \$2,000, whereupon he promptly absconded leaving his friend and bailor to pay the forfeit. Six years later, in January 1935, he calmly returned to the neighbourhood, believing that by this time his misdemeanour of 1929 would be forgotten and that in any case the \$2,000 bail estreated had compounded at his neighbour's expense the peccadillo of arson. His

distress was great when he discovered that the law, which he had written down an ass, had at least the memory of the elephant; and he is now serving a sentence of five years rigorous imprisonment.

More amusing was the case of a rickshaw-puller in Singapore who with his friends had been making a tidy living for over a year by a swindle that had a positively Cockney air about it. Having found their pigeon they shewed him some glass "diamonds" which, they said, had been left in the rickshaw by a passenger. These "diamonds" were wrapped in a forged bill, bearing the name of a Chinese jeweller's shop in Ipoh, on which the value of the stones appeared as \$75. Usually they managed to sell the stones, for \$3 or less; but the trick was played once too often and the puller whose rickshaw was so frequently the repository of mislaid wealth, now learns, it is hoped, a more useful trade in Singapore Prison. It is, perhaps, a matter for regret that some of the innocent victims of his knavery could not join him in the same school.

C.—PRISONS

At the beginning of the year, there were 1,196 prisoners in the five prisons of the Colony (Singapore, Penang, Malacca, Labuan and Christmas Island). Admissions during the year numbered 13,828, as compared with 12,000 during 1934 and 14,063 prisoners were discharged, leaving 961 in the prisons at the end of the year. There were 66 vagrants in the Houses of Detention at the beginning of the year, and during the year 682 more were admitted, but 666 vagrants were discharged leaving only 82 under detention when the year closed. The health of the prisoners was maintained in a satisfactory state throughout the year.

"Short-sentence" and "Revenue-grade" men are mainly employed at husk-beating and on fatigue duties. "Lower-grade" prisoners are usually employed on husk-beating during the first six months of their sentence but thereafter join the "Middle-grade" and "Upper-grade" prisoners in industrial labour such as printing, book-binding, tailoring, carpentry, washing, weaving, shoe-making or mat and basket-making. Cooks, orderlies, clerks and such are selected from among the "Upper-grade" prisoners when possible. Remission of sentence may be earned by good behaviour by prisoners sentenced to penal servitude, rigorous imprisonment or simple imprisonment for terms of three months and over.

Juvenile offenders are kept separate from adult prisoners so far as accommodation will permit and, under Section 283 of the Criminal Procedure Code, the Courts may, in their discretion, release on probation any offender convicted of trivial offences.

D.—REFORMATORIES

The Reformatory at Singapore, is the only institution in Malaya specially organised for the reception of juvenile offenders. It is under the control of the Director of Education and is not in any way connected with the Prisons Administration. Juvenile offenders and destitute male children between the ages of seven and sixteen are admitted. No boy is detained in it beyond the age of eighteen.

At the end of 1934 the inmates numbered 83. Forty-eight were released and sixty-four admitted during 1935. At the end of 1935 there were 99 inmates.

Of the 64 boys admitted during the year, 45 were from the Straits Settlements, 15 from the Federated Malay States and 4 from the Unfederated Malay States. There were 50 Chinese, 2 Malays, 9 Indians, 1 Arab and 2 Eurasians. Thirty-six were committed for criminal offences including fraudulent possession of property, housebreaking, cheating, voluntarily causing hurt and theft, there being 16 cases of the last mentioned offence. Of the remainder, 20 were committed for vagrancy, 2 as being uncontrollable, 5 for hawking without a licence and 1 for disorderly conduct.

The conduct of the boys was excellent and their health was very good. They were employed as carpenters, tailors, grass-cutters, gardeners, washermen, cooks, orderlies and general coolies. They were all taught Malay in the Romanised script for two hours daily, with the exception of ten who continued their education in English. Muslim boys were given religious instruction. The chief forms of exercise insisted upon or indulged in were physical drill, football, volley ball, cricket and boxing.

So far as was possible work was found on their release for boys who had no parents, relatives or friends to look after them, or arrangements were made for their adoption by respectable persons recommended by the Chinese Protectorate.

CHAPTER XIV

Legislation

Sixty-four Ordinances were passed during the year 1935. Of these, two were Supply Ordinances and fifty-three were Amending Ordinances.

The following are the more important:—

- (1) The Penal Code (Amendment) Ordinances (Nos. 1 and 16) introduce the English law as to infanticide by a recently delivered mother, and make the law as to intoxication in its relation to intention accord more closely with the principles of Beard's case 1920 A.C. p. 479.
- (2) The Moneylenders Ordinance and the Moneylenders (Amendment) Ordinance (Nos. 6 and 57) regulate this business. Licences and registration are not required but memoranda of loans must be given and the Court has power to open up transactions which are harsh and unconscionable.
- (3) The Cinematograph Films Ordinance consolidates and amends the law relating to the censoring and exhibition of films.

- (4) The Chandu Revenue (Amendment) Ordinance prohibits the smoking of chandu by persons under twenty-one years of age, and imposes penalties for inducing a person under twenty-one years of age to smoke or procure chandu.

Powers of entry and arrest without warrant similar to those possessed by the police under Section 23 of the Criminal Procedure Code are conferred upon senior revenue officers to enable them to arrest offenders against the Ordinance. Similar powers are conferred by the Liquor Revenue (Amendment) and Tobacco Duties (Amendment) Ordinances, 1935.

- (5) The Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Ordinance implements the International Convention for Safety of Life at Sea.
- (6) The Children (Amendment) Ordinance prohibits children from taking part in any entertainment to which the public is admitted on payment or at which a collection is made up unless the Protector of Chinese or Controller of Labour has issued a licence permitting the child to take part in such entertainment.
- (7) The Official Secrets Ordinance follows closely the Official Secrets Acts of 1911 and 1920. Its purpose is the prevention of Espionage.
- (8) The Women and Girls Protection (Amendment) Ordinance permits the removal of a girl from a rescue home in the Colony to a similar place of safety in the Federated Malay States when such removal is in the interests of the girl.
- (9) The Bankruptcy (Amendment) Ordinance provides for Wage Earners Administration Orders. These are simpler than ordinary bankruptcy. They dispense with public examination; the Registrar can make the order on the certificate of the Official Assignee that the debts were not contracted in any trade or business. "Wage Earner" is defined as a debtor whose only source of income is a salary or wage not exceeding \$350 per mensem, provided that for the purpose of the definition income arising out of land or shares in an incorporated company (in the management whereof the debtor takes no part) or from any other source not being a trade or business not exceeding in all \$50 per month shall be deemed to be part of the debtor's salary or wage.
- (10) The Revised Edition of the Laws Ordinance provides for the preparation of a new Revised Edition of the Ordinances of the Colony in force on 31st December, 1935. It is expected that the new Revised Edition will be published about the middle of 1936.
- (11) The Statute Law Revision Ordinance makes a number of minor amendments which it is desired to include in the new Revised Edition. These amendments, being

alterations of substance, are beyond the powers of the Reviser to make, and express legislative sanction for them had therefore to be obtained.

- (12) Penang and Province Wellesley Jubilee Fund Ordinance provides for the administration of a Fund raised by public subscription. The Fund is to be devoted to the relief of the poor and Needy in the Settlement of Penang and for the establishment and maintenance of a home or settlement for poor people.

The Fund was raised as a permanent memorial of the Silver Jubilee of His Majesty King George V.

- (13) The Air Navigation Ordinance provides for the declaration of protected areas over which explosives and photographic apparatus may not be carried in an aircraft.

The Ordinance enables the Governor in Council to make rules relating to aerial navigation (not inconsistent with any Convention or Treaty applicable to the Colony) and providing for the safety of the public, the defence of the Colony and its revenue.

- (14) The Land Revenue (Amendment) Ordinance empowers the Colonial Secretary to allow annual rent for Crown land to be paid by quarterly instalments.

- (15) The Volunteer Air Force Ordinance provides for the raising of the Straits Settlements Volunteer Air Force.

- (16) The Stamp (Amendment) Ordinance enables the Colonial Secretary to authorize banks to compound for the duty on unstamped cheques.

The bank pays half yearly the duty on unstamped cheques issued by it. Certain other amendments are made to implement the International Conventions on Stamp Laws in connection with Cheques, and on Stamp Law in connection with Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes.

- (17) The Deleterious Drugs (Amendment) Ordinance regulates and controls the import, export, transit and diversion of narcotic drugs.

- (18) The Municipal (Amendment) Ordinance gives greater control over hawkers. It empowers the Municipal Commissioners to require bicycles to carry identification marks and to be registered. The Ordinance also provides for the issue of licences for omnibus services restricted to routes mentioned in the licences. On the issue of a licence no motor-omnibus may ply for hire along the route to which the licence refers except one belonging to the licensee, or to the Singapore Traction Company if the route is one over which that Company has rights under the Singapore Traction Ordinance.

CHAPTER XV

Public Finance and Taxation

The Revenue for the year 1935 amounted to \$35,040,380.22 which was \$3,361,175.22 more than the original estimate of \$31,679,205 and \$676,999.22 in excess of the revised estimate of \$34,363,381.

The Expenditure was \$34,764,640.25, being \$363,319.25 more than the original estimate.

The year's working resulted therefore in a surplus of \$275,739.97.

(i).—REVENUE

The Revenue was \$795,776.91 more than that of 1934. Details are shewn in the following table:—

Heads of Revenue	1934	1935	Increase	Decrease
	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.
1. Port, Harbour, Wharf and Light Dues ..	2,459.58	2,494.98	35.40	..
2. Licences, Excise and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified ..	21,566,219.13	23,367,218.55	1,800,999.42	..
3. Fees of Court or Office, Payments for Specific Services and Reimbursements-in-Aid ..	1,349,709.12	1,390,589.75	40,880.63	..
4. Posts and Telegraphs ..	2,101,431.11	2,200,135.16	98,704.05	..
5. Rents on Government Property ..	1,592,981.05	1,765,439.32	172,458.27	..
6. Interest ..	5,316,504.04	5,442,377.04	125,873.00	..
7. Miscellaneous Receipts ..	2,190,096.28	766,598.77	..	1,423,497.51
Total exclusive of Land Sales and Grants-in-Aid	34,119,400.31	34,934,853.57	2,238,950.77	1,423,497.51
8. Land Sales and Premia on Grants ..	124,045.86	96,475.22	..	27,570.64
9. Grants-in-Aid, Colonial Development Fund ..	1,157.14	9,051.43	7,894.29	..
TOTAL REVENUE ..	34,244,603.31	35,040,380.22	2,246,845.06	1,451,068.15

The increase under the heading "Excise and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified" is chiefly attributable to increases under the following sub-heads:—

	\$ c.
District and Police Courts ..	33,979 46
Liquors ..	254,823 68
Motor Car Duty ..	18,537 47
Opium ..	17,184 89
Pawnbrokers Ordinance ..	229,026 00
Petroleum Revenue ..	231,303 00
Stamp Duties (various revenue services)	30,517 91
Estate Duties ..	590,506 92
Tobacco Duties ..	385,250 47
	<u>\$1,791,129 80</u>

The increase in Fees of Court, etc., arises mainly from the following sub-heads:—

	\$	c.
Contribution by Federated Malay States		
on account of Joint Services ..	59,359	80
Contribution from Immigration Fund ..	19,266	04
District and Police Courts ..	11,693	19
Cost of Subsistence of Prisoners recoverable	14,008	53
Seconded Officers Pensions Contributions	23,549	54
Survey Fees	8,188	41
	<u>\$136,065</u>	<u>51</u>

There are decreases under the following sub-heads:—

	\$	c.
Bankruptcy Estates, Commission on ..	13,107	11
Contribution from Rubber Fund ..	84,211	32
	<u>\$97,318</u>	<u>43</u>

The increase under Posts and Telegraphs is distributed between:—

	\$	c.
Sale of Stamps	78,389	30
Telegrams	9,724	42
Telephones	17,961	40
	<u>\$106,075</u>	<u>12</u>

	\$	c.
There is a decrease under services to Post		
Office Savings Bank	10,466	00

The increase under Rents, etc., is thus apportionable:—

	\$	c.
Lands	147,457	99
Telok Ayer Reclamation Rents ..	38,002	00
	<u>\$185,459</u>	<u>99</u>

	\$	c.
There is a decrease under Forest Revenue ..	12,177	17

The increase under Interest is due to the following sub-heads:—

	\$	c.
Interest on Investments	75,268	91
Interest on Opium Purchase Money		
Outstanding	159,664	00
	<u>\$234,932</u>	<u>91</u>

On the other hand the following items under this head showed a decrease:—

	\$	c.
Interest on Bank Accounts	63,791	90
Interest on Loans and Advances ..	33,824	36
Interest from Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve Fund	13,967	84
	<u>\$111,584</u>	<u>10</u>

The incidence of the decrease under Miscellaneous Receipts is as follows:—

	\$	c.
Excess interest received from Harbour Boards and Municipalities	17,276	93
Overpayments Recovered	119,030	63
Miscellaneous	59,586	43
Investment Adjustment Account (Revaluation of Investments as on 31st December, 1934)	1,256,142	16
	<u>\$1,452,036</u>	<u>15</u>

On the other hand the following sub-heads under this head showed an increase:—

	\$	c.
Royalty on Phosphate Christmas Island	21,170	40
Profits on Exchange	14,342	55
	<u>\$35,512</u>	<u>95</u>

(ii).—EXPENDITURE

Particulars of Expenditure are set out below:—

Head of Expenditure	1934	1935	Increase	Decrease
	\$	\$	\$	\$
1. Charge on account of Public Debt	37,083.40	37,083.40	..	..
2. Pensions, Retired Allowances and Gratuities, etc. ..	2,183,027.67	2,380,901.86	197,874.19	..
3. Charitable Allowances ..	69,158.98	70,793.78	1,634.80	..
4. The Governor ..	114,639.66	114,283.51	..	356.15
5. Malayan Civil Service ..	646,264.89	523,571.33	..	122,693.56
6. Straits Settlements Civil Service ..	..	15,022.42	15,022.42	..
7. General Clerical Service ..	1,150,179.16	1,154,074.50	3,895.34	..
8. Colonial Secretary, Resident Councillors and Residents ..	114,709.92	120,741.70	6,031.78	..
9. Secretary to High Commissioner ..	10,423.75	10,947.10	523.35	..
10. Malayan Establishment Office ..	31,094.66	10.25	..	31,104.91
11. Agricultural Department ..	81,695.68	83,307.42	1,611.74	..
12. Analyst ..	63,354.18	49,114.49	..	14,239.69
13. Audit ..	50,052.30	41,042.74	..	9,009.56
14. Chinese Secretariat ..	64,231.24	67,711.31	3,480.07	..
15. Co-operative Societies ..	23,587.01	26,009.87	2,422.86	..
16. Drainage and Irrigation ..	196,601.90	312,613.89	116,011.99	..
17. Education ..	2,005,134.73	2,002,648.12	..	2,486.61
18. Fisheries ..	33,987.06	34,267.61	280.55	..
19. Forests ..	48,163.18	60,655.46	12,492.28	..
20. Gardens, Botanical ..	112,240.62	118,834.42	6,593.80	..
21. Immigration, Passports and Registration of Aliens ..	22,474.83	56,450.58	33,975.75	..
22. Labour Department ..	15,733.33	18,668.17	2,934.84	..
23. Land and District Offices ..	261,104.09	249,596.73	..	11,507.36
24. Legal ..	366,851.51	407,717.77	40,866.26	..
25. Marine ..	520,420.07	543,219.01	22,798.94	..
26. Marine Surveys ..	72,886.63	77,140.08	4,253.45	..
27. Medical ..	371,183.22	369,730.95	..	1,452.27
28. Medical, Health Branch ..	504,157.40	539,752.81	35,595.41	..
29. Medical, Social Hygiene Branch ..	92,940.78	91,658.13	..	1,282.65
30. Medical, Hospitals and Dispensaries ..	2,141,655.33	2,241,750.78	100,095.45	..
31. Military Expenditure—				
I. Defence Contribution ..	4,020,948.57	4,000,000.00	..	20,948.57
II. Local Forces ..	330,522.00	431,002.59	100,480.59	..
32. Miscellaneous Services ..	3,347,341.71	6,285,218.90	2,937,877.19	..
33. Monopolies ..	1,052,832.69	1,137,021.39	84,188.70	..
34. Museum and Library, Raffles ..	42,684.08	49,448.97	6,764.89	..
35. Police ..	2,828,393.90	2,779,143.86	..	49,250.04
36. Post Office ..	1,553,411.01	1,723,651.80	170,240.79	..
37. Printing Office ..	216,954.79	218,092.94	1,138.15	..
38. Prisons ..	470,330.46	431,971.24	..	38,359.22
39. Public Works Department ..	667,914.26	632,864.57	..	35,049.69
40. Public Works, Recurrent Expenditure ..	983,778.70	1,140,701.32	156,922.62	..
41. Public Works, Extraordinary ..	3,283,572.15	3,443,384.91	159,812.76	..
42. Statistics ..	76,975.79	95,987.39	19,011.60	..
43. Survey Department ..	372,120.19	364,577.62	..	7,542.57
44. Transport ..	90,598.59	18,318.69	..	72,279.90
45. Treasury ..	124,857.17	128,943.32	4,086.15	..
46. Veterinary ..	61,276.80	60,081.50	..	1,195.30
47. Grants-in-Aid Colonial Development Fund ..	7,711.57	4,929.55	..	2,782.02
TOTAL ..	30,937,261.61	34,764,640.25	4,248,918.71	421,540.07

* Expenditure Credit.

The increase in "Pensions Retired Allowances, Gratuities etc.," is due to increased provisions in the votes "Superannuation Allowances", "Police Pensions" and "Commutations of Pensions to officers who have exercised their option, etc."

The decrease in "Malayan Civil Service" is attributable to the arrangements whereby leave salaries of European officers are now defrayed by the Malayan Establishment Office.

"Straits Settlements Civil Service" appears in the 1935 Estimates for the first time, and provision for four Probationers was entered in the first instance.

The increase under "Colonial Secretary", "Resident Councillors" and "Residents" is mainly due to increases in the Other Charges, Annually Recurrent vote.

The decrease under "Malayan Establishment Office" is mainly due to the whole departmental expenditure being adjusted to a Suspense Account, Malayan Establishment Office, for apportionment amongst the various administrations.

The decrease under "Analyst" is due to the retirement and furlough of two Assistant Analysts who were replaced by officers on a leave scale of salary.

The decrease under "Audit" is mainly due to the increased Expenditure credits and adjustments thereof under the revised cost of audit.

The increase under "Drainage and Irrigation" reflects additions to personnel and expenditure on the various drainage Schemes and other improvements.

The increase under "Forests" is due mainly:—

- (i) to the Singapore forest organisation out-weighing the saving on account of the retrocession of the Dindings;
- (ii) to improvements to forest reserve in Malacca.

The increase under "Gardens Botanical" is due to the difference of duty salaries provided for duty posts and normal increments to staff.

The increase under "Immigration, Passports and Registration of Aliens" is mainly due to a vote "Reimbursement of Passport Revenue to Immigration Fund" being provided under Other Charges, Annually Recurrent, in the 1935 Estimates.

The decrease in "Land and District Offices" is due to a decrease in Personal Emoluments on the retrocession of the Dindings to Perak and in Special Expenditure votes.

The increase in "Legal" is due to the increase of personnel in the Supreme Court and Bankruptcy Office and also due to the increases in the Special Expenditure votes.

The increase under "Marine" is due to the increased maintenance costs and major repairs to Government launches.

The increase under "Medical Health Branch" is due to the increase in Personal Emoluments, Other Charges Annually Recurrent and Special Expenditure and also due to unprovided expenditure in 1935.

The increase under "Hospitals and Dispensaries" is mainly due to increases in the Governments contributions to the Hospital Boards and Tan Tock Seng Hospital.

The decrease in the "Military Expenditure Defence Contribution" is due to a final adjustment with the Military Authorities in respect of the years 1927-1933.

The increase in the "Military Expenditure Local Forces" is mainly due to the increased expenditure in 1935 on account of the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve.

The large increase under "Miscellaneous Services" is due mainly to the unprovided expenditure of the following:—

	\$
Cost of Hotel Europe Site	1,315,000
Gift towards the Imperial Government ..	500,000
Singapore and Penang Silver Jubilee Fund	1,050,000
Deficit in Colony's Securities	625,000

The increase under "Excise" is due to normal increments and promotion, purchase of larger quantities of materials required for an increased production of chandu and also due to the operation of the Importation of Textiles (Quotas) Ordinance, 1928.

The increases under "Museum and Library, Raffles" are due to the normal increase in Personal Emoluments.

The decrease under "Police" is mainly due to retirement, termination of services and substitution of Asiatic Inspectors in place of European Inspectors.

The increase under "Post Office" is due mainly to the inclusion of the Straits Settlements contribution to Posts and Telegraphs Headquarters expenditure. In previous years the Straits Settlements' share of Joint Expenditure was not shewn as Posts and Telegraphs Expenditure, but was settled directly between the Treasuries.

The decrease under "Prisons" is mainly due to vacancies on the European Warders Establishment not being filled, and also leave salaries of European Officers being met from Malayan Establishment Funds.

The decrease under "Public Works Department" is due to the fact that certain Civil Engineering posts have been left vacant for

part of the year and also in some measure due to the retrocession of the Dindings.

The increase under "Public Works, Recurrent Expenditure" is due mainly to the increased expenditure in wiping off the arrears of maintenance caused by economies during the Trade Depression.

The increase under "Public Works Extraordinary" is due to the fact that work in connection with two large votes "Civil Aerodrome, Singapore", and "New Convict Prison" was in full swing and payments were naturally larger than in the previous year.

The increase under "Statistics" is mainly due to the purchase of a set of mechanised accounting machinery during 1935.

The decrease under "Survey" is mainly accounted for by the smaller amount chargeable for leave salaries during 1935.

The decrease under "Transport" is due to the cost of passages of European Officers being taken over by the Malayan Establishment Office.

(iv).—PUBLIC DEBT

The indebtedness of the Colony in respect of the loan raised by the issue of 3½% Straits Settlements Inscribed Stock under the provisions of Ordinance No. 98 (Loan) amounted on the 31st December, 1935, to £6,913,352 of which the equivalent in local currency is \$59,257,302.

The expenditure upon Services in respect of which this loan was raised is as follows:—

	\$
Singapore Harbour Board	47,720,526
Penang Harbour Board	2,093,974
Municipal Commissioners, Singapore ..	4,484,460
Municipal Commissioners, Penang ..	1,250,000
Government Harbour Works	320,137
	\$55,869,097
Loan Expenses and cost of conversion (1907) less interest received ..	3,388,205
	\$59,257,302

The charge on account of interest on, and expenses of this loan was \$2,079,891 in 1935. This charge is, however, borne by the Singapore Harbour Board and other bodies to whom portions of the loans have been allotted. The value of the Investments of the Sinking Fund of this loan on the 31st December, 1935, was \$21,211,048.

The Sterling Loan issued under the provision of Ordinance No. 182 (Straits Settlements Loan No. 2) amounted to \$44,185,714 (£5,155,000). The whole of the proceeds has been handed over to the Federated Malay States Government, which has legislated for the payment of the interest and charges in connection with the loan and of the Sinking Fund Contributions to extinguish it.

A part of the Sterling Loan *i.e.*, Straits Settlements 4½% Inscribed Stock 1935/45 amounting to \$36,000,000 (£4,200,000) was converted from 15th June, 1935, into Federated Malay States 3% Stock 1960/70.

(v).—TAXATION

Revenue from taxation is mainly derived from duties on liquors, tobacco and petroleum imported into and consumed in the Colony, and from the profits on the Government opium monopoly. The other main items are Stamp Duties, Estate (Death) Duties and Pawnbrokers' Licences which are issued to successful tenderers on payment of a monthly rent for a period of three years.

The yield from direct taxation is small and all of it obtained from "Licences".

The total revenue under the main head of Duties, Taxes and Licences for the year 1935 was \$23,367,218.55 forming the greater portion of the Colony's Revenue and the yields under the principal items were as follows:—

	\$	c.
Liquor Duties	3,373,786	70
Opium Revenue	8,740,612	65
Pawnbrokers' Licences	716,214	00
Petroleum Revenue	3,179,704	14
Stamp Duties (Various Revenue Services)	963,961	99
Estate (Death) Duties	1,234,687	05
Tobacco Duties	4,371,449	11

The only fiscal measure approximating to a custom's tariff is the imposition of duties on liquors, tobacco and petroleum imported into and consumed in the Colony.

Excise revenue is comprised principally of the revenue from the Opium Monopoly and from duties on intoxicating liquors manufactured in the Colony. In the latter case the duties are seven-tenths of the amounts prescribed for imported liquors of a similar brand. The only liquor manufactured locally which is subject to this duty is samsu and beer. In addition the Government itself controls most of the manufacture and sale of toddy, but the revenue is so far unimportant.

Stamp Duties are imposed on all documents required to be stamped under the provisions of the Stamp Ordinance, 1929. The principal duties are:—

Agreement under hand only	..	25 cents
Bill of Exchange including Promissory Note	..	5 cents for every \$100 or part thereof
Cheque		4 cents
Conveyance		\$1.50 for every \$250 or part thereof
Mortgage		\$1 for every \$500 or part thereof
Receipt		4 cents

A Betting Tax was introduced with effect from 1st January, 1932, and the amount collected in 1935 was Singapore \$255,066.45 and Penang 107,942.30.

LIABILITIES

1935 were as follows:—

Assets		\$	c.	\$	c.
Cash:—					
	\$	c.			
Cash in Treasuries	4,830,539.92				
Cash in Banks	5,164,417.16				
Cash with Crown Agents	25,808.47				
			10,020,765.55		
Cash held in Kuala Lumpur	..	..	48,100.00		
Cash in Transit	..	..	17,897.52		
Joint Colonial Fund (Crown Agents)	..	..	942,857.15		
Fixed deposits (Colony)	..	..	7,250,000.00		
Fixed deposits (Accountant-General)	..	..	508,900.00		
				18,788,520.22	
Suspense Account Other items	..	..	..	5,616,702.56	
Suspense Stores Account, P.W.D.	..	..	..	104,170.00	
Investments (Surplus Funds):—					
Sterling Securities	..	..	37,466,605.35		
Dollar and Rupee Securities	..	..	334,344.61		
				37,800,949.96	
Investments (Specific Funds):—					
Accountant-General (Court)	..	..	889,158.94		
Accountant-General (Other)	..	..	1,491,100.00		
Bankruptcy	..	..	816,205.80		
Mercantile Marine Fund	..	..	731,686.46		
Savings Certificates Fund	..	..	210,630.00		
Public Officers' Guarantee Fund	..	..	74,182.00		
Miscellaneous	..	..	1,195,353.20		
				5,408,316.40	
Investments Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve Fund					
	..	..	..	61,111,266.89	
Advances:—					
Boards,					
Education	..	..	8,129.26		
Hospital	..	..	19,635.62		
Rural	..	..	1,123.11		
Building Loans	..	..	689,367.77		
Other Governments	..	..	70,443.58		
Postal Stores	..	..	300,000.00		
Sinking Fund, Singapore Harbour Board	..	..	1,522,022.20		
Miscellaneous	..	..	325,382.73		
				2,936,104.27	
Imprests	..	..	..	1,717.01	
Loans:—					
	\$	c.			
Municipality, Singapore	284,231.31				
Municipality, Penang	100,000.00				
Municipality, Malacca	391,670.69				
			775,902.00		
Kelantan Government	..	..	5,223,133.98		
Trengganu Government	..	..	3,800,000.00		
Singapore Harbour Board	..	..	5,294,959.99		
Penang Harbour Board	..	..	2,649,621.56		
Mohamedan and Hindu Endowment Board, Penang	..	..	53,250.00		
Tanglin School at Cameron Highlands	..	..	17,100.00		
Stadium Association	..	..	2,000.00		
S.S. War Service Land Grants Scheme	..	..	97,894.46		
				17,913,861.99	
TOTAL		..	..	149,681,609.30	

CHAPTER XVI

Miscellaneous

A.—PRINCIPAL LANGUAGES

Malay, as well as being the language of the Malay inhabitants of the Colony, is also, in a modified form, the language spoken in the homes of many of the other settlers, particularly in Malacca.

Early Muslim traders, the Portuguese, the Dutch and the English have all used and spread it as a *lingua franca* so that it has become, in a much debased form, the language of the shop and the market for the Colony's cosmopolitan population. Signs are not lacking, however, that it is gradually being superseded by English as the language of commerce.

Malay, as well as the languages of such immigrants to the Straits Settlements as the Bugis from the Celebes, Sundanese, Madurese and Javanese, and the Minangkabau people of Sumatra, belongs to the western branch of the Austronesian family which covers an area from Formosa to New Zealand and from Madagascar to Easter Island. Even within this western branch, however, languages differ more widely than English from Dutch or French from Italian.

With Islam the Malays adopted the Persian form of the Arabic alphabet, but there is a growing literature in romanised script.

The Chinese languages spoken in the Straits Settlements are those of the districts in the South of China, principally in the Kwangtung and Fukien Provinces, from which the immigrant Chinese population is almost entirely drawn.

Figures based on the Census for 1931 shew the extent to which the various languages are spoken to be:—

Hokkien, 43.2%; Cantonese, 21.4%; Tiu Chiu, 17.4%; Hakka (Kheh), 7.9%, Hailam, 5.4%, Hok Chhia, 1.5%; Hok Chiu, 1.3%; and other dialects, 1.9%.

Nine-tenths of the Indian population are Southern Indians practically all of whom speak one or other of the Dravidian languages, Tamil, Telugu, or Malayalam. Of these the vast majority (over 90%) speak Tamil.

The rest of the Indian population consists mainly of Northern Indians, whose principal languages are Punjabi, Bengali and Hindustani. There are also a few hundred natives of the Bombay Presidency, who speak Gujerati and Mahrati, and a negligible number of Burmese and Nepalese.

B.—LAND TENURE

Singapore.—Land in the hands of private owners in Singapore is held direct from the Crown either by lease or grant. The earliest of the existing titles are the leases for the term of nine hundred and ninety-nine years issued for land in the town soon after the founding of Singapore.

The first lease issued for a period of ninety-nine years, for land in the town, dates back to 1838.

From 1845 onwards a large number of grants in fee simple was issued for land outside the limits of the town though for town lands the issue of leases for ninety-nine years still continued. The margin allowed for the expansion of the town was, however, insufficient, with the result that land in the most densely crowded part of the present town is occasionally found to be held under titles which were originally acquired for agricultural purposes.

After the transfer of the Settlements to the control of the Colonial Office in 1867 the titles issued for land both in town and country were leases for terms of 99 or 999 years, but Ordinance No. II of 1886, now Ordinance No. 34 (Crown Lands), introduced a statutory form of Crown Title, the present Statutory Land Grant, which is a grant in perpetuity subject to a quit-rent and to various implied conditions and covenants which before the passing of the Ordinance had to be expressly provided for in the document of title itself. This Statutory Grant became then, and until recently continued to be the usual form of title issued but the policy now is to restrict the issue of grants in perpetuity substituting as far as possible leases for terms not exceeding ninety-nine years.

Penang.—Land in Penang and Province Wellesley is held from the Crown under Grant in fee simple, Statutory Grant or lease. The conditions of tenure vary according to the policy of the Government at the time the documents were issued. Unoccupied Crown land is now ordinarily alienated under lease.

Malacca.—The tenure of a considerable portion of the land in Malacca Town has remained unchanged since the days of Dutch rule. Possession is evidenced in many cases by documents of title in Dutch. The remainder of the land in the Town is mostly held under Crown leases for 99 years, but there are a few leases for 999 years and a few Statutory Grants. Alienated land in the country is generally held under Statutory Grants or leases from the Crown for 99 years, but small holdings owned by Malays are held under Customary tenure as defined by the Malacca Lands Customary Rights Ordinance. There is a small number of grants in fee-simple, both in town and country areas.

Labuan.—Land in Labuan is held in accordance with the provisions of Ordinance No. 127 (Labuan) and is alienated ordinarily by public auction. The titles existing are all leases, for the term of 999 years or less; and, since 1919, leases for 30 years only have been granted. There are some titles which are redemptions of titles issued under a former system.

Throughout the Colony.—Temporary occupation of Crown Land is possible under licence for periods not exceeding a year at a time, and similar temporary occupation licences, as well as leases, may be issued for foreshore and sea bed under the provisions of Ordinance No. 69 (Foreshores).

C.—CO-OPERATION

The organisation of thrift on a co-operative basis has progressed steadily, the total savings in Co-operative Societies in the Straits Settlements having increased by over three hundred thousand dollars since 1934. While most of this increase is due to the savings of

salary earners, Indian labourers added nearly \$60,000 to their previous accumulation.

The year was somewhat brighter for agriculturists and the membership of Rural Credit Societies increased in Penang and decreased only slightly in Malacca. Capital dropped a little, but more favourable prices were beginning to affect the societies when the "time-lag" had been overtaken. Small holders, who were perpetually urged to save and who found that prevailing prices allowed only a small margin above expenditure, actively supported the three Better Living Societies which discourage extravagance on ceremonies. Co-operative Fairs and Shops have been established but are unlikely to last for long. The trading experience gained therein is perhaps their most valuable feature.

The salary-earners societies amongst Government servants have almost completed their task of implementing the Government policy of clearing up the indebtedness of its servants. Many private firms have adopted a similar policy and the mercantile societies have been fully occupied.

Investments of surplus funds in local trustee securities were, as last year, difficult to obtain even at the high premia quoted.

Singapore.—In Singapore among the salary-earners, the number of societies fell from 22 to 21, capital rose from \$741,600 to \$857,900, membership from 6,373 to 6,717, gilt-edged securities from \$568,800 to \$585,100.

Societies among Indian labourers increased by 2 to 11, with a membership of 2,347 and a capital of \$77,077 as compared with 1,771 and \$54,900 at the end of 1934.

Malacca.—In Malacca the number of salary-earners societies remained unchanged. The four existing societies decreased in membership from 1,508 to 1,219 but increased in capital from \$188,800 to \$211,700. Investments and cash in the banks amounted to \$169,800.

Membership of the 8 Rural Societies dwindled from 294 to 258 and their capital from \$7,586 to \$6,764. The holdings of the societies in cash and in deposits in the Post Office Savings Bank amounted to \$4,696.

Indian Labourers Societies increased from 16 to 21. Their membership is 4,427 and capital \$59,432 as compared with 3,395 and \$34,247 at the end of 1934.

Penang.—In Penang, the registration of the Harbour Board Employees Society brought the number of salary earners societies to 9. These societies have a membership of 3,834 and a capital of \$452,300, the corresponding figures for last year being 3,670 and \$371,200.

The number of Indian Labourers Societies is 14, an increase of one over last year. Membership is 1,713 and capital \$38,951 as compared with 1,740 and \$29,816 at the end of 1934.

The Rural Societies remained unchanged. Membership increased from 114 to 116, though capital decreased from \$3,517 to \$3,466.

D.—EVENTS OF THE YEAR

The outstanding event of 1935 was the Silver Jubilee of His Majesty KING GEORGE V, celebrated on the 6th May, and following days. A full record of the celebrations has been published as Council Paper No. 75 of 1935.—The occasion was marked by manifestations of loyalty and affection so spontaneous and obviously sincere, on the part of the people of every race and creed, and many even of foreign nationality residing in the Colony, that those who witnessed it are not likely to forget the noble tribute paid to a great and well-loved King.

It was further, the general feeling of the public that the memory of such an event should not be allowed to pass with the generation that had taken part in its celebration, and at a public meeting in Singapore on the 25th April it was decided that as a permanent memorial of the Silver Jubilee a fund should be raised by public subscription for the relief of distress among persons of all races all creeds, all classes and all ages living in the Settlement. Public subscriptions amounted to \$154,870, to which the Legislative Council added a grant of \$750,000 from the general revenue of the Colony and the Singapore Municipality contributed a sum of \$500,000.

The management of this fund is regulated by statute and is vested in a body of Trustees and a Committee of Management. A sum of £164,472 has been invested by the Crown Agents on behalf of the Trustees, and the income from these investments, amounting to \$3,500 a month is handed over monthly by the Trustees to the Committee of Management, which disburses the money at its discretion in the relief of the poor or destitute.

A similar fund had already been opened in Penang, and about \$150,000 was collected by public subscription, to which the Legislative Council added a grant of \$300,000 and the Penang Municipality one of \$150,000.

The Penang Fund is managed by a statutory body of Trustees and a General Committee, and is to be used primarily for the establishment and maintenance of a home for the aged and needy of Penang and Province Wellesley.

Sir THOMAS SHENTON WHITELEGGE THOMAS, K.C.M.G., O.B.E., Governor and Commander-in-Chief was on duty throughout the year.

Sir ANDREW CALDECOTT, C.M.G., C.B.E., Colonial Secretary left the Colony on promotion to the Governorship of Hong Kong on the 7th December, when he was succeeded by Mr. A. S. SMALL.

Major-General E. O. LEWIN, C.B., C.M.G., General Officer Commanding the Troops, Malaya, relinquished his command on the 8th November, and was succeeded on the 6th December by Major-General W. G. S. DOBBIE, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O. In the interval between Major-General LEWIN's departure and the arrival of Major-General DOBBIE the command of the troops devolved upon Brigadier A. T. SHAKESPEAR, D.S.O., M.C.

Commodore W. P. MARK-WARDLAW, D.S.O., R.N., Commodore-in-Charge of His Majesty's Naval Establishments, and Air-Commodore Sydney W. SMITH, O.B.E., Officer Commanding the Royal Air Force, Far East, remained on duty throughout the year.

A Training Squadron of the Japanese Imperial Navy under Rear-Admiral Nakamura visited Singapore on the 28th March and remained in the roads for several days. On the 26th October, Admiral MURFIN of the United States Navy visited the port in U.S.S. "Augusta".

The New Year Honours List contained the following awards:—

Knight Bachelor—Mr. ANDREW CALDECOTT, C.M.G., C.B.E.

C.M.G.—Mr. HAROLD FAIRBURN.

O.B.E.—(Civil Division).—Mr. WEE SWEE TEOW.

Honorary O.B.E. (Civil Division)—Dr. PIETER VAN STEIN
CALLENFELS.

The Birthday Honours List contained the following awards:—

C.B.E. (Civil Division)—Mr. C. J. SMITH, O.B.E., F.R.C.S.

O.B.E. (Civil Division)—The Rev. W. MURRAY, M.A.

J. A. HUNTER,
Acting Colonial Secretary,
Straits Settlements.

SINGAPORE, 31st July, 1936.

APPENDIX "A"

SELECTED LIST OF PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO THE
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS

Title	Price	Publishers or Agents for Sale
Dominions Office and Colonial Office List	35/-	Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London.
Blue Book (Straits Settlements)	\$6	The Government Printing Office, Singapore, S.S.
Annual Departmental Reports (Straits Settlements) ..	\$6	The Government Printing Office, Singapore, S.S.
Census Report, British Malaya, 1931	\$5	The Crown Agents for the Colonies; and The Malayan Information Agency, London
Malayan Year Book, 1935 ..	\$1.50, 3/6	Kelly & Walsh, Ltd., Singapore. The Malay States Agency London
Report by the Rt. Hon'ble W. G. A. Ormsby Gore on his visit to Malaya, Ceylon and Java, 1928 ..	4/6	H. M. Stationery Office, London
Economic Conditions in British Malaya to 20th December, 1934 (Hartland)	2/6	H. M. Stationery Office, London
A Dictionary of the Economic Products of the Malay Peninsula (I. H. Burkill) 2 Vols. ..	30/-	The Crown Agents for the Colonies
The Malayan Agricultural Journal	50cts.	Dept. of Agriculture, S.S. and F.M.S., Kuala Lumpur, F.M.S.
Malayan Forest Records ..	Various prices	Forest Department, F.M.S. and The Malayan Information Agency, London
The Geology of Malaya, 1931 (J. B. Scrivenor)	16/-	Macmillan & Co., Ltd., London
The Flora of the Malay Peninsula, 1925, 5 Vols. (H. N. Ridley) ..	£11-11-0	L. Reeve & Co., London
The Birds of Singapore Island. 1927. (Sir John A. S. Bucknill and F. N. Chasen) ..	\$5	Kelly & Walsh Ltd., Singapore
Malayan Fishes, 1921 (C. N. Maxwell)	\$1	The Malayan Branch, Royal Asiatic Society, and Kelly & Walsh, Ltd., Singapore, S.S.
Oxford Survey of the British Empire, 1924. Vol. 2 (Editors: A. J. Herbertson and O. J. R. Howarth)	15/-	Oxford University Press, London
One Hundred Years of Singapore, 1921, 2 Vols. (General Editors: W. Makepeace, G. E. Brooke, and R. St. J. Braddell) ..	out of print	John Murray, London
One Hundred Years of the Chinese in Singapore, 1923. (Sir Ong Siang Song)	30/-	John Murray, London
Handbook to British Malaya, 1930 (Ed. by R. L. German) ..	5/-	J. M. Dent & Sons, Ltd., London

APPENDIX "A"—*continued*SELECTED LIST OF PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO THE
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS—*continued*

Title	Price	Publishers or Agents for Sale
Historical Geography of British Dominions, Vol. 1. (C. P. Lucas)	not sold separately	Oxford University Press, London
A History of Malaya (Sir Richard Winstedt)	\$7.50	The Malayan Branch, Royal Asiatic Society, Singapore and Luzac & Co., London
British Malaya, 1824-1867. 1925. (L. A. Mills)	\$3.50	The Malayan Branch, Royal Asiatic Society, Singapore, S.S. and Luzac & Co., London
British Malaya, 1929. (Sir F. A. Swettenham)	12/6	J. Lane, London
Papers on Malay Subjects. (Incidents of Malay life, Law, etc. Ed. by R. J. Wilkinson) ..	\$1 each	Kelly & Walsh Ltd., Singapore, S. S.
Malaya. The Straits Settlements, the Federated and Unfederated Malay States, 1923. (Sir Richard Winstedt)	12/6	Constable & Co., London
Report of the Wild Life Commission of Malaya, 1932, 3 vols. ..	\$12	The Government Printing Office, Singapore, S.S.
Report of Sir Samuel Wilson's visit to Malaya, 1932	50 cts.	H. M. Stationery Office, London
Report of the Commission appointed by His Excellency the Governor of the Straits Settlements to enquire into and report on the Trade of the Colony, 1933-1934, Vol. I	\$5	The Government Printing Office, Singapore, S.S.
Report of the Commission appointed by His Excellency the Governor of the Straits Settlements to enquire into and report on the Trade of the Colony, 1933-1934, Vol. IV. (Appendices)	\$10	The Government Printing Office, Singapore, S.S.

APPENDIX "B"

TABLE I

EXCESS OF FOREIGN ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES AT PRINCIPAL PORTS OF ENTRY, MALAYA, DURING THE YEAR, 1935

RACE	BY SEA						BY AIR			BY RAIL		BY ROAD		TOTAL							
	Singapore	Penang	Malacca	Labuan	Port Swettenham	Perak (Teluk Anson)	Kelantan	Singapore	Penang	Kedah	Perlis	Kelantan	Perak		Kedah						
Europeans	1,043	811	—	3	22	8	...	0	—	38	2	—	13	—	240	0	0	82	1,674		
Eurasians	163	13	...	...	11	5	—	1	...	...	...	...	...	—	31	—	0	—	13	145	
Japanese	302	29	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	9	3	—	1	8	365	
Chinese	85,748	4,312	1	323	—	1,450	0	—	1	3	...	...	...	1,492	—	1,493	537	1,514	90,986		
Malays	2,382	14	...	62	—	21	43	—	2	...	...	...	...	127	—	6,325	527	133	—	3,060	
Northern Indians	1,693	1,720	5	—	4	264	...	—	1	—	2	...	...	299	—	180	—	44	98	3,848	
Southern Indians	4,662	14,639	...	3	13,557	...	...	—	1	3	...	...	...	59	—	156	—	61	28	33,045	
Others	141	—	67	...	106	0	...	..	...	1	...	...	...	—	269	—	2,076	5	362	—	1,797
TOTAL	96,134	21,471	3	533	12,363	42	—	5	—	28	2	—	13	1,446	—	9,917	963	2,212	125,206		

TABLE II

COMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR 1934 AND FOR THE YEAR, 1935 ARE:—

	BY SEA						BY AIR			BY RAIL		BY ROAD		TOTAL		
	Singapore	Penang	Malacca	Labuan	Port Swettenham	Perak (Teluk Anson)	Kelantan	Singapore	Penang	Kedah	Perlis	Kelantan	Perak		Kedah	
1934 ...	70,721	30,740	17	347	37,616	19	21	1	...	...	954	1,348	695	2,379	142,089	
1935:—																
January ...	10,541	1,462	1	131	1,323	...	...	0	...	...	534	1,457	—	404	547	12,678
February ...	7,508	2,721	—	6	1,948	2	...	1	...	...	85	1,569	—	9	193	10,760
March ...	15,760	1,562	2	95	2,346	...	0	15	...	...	98	3,232	116	141	16,873	
April ...	11,822	2,775	—	2	2,146	8	...	15	...	...	258	2,599	361	118	14,858	
May ...	11,344	3,661	...	139	2,427	13	...	9	...	1	46	26	194	71	17,767	
June ...	7,148	2,287	—	3	953	...	1	6	...	3	58	353	212	22	10,953	
July ...	6,904	2,034	5	88	848	...	...	6	...	0	147	2,261	137	266	8,162	
August ...	3,847	—	338	...	126	...	0	7	...	1	13	3,118	—	52	6,542	
September ...	7,065	2,192	1	81	656	...	1	6	1	5	63	752	32	99	10,928	
October ...	6,256	1,723	1	95	485	6	2	2	1	1	145	2,689	217	128	6,367	
November ...	3,195	1,058	4	68	142	...	...	7	1	...	251	250	34	145	4,857	
December ...	4,744	334	0	34	501	13	5	4	1	2	44	557	125	383	4,461	
TOTAL ...	96,134	21,471	3	533	12,363	42	5	28	2	13	1,446	9,917	963	2,212	125,206	

TABLE III—continued

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES OF PASSENGERS BY SEA, LAND AND AIR, BY COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN AND DESTINATION, DURING THE YEAR, 1935
DEPARTURES TO

RACE	BY SEA									
	SIAM					OTHER COUNTRIES				
	W.		Children		Total	W.		Children		Total
	M.		B.	G.		M.		B.	G.	
Europeans	496	172	26	16	710	6,591	4,154	814	654	12,213
Eurasians	8	14	4	10	36	35	22	6	8	71
Japanese	43	5	...	3	51	960	360	148	133	1,601
Chinese	1,637	370	287	99	2,393	7,317	2,405	648	427	10,797
Malays	86	6	2	2	96	2,193	1,086	298	234	3,811
Northern Indians	266	9	11	2	288	474	52	23	20	569
Southern Indians	110	11	3	4	128	455	50	30	20	555
Others	297	188	50	48	583	659	107	121	35	922
TOTAL	2,943	775	383	184	4,285	18,684	8,236	2,088	1,531	30,539
RACE	BY LAND									
	FOREIGN COUNTRIES					SIAM				
	W.		Children		Total	W.		Children		Total
	M.		B.	G.		M.		B.	G.	
Europeans	652	121	7	2	782	1,222	544	35	9	1,810
Eurasians	...	...	...	...	...	105	53	29	26	213
Japanese	19	1	...	...	20	100	4	2	...	106
Chinese	21	1	...	...	22	31,368	9,015	5,705	3,885	49,973
Malays	...	...	...	...	...	43,945	21,871	6,773	5,059	77,648
Northern Indians	10	3	1	...	14	2,882	81	35	14	3,012
Southern Indians	1	...	...	...	1	3,257	61	31	8	3,357
Others	1	1	...	...	2	13,608	8,821	4,248	3,092	29,769
TOTAL	704	127	8	2	841	96,487	40,450	16,858	12,093	165,888
RACE	GRAND TOTAL									
	BY AIR					BY LAND				
	W.		Children		Total	W.		Children		Total
	M.		B.	G.		M.		B.	G.	
Europeans	15,400	8,651	1,411	1,153	26,615	15,400	8,651	1,411	1,153	26,615
Eurasians	402	335	54	59	850	402	335	54	59	850
Japanese	1,653	460	177	162	2,452	1,653	460	177	162	2,452
Chinese	129,819	31,422	14,529	11,412	187,182	129,819	31,422	14,529	11,412	187,182
Malays	65,259	28,070	9,220	6,913	109,462	65,259	28,070	9,220	6,913	109,462
Northern Indians	14,373	1,380	778	467	16,998	14,373	1,380	778	467	16,998
Southern Indians	36,424	7,104	2,139	1,377	47,044	36,424	7,104	2,139	1,377	47,044
Others	15,612	9,244	4,475	3,199	32,530	15,612	9,244	4,475	3,199	32,530
TOTAL	278,942	86,666	32,783	24,742	423,133	278,942	86,666	32,783	24,742	423,133

TABLE III—continued
 ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES OF PASSENGERS BY SEA, LAND AND AIR, BY COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN AND DESTINATION, DURING THE YEAR, 1935
 EXCESS (+) OR DEFICIT (–) ARRIVALS

RACE	BY SEA																					
	THE NETHERLANDS INDIES					CHINA (2)					INDIA (3)											
	M.	W.	Children (1)		Total	M.	W.	Children		Total	M.	W.	Children		Total							
			B.	G.				B.	G.				B.	G.								
Europeans (4)	48	136	121	130	435	—	171	74	—	2	18	—	81	—	75	—	122	5	—	16	—	208
Eurasians ...	35	39	7	6	87	—	8	10	4	5	—	27	—	6	—	6	12	—	—	1	—	1
Japanese ...	236	81	74	35	426	—	28	20	—	3	4	—	49	—	6	—	4	—	2	—	3	1
Chinese ...	6,615	2,264	1,836	1,241	11,956	38,887	27,278	7,445	4,142	77,752	—	340	—	68	—	10	—	25	—	—	—	443
Malays (5)	—	780	1,167	813	2,995	59	27	—	6	...	80	—	4	—	16	—	6	—	9	—	—	35
Northern Indians	345	—	25	37	414	137	—	5	2	1	135	—	2,581	—	342	—	61	—	55	—	—	3,039
Southern Indians (6)	576	17	33	21	647	—	26	—	3	1	—	29	—	18,644	—	4,304	—	5,446	—	3,867	—	32,261
Others ...	—	81	50	28	18	—	19	2	—	4	—	27	—	94	—	25	—	3	—	8	—	124
TOTAL ...	6,994	4,328	3,345	2,311	16,978	38,903	27,403	7,437	4,163	77,906	20,900	4,473	5,489	3,876	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	34,738

RACE	BY SEA																					
	SIAM					OTHER COUNTRIES					TOTAL											
	M.	W.	Children		Total	M.	W.	Children		Total	M.	W.	Children		Total							
			B.	G.				B.	G.				B.	G.								
Europeans	—	42	—	4	—	5	—	65	—	1,800	—	1,050	—	809	—	35	—	57	—	1,881		
Eurasians ...	—	6	—	1	—	1	—	7	—	71	—	96	—	72	—	9	—	14	—	191		
Japanese ...	—	26	—	2	—	3	—	31	—	104	—	276	—	77	—	1	—	11	—	341		
Chinese ...	489	117	63	107	776	—	78	—	150	—	1,108	—	45,573	—	28,752	—	9,184	—	5,424	—	88,933	
Malays ...	—	9	—	5	—	6	—	325	—	31	—	568	—	1,488	—	1,128	—	776	—	2,478		
Northern Indians	—	76	—	3	—	83	—	3	19	10	172	—	3,127	—	312	—	134	—	104	—	3,677	
Southern Indians	—	5	—	1	—	15	—	42	—	13	—	4	—	19,231	—	4,290	—	5,469	—	3,870	—	32,860
Others ...	—	91	—	55	—	88	—	220	—	1	—	153	—	12	—	33	—	36	—	180	—	180
TOTAL ...	246	44	110	107	507	1,519	—	460	—	187	412	68,562	35,788	15,921	10,270	—	—	—	—	—	—	130,541

TABLE III—concluded
ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES OF PASSENGERS BY SEA, LAND AND AIR, BY COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN AND DESTINATION, DURING THE YEAR, 1935
EXCESS (+) OR DEFICIT (−) ARRIVALS

RACE	BY AIR					BY LAND					GRAND TOTAL			(7)	(8)
	FOREIGN COUNTRIES					SIAM					M.	W.	Children		Total
	M.	W.	Children		Total	M.	W.	Children		Total					
			B.	G.				B.	G.				B.	G.	
Europeans ...	35	11	4	1	49	39	118	2	3	158	976	680	37	55	1,674
Eurasians ...	...	...	...	...	...	15	11	20	22	46	81	83	11	8	145
Japanese ...	4	...	...	1	5	21	1	1	...	19	301	76	2	10	365
Chinese ...	3	...	...	...	3	2,306	164	7	85	2,050	47,882	28,588	9,177	5,339	90,986
Malays ...	...	...	...	...	...	3,205	2,135	122	320	5,538	4,119	647	1,250	456	3,060
Northern Indians ...	1	1	...	...	2	117	11	42	3	173	3,243	322	176	107	3,848
Southern Indians ...	3	...	...	...	3	191	8	3	4	182	19,425	4,282	5,472	3,866	33,045
Others ...	1	...	...	...	1	1,086	636	140	116	1,978	962	648	107	80	1,797
TOTAL ...	25	12	4	2	39	1,710	3,040	1	547	5,296	66,827	32,736	15,918	9,725	125,206

NOTES:—

1. Children are under 12 (English) years of age.

2. China includes Hong Kong.

3. India includes Burma and Ceylon.

4. Europeans include Americans.

5. Malays include all natives of the Malayan Archipelago.

6. Southern Indians are natives of the Presidency of Madras and the States of Mysore and Travancore.

7. For movements *via* individual ports or land-routes, see monthly Return Statistics 3; for movements of deck passengers (Chinese, Javanese and Southern Indians) see monthly Return Statistics 13.

8. Net Arrivals, 1935: 125,206.

Net Arrivals, 1934: 142,089.

TABLE IV
ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES OF CHINESE, JAVANESE AND SOUTHERN INDIAN DECK PASSENGERS DURING THE YEAR, 1935

RACE	Singapore		Penang		Port Swettenham		Total		Net Arrivals during the year	Net Arrivals for the years 1934 and 1935	
	Arrivals	Depart-ures	Arrivals	Depart-ures	Arrivals	Depart-ures	Arrivals	Depart-ures		1934	1935
1. Chinese from and to China including Hongkong (a) ...	136,059	59,535	9,640	7,912	154	1,578	145,853	69,025	76,828	41,138	76,828
2. Javanese from and to Java (b) ...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	6	6	459	6
3. Southern Indians from and to Presidency of Madras (c) ...	12,436	9,887	29,768	17,099	22,864	10,914	65,068	37,900	27,168	61,845	27,168
TOTAL ...	148,495	69,428	39,408	25,011	23,018	12,492	210,921	106,931	103,990	102,524	103,990

(a) For Chinese: all deck passengers by all steamers.

(b) For Javanese: all labourers recruited for Malayan estates as reported by recruiting agencies and the Labour Department at Singapore.

(c) For Southern Indians: all deck passengers embarked and disembarked by British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers between Malayan Ports and Madras, as reported by the Labour Department.

TABLE V
ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES OF CHINESE DECK PASSENGERS FROM AND TO CHINA DURING THE YEAR, 1935

Port	Arrivals			Departures			Total Arrivals		Total Departures	
	Men	Women	Boys (a)	Girls (a)	Men	Women	Boys (a)	Girls (a)	1934	1935
Singapore ...	79,011	36,546	11,898	8,604	40,153	10,713	4,177	4,492	100,518	136,059
Penang ...	4,708	3,226	962	744	4,335	1,609	1,179	789	8,749	9,640
Port Swettenham ...	152	1	1	...	1,112	255	141	70	...	154
TOTAL ...	83,871	39,773	12,861	9,348	45,600	12,577	5,497	5,351	109,267	145,853
									68,129	69,025

(a) Under 12 (English) years of age.

APPENDIX "C"

Nationality, number and tonnage of Vessels with cargo and in ballast and native craft of all tonnage (including their repeated voyages) which arrived and departed at the ports of the Straits Settlements during the year, 1935.

NATIONALITY	SINGAPORE						PENANG					
	MERCHANT VESSELS			MEN-OF-WAR			MERCHANT VESSELS			MEN-OF-WAR		
	Over 75 Tons Net		75 Tons Net and Under	No.	Tons		Over 75 Tons Net		75 Tons Net and Under	No.	Tons	
	No.	Tons	No.				No.	Tons	No.			Tons
British	4,685	10,200,369	..	..	..	288,368	2,702	7,776,439	..	..	68	95,502
American	85	469,821	..	2	20,000	..	75	427,793	..	..	..	..
Belgian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chinese	83	62,304	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Danish	243	754,011	..	..	..	..	124	419,007	..	..	..	..
Dutch	4,656	6,669,020	..	..	..	..	1,107	1,211,241	..	..	..	..
French	417	1,842,715	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
German	325	1,531,448	..	..	..	..	174	909,112	..	..	..	..
Greek	42	126,080	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Italian	128	794,030	..	..	..	..	20	72,264	..	..	..	..
Japanese	1,247	5,269,495	..	4	37,500	..	364	1,619,718	..	..	..	..
Norwegian	1,082	1,847,003	..	..	..	..	244	380,918	..	..	..	..
Panama	6	31,700	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Portuguese	..	..	..	2	2,500	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Polish	..	..	..	2	3,122	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Russian	54	96,200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sarawak	140	73,128	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Siamese	321	174,283	..	10	5,400	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Swedish	75	292,023	..	..	..	..	24	89,758	..	..	..	..
Yugoslavian	6	21,796	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	13,595	30,255,426	33,180	90	1,270,129	356,890	4,834	12,906,250	11,976	542,278	68	95,502
± 1934	- 48	+ 436,146	+ 2,438	- 64	+ 23,498	- 285,018	+ 87	+ 537,626	- 12	+ 2,333	+ 6	- 47,658

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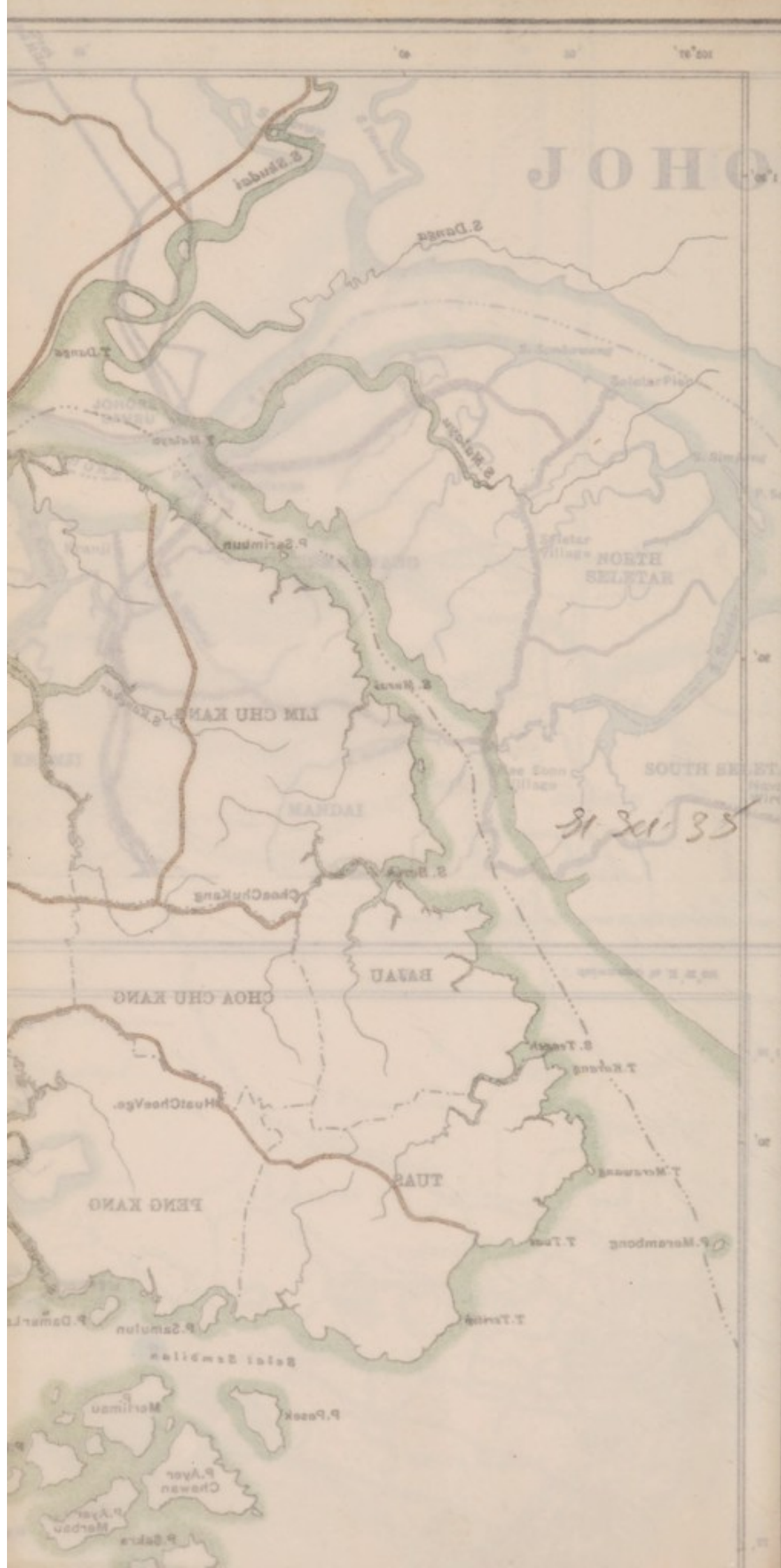
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1942



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LABUAN

1935

Scale, 2 Miles to 1 Inch



REFERENCE

- Barth Road & Bridge Path.....
 Roads Metalled.....
 Point, Tanjong, River..... Pt. T. R.
 Pulau, Light House..... P. L.
 Kampung, Labak..... Kg. L.
 Flashing Light or Buoy.....
 Fixed Light, Sungai..... F. L. S.
 Mukim Boundary, Height..... 336
 Country, Suburban..... C. S.
 Districts: (1) Town (2) Suburban (1) (2)



Boundary by Treaty of May 20th 1847 between Great Britain and the Sultan of Brunei

LA

Scale,
Yards 1000

District: 111
County: Sub
Municipal Bound
Fixed Light
Flashing Light
Knappton, La
Palau, Light
Point, Tupper
Rocks: Mo
Hunt's Pond &

B R U N



MAP OF PENANG ISLAND AND PROVINCE WELLESLEY 1935

Scale, 2 Miles to 1 inch

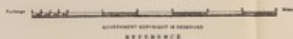
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MALACCA TERRITORY 1935

Scale, 2 Miles to 1 Inch



REFERENCE

Railway with Station	—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—
Railway without Station	—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—
Road	—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—
Canal	—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—
Water	—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—
Wooded	—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—
Temple, School, Customs Station	—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—
Post & Telegraph Office, Bar House	—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—
Police Station, Prison, Docking Station	—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—
Coast Station, Hospital	—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—
Weathering Station	—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—

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