

# JOHORE ANNUAL REPORT

---

FOR THE YEAR

1926

BY

C. H. W. COCHRANE,  
*General Adviser*

---

SINGAPORE :

Printed at the GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, SINGAPORE,  
by W. T. CHERRY, Government Printer.

1927



## CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
I.—Financial	1
II.—Trade	3
III.—Agriculture	4
IV.—Chinese Protectorate	6
V.—Council of State	7
VI.—Customs	8
VII.—Chandu	10
VIII.—Education	10
IX.—Forests	12
X.—Game Warden	13
XI.—Judicial	13
XII.—Land	14
XIII.—Marine	17
XIV.—Medical	18
XV.—Military	21
XVI.—Mines	22
XVII.—Police	24
XVIII.—Post Office	26
XIX.—Prisons	27
XX.—Public Works	29
XXI.—Surveys	33
XXII.—Town Boards	35
XXIII.—Veterinary	37
XXIV.—Staff	37
XXV.—General	38

# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STATE OF JOHORE FOR THE YEAR 1926

## I.—FINANCIAL

1. The revenue for 1926 amounted to \$18,781,565 as compared with \$15,884,592 for 1925, and \$10,947,960 for 1924. Actual revenue exceeded the estimate by \$7,249,865.

2. The increase of \$2,896,973 over the revenue for 1925 is mainly accounted for by increased receipts under the main heads of Customs, Licences, Municipal, Land Sales and Posts and Telegraphs, as shown in the following table:—

	1925	1926	Increase	%
	—	—	—	—
	\$	\$	\$	
<i>Customs.—</i>				
Rubber ...	3,038,328	3,363,680	325,352	10·7
Tobacco ...	972,620	1,424,835	452,215	46·5
Spirits ...	717,069	1,012,004	294,935	41·1
<i>Licences.—</i>				
Chandu ...	4,429,720	5,489,512	1,059,792	23·9
<i>Municipal.—</i>	488,126	705,535	217,409	44·5
<i>Land Sales.—</i>	561,327	696,775	135,448	24·1
<i>Posts and</i>				
<i>Telegraphs.—</i>	135,704	192,218	56,514	41·6

3. The percentage contributions of the principal heads of revenue to the total revenue (exclusive of Land Sales) for the years 1922—1926 were as follows:—

	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
	—	—	—	—	—
Land and Forests ...	15·5	14·9	16·4	14·5	12·8
Customs ...	24·8	35·8	33·0	37·2	39·8
Licences ...	45·4	37·5	36·4	33·3	35·7
Other Revenue ...	14·3	11·8	14·2	15·0	11·7
	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0



## EXPENDITURE

4. The total expenditure in 1926 was \$18,099,232 as compared with \$9,780,322 for 1925, and an estimate of \$16,939,413.

5. The large increase in expenditure is due to the creation of an Opium Revenue Replacement Fund, for which a sum of \$5,898,498 appears in the account. Under Purchase of Land there was an increase of \$953,353, due to the purchase by Government of the Alsagoff Concession at Kukob. Expenditure on Public Works, Special Services, was \$804,314 more than in 1925, while on Annually Recurrent the increase was \$235,912. Expenditure on Pensions, Personal Emoluments and Other Charges increased by \$42,416, \$314,953 and \$259,571 respectively, but there were decreases on Transport, Interest and Miscellaneous Services. The Straits Settlements loan of \$800,000 was repaid in May.

## INVESTMENTS

6. During the year £633,398.8.9 (\$5,430,313) was remitted to the Crown Agents for investment. Investments on account of Surplus Funds in Sterling securities on 31st December, 1926, amounted to \$10,844,054. Investments in Straits Settlements Government securities increased to \$1,486,532, and local Fixed Deposits amounted to \$2,000,000. Sterling investments totalling \$5,898,498 were transferred from Surplus Funds Investments to the new Opium Revenue Replacement Fund, which at the end of the year stood at \$6,119,922 all in sterling securities. The total investments held by Government on the 31st December, 1926 were \$20,470,509.

7. The surplus at the end of the year was \$17,935,508 compared with \$17,253,175 at the end of 1925. On the Assets side of the Balance Sheet Cash (including Cash in Transit) amounted to the large total of \$7,048,465. The Advance Account and Loans stood at \$161,644 and \$83,595.

8. The creation of an Opium Revenue Replacement Fund marks an important event in the financial history of the State. In spite of the large sum appropriated, the finances were able to bear it, and actually show a gain on the year's working.

The following are shown in appendices:—

Appendix A.—Statement of Assets and Liabilities 1925 and 1926.

Appendix B.—Statement of Actual Revenue 1925 and 1926.

Appendix C.—Statement of Actual Expenditure 1925 and 1926.

Appendix D.—Statistical Return of Progress 1922 to 1926.

## II.—TRADE

9. The total trade for the year 1926 shows a value of \$173,266,820 compared with \$167,590,314 in 1925, constituted as follows:—

1925	1926
—	—
\$	\$
49,874,197	35,782,758
118,214,613	139,261,451
168,088,810	175,044,209
498,496	1,777,389
167,590,314	173,266,820

## IMPORTS

Table shows, under the main heads, 1925 and 1926:—

	1925	1926
	—	—
\$	\$	\$
d, Drink		
... 18,876,750		18,870,490
als and		
inly un-		
d ... 6,817,266		2,597,532
or main-		
ured ... 17,961,991		14,181,341
ion ... 174,356		133,395
... 6,043,834		Nil.
49,874,197		35,782,758

## EXPORTS

Table writes:—"Of a total value of rubber represents no less than can be seen from these figures how the State relies on this one form of tin-ore fell from 23,160 pikuls in

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STATE OF JOHORE  
FOR THE YEAR 1926.

Page 40, Appendix A, line 15 in the Column of "Assets", for  
"\$6,119,222.29" read "\$6,119,922.29".

Erratum Slip.



1925 to 17,455 pikuls in 1926, in spite of the good prices ruling throughout the year. Unless new fields are opened there is likely to be a progressive decline of export. The export of copra continues to show a steady and satisfactory increase. The pineapple industry did not have a good year, but nevertheless new canning factories continue to be erected".

### III.—AGRICULTURE

12. The field staff of the Department consisted, at the end of the year, of the Inspector of Agriculture, three junior agricultural assistants, two agricultural probationers and seven sub-inspectors. Two agricultural apprentices were undergoing training at the Department of Agriculture, Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States, Kuala Lumpur.

#### RUBBER

13. General estate improvement has been maintained, and a fair interest has been taken in the question of re-conditioning poor areas by means of artificial fertilisers. Experiments in this connection are being started on several estates, and are being watched with interest. Sulphate of Ammonia appears to give good results, and Ammonium Nitrate is also being tried. The total area of new planting is estimated at 12,000 acres, selected seed from Sumatra being employed in some cases. Bud grafting with selected stock was also undertaken on one property, but for some unknown reason was not a great success, a considerable percentage of grafts failing to take.

The area under rubber at the end of the year was recorded at about 526,000 acres. Exports amounted to 1,010,679 pikuls valued at \$119,580,069.

Restriction continued in operation throughout the year, the percentage of standard production exportable at the minimum duty being 100 for the first three, and 80 for the last quarter, the figure in January being 85. The standard production for the restriction year was 60,449 tons.

#### COCONUTS

14. The area under coconuts was approximately 90,000 acres. Output shows a considerable increase, being 576,000 pikuls, valued at \$6,344,000. The cultivation of coconuts in Johore is almost entirely in the hands of small holders, and the collection of the nuts and preparation and export of copra

are well organised. Recently some interest has been shown in the possibilities of preparing a fibre for spinning purposes from the husk.

#### PADI

The area recorded as planted with wet padi was 3,866 acres, and a yield of 384,187 gantangs was obtained. There were also 1,462 acres of hill padi, which produced 126,524 gantangs. Padi planting is on the decline. Suitable acres exist, but it is improbable that there will be any extension while other crops such as rubber and coconuts offer so much greater attraction, unless the prospects of obtaining an increased yield are improved by irrigation schemes and the introduction of better varieties of seed. Investigations in these directions are now being made, and Government is prepared to give financial assistance to any scheme which is likely to prove successful. Labour of course is a serious problem, and unless immigrants can be attracted, the outlook is not very hopeful.

#### PINEAPPLES

16. About 15,000 acres are reported to be under pineapples. The output of canned pines was 643,534 cases, a decrease of 9,000 cases on the figures for 1925. In addition, about 27,000,000 pines were exported. Seven factories were operating during the year. Great interest was shown in the question of canning, the most important feature being the formation of a local Producers' Combine. Steps are being taken to ensure more uniformity in the contents of tins and consignments, the latter being now limited to the "No. 1 grade" and the "good average quality".

#### AFRICAN OIL PALM

17. Progress in this crop has been well maintained and an additional 1,200 acres were planted up, making a total area of 2,235 acres at the close of the year. Nine hundred acres had been felled and burnt ready for planting, and further felling had started. Enquiries for large areas of land for oil palms have been received, and the question of earmarking definite localities is under consideration.

#### OTHER CROPS

18. *Betel Nuts*.—The planted area is estimated at from 7,500 to 8,000 acres, and the export was 216,465 pikuls, valued at \$2,151,000. Export in 1925 was 185,000 pikuls.



## EXPENDITURE

4. The total expenditure in 1926 was \$18,099,232 as compared with \$9,780,322 for 1925, and an estimate of \$16,939,413.

5. The large increase in expenditure is due to the creation of an Opium Revenue Replacement Fund, for which a sum of \$5,898,498 appears in the account. Under Purchase of Land there was an increase of \$953,353, due to the purchase by Government of the Alsagoff Concession at Kukob. Expenditure on Public Works, Special Services, was \$804,314 more than in 1925, while on Annually Recurrent the increase was \$235,912. Expenditure on Pensions, Personal Emoluments and Other C... \$314,953 and \$259,571 respectively on Transport, Interest and Straits Settlements loan of \$8

## INVESTMENT

6. During the year £6 remitted to the Crown Agents on account of Surplus Funds in December, 1926, amounted to Straits Settlements Government \$1,486,532, and local Fixed Deposit Sterling investments totalling from Surplus Funds Investment Replacement Fund, which at the \$6,119,922 all in sterling securities held by Government on the \$20,470,509.

7. The surplus at the end compared with \$17,253,175 at Assets side of the Balance Sheet (Transit) amounted to the large Advance Account and Loans etc

8. The creation of an Opium Fund marks an important event in the State. In spite of the large expenses the year's working.

The following are shown in Appendix A.—Statement of 1925 and

Appendix B.—Statement of 1926 and 1927

Appendix C.—Statement of Actual Expenditure 1925 and 1926.

Appendix D.—Statistical Return of Progress 1922 to 1926.

## II.—TRADE

9. The total trade for the year 1926 shows a value of \$173,266,820 compared with \$167,590,314 in 1925, constituted as follows:—

	1925	1926
	\$	\$
Imports ...	49,874,197	35,782,758
Exports ...	118,214,613	139,261,451
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	168,088,810	175,044,209
Less Re-exports ...	498,496	1,777,389
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	167,590,314	173,266,820

## IMPORTS

10. The following table shows, under the main heads, the value for 1925 and 1926:—

	1925	1926
	\$	\$
Class I. Animals, Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	18,876,750	18,870,490
II. Raw Materials and Articles mainly unmanufactured ...	6,817,266	2,597,532
III. Articles wholly or mainly manufactured ...	17,961,991	14,181,341
IV. Coin and Bullion ...	174,356	133,395
V. Sundries ...	6,043,834	Nil.
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	49,874,197	35,782,758

## EXPORTS

11. The Commissioner writes:—"Of a total value of exports of \$139,261,451 rubber represents no less than \$119,580,069, and it can be seen from these figures how largely and dangerously the State relies on this one form of cultivation. The weight of tin-ore fell from 23,160 pikuls in



*Tapioca*.—The production (154,280 pikuls) was slightly less, but large additional areas have been opened up in the Segamat and Central Johore districts, and 16,000 acres are stated to be under cultivation.

There was a reduction in the export of sago and gambier, but an extension of the area planted with tuba, mainly on the Japanese estates on the Johore river.

#### DISEASES AND PESTS

19. *Rubber*.—Mouldy Rot remains localised. It is extensive in parts, but there has been no spread of importance to new areas. Brown Bast is prevalent on many native holdings. Conservative tapping systems are considered to be having a beneficial effect on the majority of the larger estates.

Pink disease has shown no signs of increase.

Die Back is common in South Johore, but the conclusion has been formed that this is almost entirely due to poor soil conditions.

*Coconuts*.—There has been no marked increase in the mortality of palms round Benut. Research indicates that the trouble experienced at Benut and elsewhere in Malaya is due to two fungi and that the decision to regard this disease as a root disease and to advise control measures accordingly was well founded. No serious outbreaks of Bud Rot have been recorded, and neither the Rhinoceros beetle nor the Red Stripe weevil have done much damage. Regular inspections are carried out by the Department, and the small holder appears to be learning slowly the value of preventive measures.

#### IV.—CHINESE PROTECTORATE AND LABOUR DEPARTMENT

20. The usual work of the supervision of Chinese women and girls was carried out.

21. Four societies were exempted from registration, and 13 were registered. There are now 59 exempted and 128 registered societies in Johore. Considerable activity was displayed by unlawful societies, though rubber smuggling still gives them an outlet for their superfluous energy to the partial exclusion of more serious forms of crime.

22. The number of labourers employed in each of the last two years, according to returns furnished to the Controller of Labour, was:—

	1925	1926
Indians ...	22,214	31,272
Chinese ...	14,660	19,006
Javanese ...	4,055	6,248
Others ...	1,102	1,121

23. The health on Estates was fair only, the death rate among Indians being slightly higher than in 1925. The Controller reports that housing and sanitary conditions in European and Japanese managed Estates are generally satisfactory, but that in other estates a tendency to avoid responsibility is noticeable, and enforcement of the provisions of the Code is not easy, though considerable progress is being made in this respect.

#### V.—COUNCIL OF STATE AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

24. The Council of State met on four occasions and the following Enactments were passed:—

1. The Supervision of Alien Missionaries Repeal Enactment.
2. The Non-Ferrous Metal Industry Repeal Enactment.
3. The Aliens Restriction Repeal Enactment.
4. The Telegraphs Enactment, 1923, Amendment Enactment.
5. The Foreign Companies Enactment.
6. The Female Domestic Servants Enactment.
7. The Women and Girls Protection Enactment.
8. The Alsagoff Concession Enactment, 1920, Amendment Enactment.
9. The Ports and Shipping Enactment, 1917, Amendment Enactment.
10. The Trustee Enactment, 1924, Amendment Enactment.
11. The Revised Edition of the Laws of Johore Enactment.
12. The Export of Rubber (Restriction) Enactment, 1923, Amendment Enactment.
13. The Pensions (Gratuities) Enactment.



14. The Labour Code, 1924, Amendment Enactment.  
15. The Titular Roman Catholic Bishop of Malacca Incorporation Enactment.

The Executive Council met on 50 occasions during the year.

## VI.—CUSTOMS

25. The total nett revenue collected by the Department was \$6,978,710.

### 26. (i) REVENUE BY DISTRICTS, 1922-1926

	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
	—	—	—	—	—
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Muar ...	317,590	740,883	711,486	1,759,927	2,034,360
Batu Pahat ...	337,876	548,541	560,800	871,718	904,692
Kukub ...	159,541	229,424	203,357	227,663	270,080
Johore Bahru ...	1,099,505	1,658,743	1,561,560	2,282,788	2,694,679
Kota Tinggi ...	212,436	346,338	437,600	461,924	606,132
Endau ...	100,057	136,727	145,302	152,599	139,658
Segamat ...	76,035	188,377	210,888	261,514	329,109
	<u>2,303,040</u>	<u>3,849,033</u>	<u>3,830,993</u>	<u>6,018,133</u>	<u>6,978,710</u>

### (ii) REVENUE BY PRODUCTIVE GROUPS, 1922-1926

Arecanuts ...	86,065	107,539	81,156	82,054	86,187
Copra ...	204,392	220,997	237,523	258,198	269,273
Gambier ...	25,497	31,497	51,990	41,509	17,806
Pepper ...	1,441	808	841	616	—
Pineapples ...	—	—	—	—	42,824
Rubber ...	341,040	1,306,123	1,473,613	3,038,328	3,363,680
Tapioca ...	40,133	72,774	79,766	64,503	39,248
Other Agricultural Produce ...	106,850	82,367	73,782	70,847	30,894
Forest Produce ...	82,792	83,294	77,281	71,059	79,276
Minerals ...	287,108	324,522	432,618	427,311	372,075
Marine Produce ...	17,801	16,844	17,331	13,996	15,290
Miscellaneous Produce ...	2,657	1,744	2,653	5,457	7,645
Alcoholic Liquor ...	374,449	435,694	443,112	707,069	909,007
Tobacco ...	508,630	615,885	655,255	972,619	1,313,098
Petroleum ...	82,183	97,145	113,000	169,938	322,130
Matches ...	51,274	61,383	59,454	92,632	107,793
Live Animals ...	1,541	1,847	1,651	44	—
Weighing Fees ...	88,053	387,307	28,519	83	—
Tobacco Licences ...	1,134	1,263	1,448	1,870	2,484
Total ...	<u>2,303,040</u>	<u>3,849,033</u>	<u>3,830,993</u>	<u>6,018,133</u>	<u>6,978,710</u>

27. In the following table are shown the proportionate contributions made to the revenue by the various groups of the dutiable articles in the last five years (tobacco licences and weighing fees are not included).

	PERCENTAGE				
	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
	—	—	—	—	—
Arecanuts ...	3.8	3.11	2.14	1.07	1.24
Copra ...	9.2	6.39	6.25	4.17	3.86
Pepper ...	0.1	0.02	0.02	.71	—
Pineapples ...	—	—	—	—	0.61
Gambier ...	1.1	0.91	1.37	.01	0.26
Rubber ...	15.4	37.74	38.77	50.55	48.22
Tapioca ...	1.9	2.10	2.10	1.11	0.56
Other Agricultural Produce ...	4.8	2.38	1.94	1.21	0.44
Minerals ...	13.0	9.38	11.38	7.16	5.33
Forest Produce ...	3.7	2.41	2.03	1.22	1.14
Marine Produce ...	0.8	0.49	0.46	.25	0.22
Miscellaneous Produce ...	0.1	0.05	0.07	.10	0.11
Spirits Imports ...	17.0	12.59	11.66	11.79	13.03
Tobacco Imports ...	23.0	17.80	17.24	16.22	18.82
Live Animals ...	0.1	0.05	0.04	.01	—
Petroleum ...	3.7	2.81	2.97	2.85	4.62
Matches ...	2.3	1.77	1.56	1.57	1.54
	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>100.00</u>

## PREVENTIVE BRANCH

28. Owing to difficulties of recruitment it was not possible to make a serious beginning with the establishment of a Preventive Branch until the middle of the year. The results achieved have proved the necessity of such a Branch for the protection of revenue, and have fully justified the expenditure incurred. Convictions were obtained in 59 cases of rubber smuggling, while the Police had 19 cases with 16 convictions. For other offences against the Customs Excise and Chandu Laws 276 cases (with 227 convictions) were brought by the Customs, and 264 cases (with 205 convictions) by the Police. The total amount of fines recovered was \$24,357, and the expenditure on the Branch was \$21,742.

29. The Preventive Fleet has, as in previous years, been maintained and manned by the Federated Malay States, the Government of Johore contributing to its cost. The Fleet has steadily advanced in efficiency, and, according to the Superintendent, the presence of the launches off the coast has had an invaluable deterrent effect. Without its assistance



Restriction would have been little more than a name in Johore, while revenue would have suffered to the extent of many hundreds of thousands of dollars.

#### VII.—CHANDU DEPARTMENT

30. This Department is in charge of the Superintendent Chandu Monopoly, who is also Commissioner of Trade and Customs. He is assisted by one European Inspector of Chandu Shops, the remainder of the staff consisting of Malays and Chinese.

31. The amount of chandu sold in 1926 was 576,213 tahils, of which 478,408 tahils were sold direct to the public from Government shops, and 97,805 tahils to Licensees. The total sales in 1924 were 326,862 tahils, and in 1925 423,659 tahils. The nett revenue from the sale of chandu was \$5,812,251 and from licences \$7,044.

32. Twenty Government shops for retail sale "Off" were opened during the year, making 39 in all, and 18 "On" shops; 9 "Off" and 116 "On" licences being terminated. The process of substituting Government retail and smoking shops for "On" and "Off" licences is now complete; 461 licences in all have been cancelled throughout the State, and great credit is due to the Superintendent for carrying out the policy without a hitch and without a serious complaint from any quarter. These measures have involved practically the creation of a new department. The Personnel in 1924 numbered 27; the present total is close on 300.

#### VIII.—EDUCATION

##### VERNACULAR SCHOOLS

33.					
Schools	Number	Enrolment	Average Attendance	Staff	
—	—	—	—	—	
Boys ...	74	5,625	4,477	159	
Girls ...	10	599	520	19	

##### RELIGIOUS CLASSES

Schools	Number	Enrolment	Average Attendance	Staff	
—	—	—	—	—	
Boys ...	26	1,721	1,333	48	
Girls ...	5	223	187	5	

The average attendance at the vernacular schools was 80 per cent of the enrolment.

*Malay Training College.*—Thirty-three teachers were under training, of whom about 14 should be qualified early next year. Lack of properly trained teachers has seriously handicapped the progress of vernacular education in Johore.

#### 34. ENGLISH SCHOOLS

Schools	Enrolment	Learn- ing English	Masters	Pupil teachers	Percentage of attendance
English College	71	71	7		94.3
Bukit Zaharah	742	519	30	2	93.0
Muar ...	345	345	13		91.8
Batu Pahat ...	392	292	17		91.7
Segamat ...	67	67	3		92.6
	1,617	1,294	70	2	—

The corresponding totals for 1925 were:—

Enrolment 1,534; Learning English 1,247; Masters 64.

35. Great difficulty was experienced in obtaining any suitable masters locally, and very few applications for employment from Grade I masters were received. Until more qualified candidates are available, the standard of education is not likely to improve. A scheme for training Johore boys in Singapore as teachers has been approved, but it is evident that the Department is not so popular as the Clerical service.

36. Owing to the small number of Cambridge candidates in the out-station schools, all candidates were concentrated at Bukit Zaharah. The results of the 1925 Cambridge examination (received in March) were as follows:—

School Certificate ...	1	passed out of 6
Malayan Certificate ...	1	" " 6
Junior under 16 ...	4	" " 6
Junior over 16 ...	3	" " 7

The small number of candidates is due to the large proportion of boys who get posts in Government service after passing the Government Entrance Examination.

37. The Segamat School was opened in June in a private house and has made a promising start. It is hoped to provide an appropriate building in 1928.

38. The Arab Football Cup, for which the Johore English Schools compete annually, was won for the first time by the English College, which was undefeated.



39. The Government maintains two Malay students at Hong Kong University in the engineering school, and three more advanced students in England, two of whom are studying law, and one engineering.

40. The Board of Education met on 14 occasions. Its most important work was the reorganisation of the English College and day schools. The numbers have been limited, and the Malay sides taken from the English Schools at Bukit Zaharah and Batu Pahat, and established as Vernacular schools. Strict conditions have been made as to the qualifications for admission, and also as to superannuation. The effect of these changes, which came into force at the beginning of the current year, will not be noticeable to any great extent for the present, but if the regulations are consistently carried out, the English schools should be filled with boys to whom it will be really worth while giving an English education.

41. A scheme for grants-in-aid to estate Tamil schools was approved by Government, and a new Inspector has been appointed in connection with the work.

#### IX.—FORESTS

42. The forest between Bukit Selanchar, on the Pahang boundary, Gunong Chabang Tiga and Labis was explored, with a view to laying out the western boundary of the Labis Reserve. An ascent of Gunong Chabang Tiga was made, in order to ascertain the extent and position of various unsurveyed kampongs and dusuns. The forest traversed held a high percentage of Penak, Serayah and Keruing, and Rhu Bukit was plentiful at the top. The Penyabong area was thoroughly examined, as application for the alienation of some 10,000 acres for rubber had been made. A rough stock map covering about 20,000 acres was prepared, and the volume of timber ascertained to be extremely high, but the fact that the forest areas are practically surrounded by bukar will make the extraction of timber difficult if not impossible.

43. The Gunong Arong Reserve of 12,100 acres in Endau district, and the Kuala Sedili Mangrove Reserve of 1,070 acres in Kota Tinggi District were finally gazetted. Preliminary notifications were issued in respect of an extension of the Mersing Reserve, consisting of 50,200 acres of excellent Kapur, Giam and Penak, and of an area of about 6,500 acres of mangrove in Batu Pahat and Kukub Districts.

44. The high price of timber ruling in 1925 was more or less maintained. Licencees had to increase their coolies' wages considerably, to compete with the rate on rubber estates.

45. A total of 41,962 tons of timber was extracted compared with 27,674 tons in 1925. The revenue realised was \$95,979 against \$76,332. The Railway Department only took 1,058 sleepers, compared with 17,797 in 1925 and 40,676 in 1924. The Conservator considers that licensee, owing to the keen demand and high prices, find it more profitable to supply the local demand than to cut timber into sleeper sizes.

46. The RODNEY SAWMILL at Mersing continued to furnish large quantities of Kapur flooring to the Public Works Department, but had to close down for some months owing to fire. The CROSS MILL at Rengam is once more at work, and the QUA HONG CHIAM MILL at the 5th mile Kluang—Mersing road has started, and should have a large output in the near future.

47. The outturn of firewood was 42,732 tons, and of charcoal 150 tons, as against 35,769 and 962 in 1925.

48. The revenue for 1925 and 1926 is shown below.—

	1925	1926
	\$	\$
Timber ...	76,332	95,979
Firewood and Charcoal ...	18,262	21,143
Minor Produce ...	15,813	11,016
Other Sources ...	2,157	4,602
	<u>\$112,564</u>	<u>\$132,740</u>

The total expenditure amounted to \$63,171.

49. The staff at the end of the year consisted of the Conservator of Forests, one Assistant Conservator, one Sub-Assistant Conservator, one Ranger Grade I, six Rangers Grade II, nine Foresters and forty-three Forest-guards.

#### X.—GAME WARDEN

50. This department, which was instituted in 1925, consisted of a Game Warden and six Rangers, stationed at Kluang. The revenue collected was \$1,325, while the expenditure amounted to \$9,909. Four elephants and two deer found destroying crops and plantations were shot, and four cases were brought under the "Wild Animals and Birds Protection Enactment".

#### XI.—JUDICIAL

##### SUPREME COURT

51. Fifty-six criminal cases and 47 criminal appeals were registered. Four Criminal Assizes were held at Johore Bahru, five at Muar and four at Batu Pahat.



One hundred and fifty-eight civil suits, 12 civil appeals, 223 administration suits and 110 miscellaneous were registered.

52. The Court of Appeal sat on three occasions.

#### MAGISTRATES' COURT

53. A compilation of the return of cases is given:—

		<i>Criminal</i>	<i>Civil</i>
		—	—
Johore ...	...	2,394	407
Kota Tinggi ...	...	703	69
Kukub (including Benut) ...	...	470	37
Muar ...	...	2,537	308
Batu Pahat ...	...	1,852	245
Endau ...	...	283	46
Segamat ...	...	837	105
Kluang ...	...	858	55
		<u>9,934</u>	<u>1,272</u>

54. The Assistant Adviser, Kota Tinggi, visited Pen-gerang once a fortnight and held Court there. First Class Magistrate's cases at Kukub and Benut were taken by the Receiver of the Alsagoff Concession who became Assistant Adviser in September.

The Kluang Court was conducted by a Magistrate from Johore Bahru until August, when it was taken over by the Second Assistant Adviser, Batu Pahat.

#### XII.—LAND

55. The revenue for 1925 and 1926 was as follows:—

Rents:—

	1925	1926
	—	—
	\$	\$
Land Rents, Recurrent ...	1,940,406	1,966,027
Land Rents, Annual Licences ...	19,504	24,588
Mining Rents ...	12,940	12,179
Rents of Government Planta- tion ...	576	363

	1925	1926
	—	—
	\$	\$

Licences:—

Gravel, Stone, etc., ...	1,417	2,968
Mining ...	615	Nil.
Prospecting ...	7,517	7,337

Fees:—

Miscellaneous ...	3,868	6,015
Notices, Warrants, etc. ...	7,061	8,996
Registration of Titles, etc. ...	21,312	21,490
Survey and Demarcation ...	170,728	114,452

Total ...	2,185,944	2,164,415
-----------	-----------	-----------

Land Sales:—

	\$	\$
Premium on Agricultural Land	535,923	689,608
Premium on Mining Land ...	16,180	9,470
Total ...	552,103	699,078

Other sums collected in 1925 and 1926 but not credited as land revenue were:—

Fees:—

	\$	\$
Rubber Dealers Enactment ...	105,155	124,966
Burials Enactment ...	—	600
Mineral Ores Enactment ...	500	—

Fees:—

Sale of Boundary Marks ...	9,387	8,139
Sale of Plans ...	1,404	2,684
Miscellaneous ...	2,124	9,592

Total ...	118,570	145,981
-----------	---------	---------

Grand total ...	2,856,617	3,009,474
-----------------	-----------	-----------



56. Owing to the opening of the application books on the 1st June, there is a large increase in the premia on agricultural land. The decline in Survey and Demarcation fees is due to lack of Survey Staff.

#### REGISTRATION

57. Registration work in the office of the Commissioner of Lands and Mines is shown in the following table:—

LAND ENACTMENT		1925	1926
		—	—
		\$	\$
Total number of transactions	...	4,746	4,549
Number of Grants registered	...	715	982
Number of transfers registered	...	2,200	1,732
Number of charges registered	...	289	531
Other transactions	...	1,542	1,304

MINING ENACTMENT		1925	1926
Mining Leases issued	...	10	10
Mining Certificates issued	...	50	25
Prospecting Licences	...	86	51
Other transactions	...	18	24
Value of stamps affixed on instruments	...	310,956	119,280

58. In connection with the Mukim Registers and Surat Sementara under Land Rule 7 the following transactions were registered:—

		1925	1926
		—	—
		\$	\$
Mukim Registers	...	2,282	2,683
Surat Sementara	...	9,000	8,079
Miscellaneous transactions	...	870	1,062
Total	...	12,152	11,824

#### MUKIM REGISTERS

59. No progress has been made in starting Registers in the Endau and Kota Tinggi Districts. The work has continued in Muar and Batu Pahat, 5,164 extracts being issued in Muar as against 4,797 last year. Little could be done in Segamat owing to shortage of staff, whilst in Johore Bahru the form of title does not appear to be popular, as only 251 entries were made during the year.

#### GENERAL

60. The opening of the application books in certain Districts resulted in a great rush of new applications, so much so that, in view of the state of survey and the impossibility of the Land Offices coping with the extra work, it was decided early this year to close the books again in all Districts except Endau for an indefinite period. The Land Offices as usual were burdened with rubber restriction work, which takes up a large part of the time which should be devoted to more permanent objects.

61. During the year the long protracted negotiations with the Receiver of the Alsagoff Concession at Kukub were finally completed. The Concession reverted to Government on the 1st September, and a new Land Office has been started at Kukub.

62. The total area of land alienated on the 1st January, 1927 is quoted as 975,460 acres, of which about 287,000 acres are held under no permanent form of title. This is an unsatisfactory state of affairs, and it will be some years before the arrears can be overtaken at the present rate of progress.

#### XIII.—MARINE

63. The total number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared at all Ports of the State during the year was as follows:—

	VESSELS ENTERED		VESSELS CLEARED	
	Number	Tonnage	Number	Tonnage
Ocean-going steamers	61	185,850	61	185,850
Coasting steamers	3,572	185,180	3,572	185,180
Sailing vessels	9,544	173,631	9,649	168,448

There was a large increase in the number and tonnage of Japanese ocean going steamers calling at Batu Pahat to load iron-ore. These vessels load their cargo from lighters at the entrance of the river, and thus no wharf dues are paid.



64. The total number of passengers arriving at all ports was 118,053, and the total number of passengers departing was 103,628, an increase of 18,690 and 19,307 respectively.

65. All lights and buoys were maintained in good order. The fixed light off Tanjong Agas was moved bodily on to a new reinforced concrete pile structure, and repairs were effected to the lighthouse at Tanjong Tohor.

66. The Government steam launches made a total of 217 trips during the year.

#### XIV.—MEDICAL

##### VITAL STATISTICS

67. The number of births registered was 14,883 compared with 12,497 in 1925. The number of deaths registered was 12,740 against 8,938 in 1925. On an estimated population of 331,155 the birth-rate was 46.07 per mille, and the death-rate 39.44 per mille, the corresponding rates for 1925 being 38.95 and 27.85.

68. The infantile mortality was 213.26 per mille as against 195.33 per mille in 1925. This figure is very disappointing, but an Infant Welfare Centre has just been opened in Johore Bahru, and it is hoped that with better education the rate may be materially reduced. Deaths from convulsions amounted to 2,000.

##### ZYMOTIC DISEASES

69. The following table gives the number of Zymotic diseases and deaths resulting therefrom during the year:—

Disease	Cases	Deaths
Plague	—	—
Cholera	56	33
Small-pox	5	2
Chicken-pox	13	1
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	4	3
Measles (including German Measles)	567	—
Enteric Fever	49	16
Erysipelas	20	3
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	—	—
Diphtheria	4	2

70. A severe outbreak of cholera occurred in the Lunatic Asylum during August, lasting for four and a half days. It was confined to Wards I and II which are joined

by a covered way and have a common bathroom and latrine. There were 98 patients in these wards, of whom 30 developed cholera and 15 died. It is assumed that a carrier must have been present, and fouled either the water in the bathing tank, or the water in the special receptacle provided for holding drinking water.

At the same time there was an outbreak in Johore Bahru, 25 cases being reported with 20 deaths. This lasted about a fortnight, and great credit is due to the Medical Department for the way in which it tackled the problem.

##### SPECIAL DISEASES

71. *Ankylostomiasis*.—Six thousand and fifty cases with 93 deaths. In 1925 there were 2,024 cases with 81 deaths.

*Beri-beri*.—One thousand five hundred and eight cases with 215 deaths. In 1925 there were 650 cases with 63 deaths.

*Dysentery*.—Three thousand two hundred and three cases with 291 deaths. In 1925 there were 1,351 cases with 149 deaths.

*Diarrhœa*.—Two thousand seven hundred and fifteen cases with 117 deaths. In 1925 there were 809 cases with 66 deaths.

*Malarial Fever*.—Thirty-nine thousand eight hundred and thirty-nine cases with 899 deaths. In 1925 there were 12,000 cases with 380 deaths.

*Pulmonary Tuberculosis*.—Eight hundred and forty-eight cases with 251 deaths. In 1925 there were 417 cases with 144 deaths.

*Pneumonia*.—One thousand three hundred and thirty-seven cases with 477 deaths.

*Yaws*.—The total number of injections given in Government Hospitals was 3,579, of which 2,383 were for new, and 1,196 for old cases. The number of injections in 1925 was 3,667.

##### HOSPITALS

72. The existing Government Hospitals were maintained. Admissions were 27,489 compared with 17,854 in 1925. On the 31st December, 1925, there were 1,038 patients remaining, and of the total 24,844 were discharged, 24 were transferred, 242 absconded, 2,174 died, and 1,243 remained at the end of the year. The percentage of deaths to the total treated was 7.62.



## OUT-PATIENTS

73. The number of out-patients treated at the various stations was 31,586, the attendances being 46,395. The figures for the previous year were 39,153 and 65,396.

## MATERNITY WARDS

74. Maternity cases showed a large increase, 284 being treated, as against 106 in 1925, while 311 cases were treated in their own homes, compared with 35 in 1925. During the year 28 certified midwives were practising in the State, and 9 Probationers were undergoing training.

## MENTAL HOSPITAL

75. The number of patients remaining on the 31st December, 1925, was 198, and there were 118 admissions in 1926, making a total of 316. Of these 39 were discharged, one was transferred, one absconded, 54 died, and 221 (181 males and 40 females) remained at the close of the year. More than half the patients are Chinese.

## LEPER ASYLUM

76. There were 73 lepers in the Asylum at the end of the year, and 9 females in the camp at Singapore. Forty-three were receiving the Tai Fong Chee treatment, and it is stated that 21 of them showed signs of slight improvement.

## VACCINATIONS

77. The number of vaccinations performed during the year was 12,021, compared with 11,200 in 1925.

## METEOROLOGICAL

78. *Rainfall*.—The highest rainfall for the year was recorded at Senai Estate, Johore Bahru District, 129.65 inches and the lowest at Pengerang Estate, Kota Tinggi District 60.65 inches

The following observations were made at Government Hospitals:—

Johore Bahru (South)	...	95.58 inches
Kota Tinggi (South-east)	...	104.22 "
Kukub (South-west)	...	100.23 "
Batu Pahat (west)	...	88.26 "
Kluang (Central)	...	87.33 "
Mersing (East)	...	98.73 "
Muar (North-west)	...	109.38 "
Segamat (North-east)	...	89.94 "

*Temperature*.—The highest maximum temperature recorded was 96° F. at Segamat Hospital on the 22nd April, and the lowest minimum 65° F. at Kota Tinggi Hospital on the 6th February.

## HEALTH DEPARTMENT

79. Dr. R. B. WALLACE, Health Officer, resigned in September, and the appointment had not been filled at the end of the year. Dr. J. R. GWYNNE was appointed Assistant Health Officer in October. A large number of estates were inspected, and the usual reports with recommendations forwarded to the Controller of Labour.

## MALARIA

80. The year under review was marked by a great increase in the case rate and death-rate of malaria. The main causes, according to the Principal Medical Officer, appear to be (a) the diminution of rainfall, thereby causing anopheles to seek breeding places other than their natural ones, or to breed in places not under control: (b) the infrequent heavy tropical downpours which wash away and destroy so many larvæ, and (c) the continual movement of infected coolies from estate to estate, and the large influx of non immune coolies who readily succumbed when placed in infected areas.

Permanent anti-malarial measures were carried on in Johore Bahru, so far as finances and labour permitted and also at Mersing. Oiling operations have been extended, and are now in force in all towns throughout the State. Mosquito surveys have been made in many villages and estates.

## FINANCIAL

81. The expenditure on Personal Emoluments and Other Charges came to \$664,543, compared with \$544,813 in 1925. Revenue amounted to \$55,228.

## XV.—MILITARY

82. The total strength of the Forces at the end of the year was 625, being 31 short of the authorised strength. The signal section has increased to 11, and is making progress. Discipline is reported to be fair, and health good on the whole.

A detachment under the command of Major MOHAMED TAHIR took part in the manœuvres held by the Garrison at Singapore in August, and acquitted itself well, whilst on the 3rd June a detachment went to Singapore for the King's Birthday parade. No review was held on His Highness the Sultan's Birthday owing to court mourning.



The Forces were rearmed with S.M.L.E. Rifles Mark III, complete with bayonets, scabbards and frogs, and nine Lewis Guns were obtained

Musketry showed a marked improvement. The Royal Johore Challenge Cup—shooting for which took place in June, when 14 teams entered from various parts of Malaya—was won outright by the Johore Military Forces. At the Malaya Command Rifle Meeting held at Bukit Timah in December A Company won the Warren Shield, and Major Yahya, the Adjutant, particularly distinguished himself in the Revolver Shooting competition.

83. The Johore Volunteer Forces were maintained at practically full strength. There are contingents as Johore Bahru, Muar, Batu Pahat and Mersing, and the report of their progress is generally satisfactory. A Company took part in the Singapore manœuvres in August. The Signal section shows promise.

#### JOHORE VOLUNTEER RIFLES (EUROPEAN VOLUNTEERS)

84. Major E. F. G. DAVIES, M.C., Commanded the Corps throughout the year. Captain FROST, M.C., Second-in-Command, was transferred to Malacca in June, and it was not found possible to fill the vacancy before the end of the year. Captain J. W. HOOD, D.S.O., M.C., terminated his appointment as Adjutant in March, and was succeeded by Captain T. PRINCE, Royal Sussex Regiment.

The strength on the 31st December, 1926 was 10 Officers and 220 other ranks, there being 62 enrolments and 20 discharges.

By permission of the Straits Settlements Volunteer Force three week end camps were arranged at Siglap, Singapore, but the attendance was very poor.

The scattered nature of the Corps makes training very difficult, but the record of progress for the year was on the whole disappointing.

#### XVI.—MINES

85. The Mines Department consists of a Warden of Mines, an Inspector and two Overseers.

86. The total revenue derived from mining in 1925 and 1926 is shown below:—

	1925	1926
	\$	\$
<i>Export duty on:—</i>		
(a) Tin-ore ... ..	288,156	238,532
(b) Iron-ore ... ..	135,996	125,050
(c) China Clay ... ..	135	377
Rents on mining leases	12,939	12,178
Premium ... ..	16,180	9,470
<i>Licences:—</i>		
(a) Prospecting ... ..	7,517	7,337
(b) Individual ... ..	615	—
(c) Ore buyers ... ..	500	500
	<hr/> 462,038	<hr/> 393,444

87. The expenditure in 1926 was \$17,620 compared with \$16,640 in 1925.

88. The amount of tin-ore exported was 17,453 pikuls against 23,160 pikuls in 1925, the whole of this coming from the Endau district. The decline is due to existing leases being worked out and failure to discover other land; absence of transport facilities in mining districts resulting in high working costs; and difficulty of obtaining labour in competition with rubber estates. The average price of tin for the year was \$144 per pikul, the highest yet recorded.

89. The Japanese mine at Bukit Medan produced 250,100 tons of iron-ore against 271,993 tons in 1925. The output depends entirely on shipping facilities.

90. China Clay to the extent of 337 tons was exported from Sungei Perapat, there being a demand from the manufacturers of rubber goods in Singapore.

91. The labour force on the mines was 2,930 persons, a decrease of 606. To balance this there was an increase in the machinery employed of 738 horse-power against 691 horse-power. Labour was very scarce and difficult to obtain, and this factor was mainly responsible for the decrease in the output of tin-ore. There is an economic limit beyond which an employer cannot afford to pay his coolies, and this is reached in Johore at \$1.40 per day, which is the usual wage demanded.



92. An area of 13,113 acres was held under mining titles at the end of the year, compared with 13,897 acres in 1925. With the exception of a few leases near Batu Pahat and Pelali all lands now alienated for mining are situated on the east coast between Kota Tinggi and Jemaluang.

93. Fifty-one prospecting licences were issued, covering 39,214 acres, the selections amounting to 473 acres under 13 licences.

### XVII.—POLICE

94. The strength of the Force was on the 31st December, 1928 all ranks, the approved establishment being 1,116.

95. At the close of the year there were 62 Police Stations, of which 12 are headquarters of Police Districts. Various buildings were completed, but a good deal remains to be done. It is hoped that the Police Head Office at Johore Bahru will be finished before the end of 1927.

#### RECRUITMENT AND DISCIPLINE

96. During the year 130 Malays and 3 Sikhs were enlisted. A good class of recruit was obtained, and as resignations have decreased there appears to be a reasonable chance of bringing the force up to approved strength.

97. The discipline was not very satisfactory, there being 767 offences against 657 in 1925, 547 being cases of absence from duty.

#### HEALTH

98. Three hundred and ninety-nine members of the force were admitted to the Hospital, and 2,183 were treated as out-patients. There were 5 deaths. Eight members of the rank and file were discharged as medically unfit.

#### CRIME

99. The total number of offences of all kinds reported was 13,225 compared with 10,356 in 1925.

The following table shows the main headings of crime for the past three years:—

	1924	1925	1926
Murder and Homicide ...	31	44	50
Gang-robbery ...	14	7	14
Robbery ...	68	36	26
House-breaking ...	19	57	74
Thefts (over \$100) ...	144	170	174
Counterfeit coin and Stamps	21	3	—
Unlawful Societies ...	17	15	14

The increase in gang robberies is more than covered by the decrease in robberies, and can be accounted for to a certain extent by a more careful classification. House-breaking and serious theft continue to increase slightly.

100. Unlawful Societies still hold a powerful influence throughout the State. The 14 cases in 1926 scarcely give a sufficiently clear idea of the successful work done by the Police in this direction, as they resulted in the conviction of 55 Chinese and one Malay. In almost all cases under the Societies Enactment banishment proceedings have been or are being taken.

101. There were 67 banishments from the State, and 7 Chinese and one Indian were repatriated as vagrants.

#### FIREARMS

102. Three thousand four hundred and seventy-six fire-arms were registered against 3,392 in 1925.

#### WEIGHT AND MEASURES

103. Seven thousand three hundred and fifty-three weights and measures were verified by the Police Department, the work being under the control of a Malay Inspector.

#### MOTOR CARS AND DRIVERS

104. The registration of Traction Engines and Motor Cars is in the hands of the Town Boards at Johore Bahru, Muar, Batu Pahat, Mersing and Segamat. The Chief Police Officers at Johore Bahru, Muar and Batu Pahat continued to licence drivers under the Enactment. In 1926, 2,519 drivers' certificates were issued as compared with 1,373 in 1925 and 738 in 1924. Of the 1926 total 1,198 certificates were issued in Muar. Sixteen certificates were cancelled by the Licensing officers and 59 were suspended for varying periods.



## NOXIOUS ANIMALS

105. Fifteen tigers, 8 leopards and panthers and 4 crocodiles were destroyed and handed over to the Police. The number of persons reported killed by noxious animals was 73, 57 by tigers, 9 by crocodiles, 3 by snakes, 2 by elephants and 2 by wild boars.

## FIRES

106. Considerable damage was done by fire at Sungei Mati where 38 houses were burned (estimated loss \$54,000); at Tangkak, where 15 shop houses were burned (estimated loss \$15,000); at Endau where 18 shop houses were burned valued at \$12,000; at Bandar Maharani, where 12 brick shop houses were burned valued at \$100,000; and at Jemaluang, where 140 attap shop houses, valued at \$150,000, were destroyed.

## REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

107. The expenditure on the Police was \$556,351 compared with \$584,333 in 1925, while the revenue collected by the Department amounted to \$58,087.

## XVIII.—POST OFFICE

108. The year's statistics show continued expansion. A comparison of the business done during the past three years is as follows:—

	1924	1925	1926
Letters, papers and parcels received ...	3,723,088	4,180,337	4,613,572
Letters, papers and parcels despatched ...	1,945,205	2,226,018	3,117,096
Value of Money Orders issued ...	\$411,339	\$583,031	\$875,939
Value of Money Orders paid	\$100,546	\$135,597	\$212,842

The revenue was \$192,515 as against \$137,955 in 1925.  
The expenditure was \$131,000 against \$127,400.

## TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES

109. Fifty-seven thousand three hundred and eighty-three telegrams were received and 35,501 telegrams were despatched during the year against 53,225 and 33,382 respectively in 1925.

The Telegraph Engineering Department has ceased to be under the State Engineer, and become a separate Department under the Chief Telegraph Engineer.

The Kluang—Mersing telegraph line was opened in May, and a new telegraph office was opened at Segamat, connected to Kluang 52 miles distant.

New trunk telephone lines were completed between Batu Pahat and Kluang, and Johore Bahru and Segamat, and the telephone system was generally improved during the year.

## XIX.—PRISONS

## PRISON POPULATION

110. Admissions to the two State Prisons, Johore Bahru and Muar, totalled 1,053 as against 2,054 in 1925. This decrease is mainly due to less activity in rubber smuggling.

111. The daily average numbers for 1925 and 1926 are shown in the following table:—

	1925		1926	
	Johore Bahru	Muar	Johore Bahru	Muar
Civil Prisoners ...	10.35	16.22	10.92	11.52
Convicted prisoners ...	460.89	176.80	269.20	109.07

Convicted Prisoners in the State Prisons numbered as follows:—

	Johore Bahru	Muar
Remaining on 1st January, 1926	549	122
Admitted during 1926	571	482
Total ...	1,120	604
Released during 1926	867	432
Transferred	—	55
Escaped ...	1	—
Died ...	4	2
Committed Suicide	1	—
Executed	10	—
Remaining on 31st December, 1926	237	115
Total ...	1,120	604



Classification of prisoners on 31st December, 1926.

	<i>Johore Bahru</i>	<i>Muar</i>	<i>Total</i>
	—	—	—
Long Sentence ...	118	—	118
Short Sentence ...	118	115	233
Prisoners on remand ...	14	13	27
Awaiting banishment ...	8	—	8
Sentenced to death ...	1	—	1
His Highness's pleasure	6	—	6
Total ...	265	128	393

#### HEALTH

112. There were 5 deaths in the Prison Hospital at Johore Bahru.

The average daily number in hospital was:—

Johore Bahru	...	...	13.5
Muar	...	...	4.87

#### DISCIPLINE

113. One hundred and thirty-seven offences by prisoners were dealt with and seven floggings were inflicted. There were no serious disorders in either prison.

#### LABOUR

114. At Johore Bahru an average of 120 prisoners was engaged by the Public Works Department on extramural labour, including extensive reclamation operations at Sungei Chat.

Prisoners undergoing hard labour were also employed in baking, carpentering, chick-making, tailoring, husk-beating, making of baskets, rattan chairs and coir-mats, laundry work and cooking inside the prison.

At Muar the daily average number of prisoners engaged on extramural work was 38.57. Useful work was done for the Public Works Department and a large amount of stone was broken for road metal.

#### RECIDIVISM

115. Of the prisoners admitted during the year 32 had one, 13 two and 11 three or more previous convictions.

#### EXECUTIONS

116. Ten executions (six Chinese and four Indians) were carried out at Johore Bahru.

#### STAFF

117. The European Staff at Johore Bahru was maintained at full strength and included, in addition to the Inspector of Prisons, the Gaoler and four Warders.

The Gaol in Muar was in charge of the Assistant Adviser as District Superintendent and an European Gaoler and a Warder.

#### EXPENDITURE

118. The expenditure on the maintenance of the Johore Bahru Prison amounted to \$135,659 against \$143,367 in 1925. The expenditure at Muar was \$42,722 against \$48,245 in 1925. The reduction in each case was due to lower musters.

#### REVENUE

119. A sum of \$10,524 was received from the laundry, bakery and workshops at Johore Bahru; and \$592 was collected at Muar.

#### VAGRANT WARDS

120. The two State Prisons at Johore Bahru and Muar are also vagrant wards under the Vagrancy Enactment, 1921. Eighteen vagrants were admitted and six remained at the end of the year. Of the vagrants admitted 94.44 per cent were Chinese, and 5.56 per cent Indians.

#### XX.—PUBLIC WORKS

121. The provision and expenditure during the year were:—

		\$
Provision	...	6,730,252
Expenditure	...	5,291,011

The expenditure exceeded that of 1925 by \$1,072,943. The cost of supervision was 7 per cent of the total expenditure including special temporary allowances, but excluding other charges.



## WORKS AND BUILDINGS

122. The expenditure was as follows:—

	\$
Annually Recurrent ...	639,329
Special Services ...	1,805,232

Under special services anti-malarial work was carried out in the Johore Bahru, Batu Pahat, Endau and Kota Tinggi Districts at a cost of over \$34,000. In Johore Bahru the new Training College was completed, and good progress was made with the Customs Office near the Railway Station, the new Central Police Station, and the Supreme Court. A 36 bed male ward was built at the General Hospital, and a Police Station with quarters at Plintong; while female wards at the General Hospital and Mental Hospital, and a concrete jetty at Kukub were almost finished by the end of the year.

At Muar the Mosque, owing to various additions and alterations, is still incomplete, but the Tongkang wharf was rebuilt, a 24 bed ward was built at the Hospital, and a 36 bed surgical ward was nearly ready for occupation. At Batu Pahat a 24 bed ward was built; at Mersing a reinforced concrete wharf, and at Segamat quarters for the Executive Engineer.

## ROADS, STREETS AND BRIDGES

123. The provision and expenditure during the year were as follows:—

	ANNUALLY RECURRENT		SPECIAL SERVICES	
	Provision	Expenditure	Provision	Expenditure
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	913,500	901,077	1,292,916	1,117,196
	TOWN ROADS		COUNTRY ROADS	
	Metalled	Natural	Metalled	Natural
Johore Bahru ...	51.00	...	101	...
Segamat ...	4.00	...	72	...
Kota Tinggi ..	3.00	...	33	...
Kluang ...	4.50	...	87.50	2.00
Muar ...	18.50	...	122	6.00
Batu Pahat ...	10.00	...	70	...
Endau ...	3.75	...	39	...
Total ...	94.75	...	524.50	8.00

The total length of roads upkept was 627.25 miles at a cost of \$1,436 per mile compared with a cost of \$1,177 per mile in 1925.

124. The cost of maintenance is steadily increasing, and must continue to do so until an adequate wearing surface is provided. The volume of traffic on the roads has almost doubled since 1924, and the problem of reconstruction and maintenance is a very difficult one, as the majority were not built to stand the present strain. The supply of good metal is inadequate, and labour has been short, the coolies recruited from India by the Department being in the main most unsatisfactory. Special attention is being given to the main trunk road, ten miles of which are to be resurfaced this year with machine mixed tar macadam.

## SPECIAL SERVICES

## ROAD EXTENSION SCHEME

125. At the end of 1925 there were 288½ miles open to traffic, and during 1926 an additional 3 miles were opened. There were 23 miles under construction, making a total of 314½ miles completed and under construction.

The total expenditure during the year was \$278,094 making a total since 1911 of \$5,135,147.

Fifteen of the eighteen sections comprising the Extension Scheme have been completed. Progress on the remaining three was as follows:—

Section X.—Muar—Renchong, 21 miles. Metal-ling was completed to 20½ miles.

Section XII.—Ayer Hitam—Muar, 44 miles. This road was metalled and opened to traffic to the 17th mile from Ayer Hitam, *i.e.*, 5 miles beyond Yong Peng. A further 5½ miles was under construction in the Kluang District. In the Batu Pahat District 7 miles were under construction on both sides of the Simpang Kiri river. In the Muar District 2½ miles were under construction. The road between Simpang Kiri river and the Muar boundary runs through very bad swamps, and hill earth is now being transported by light locomotives from the 15th mile, which is very slow and expensive work.



*Section XVIII.*—Gunong Pulai—Pontian Kechil, 19 miles. Metalling was completed to the 29th mile from Johore Bahru. From this point earth is being transported to make the road through lowlying land to the 31st mile. From there to Pontian (37th mile) drains have been cut and the road formed, but 4 miles of earthwork remain to be made up.

#### NEW ROADS.

126. The expenditure was \$303,487.

Johore Bahru District. Plintong road. The earthwork was finished, and about 1½ miles were metalled.

Muar District. Serom—Ulu Jementah road. At Ulu Ring one steel bridge and wooden bridges totalling 75 feet span were completed. Two miles were gravelled, and the road from the 17th to 19th mile was raised.

Batu Pahat District. Senggarang—Benut road. Fair progress was made by the contractor, and the road has now been completed as far as Rengit.

Segamat District. Batu Anam—Buloh Kasap road. This will be finished off as soon as the new bridge at Buloh Kasap now under construction is ready.

Tenang—Labis road, 8 miles. All earthwork was done, and metalling is being started this year.

#### GENERAL

127. The following, among other, sums were expended by the Department during the year:—

Water-proofing road—\$53,465.  
Construction of Town drains—\$35,420.  
Substitution of permanent for temporary bridges and culverts—\$63,404.  
Deviation of Tampoi road—\$14,676 (unfinished).  
Widening Jalan Scudai, mile 2 to 3—\$13,017 (unfinished).  
Muar—Batu Pahat road—\$104,052 (Special treatment).  
Reinforced concrete bridge over Segamat river at Segamat—\$30,451 (unfinished).  
Reinforced concrete bridge over Muar river at Buloh Kasap—\$66,909 (unfinished).  
Maintenance of Waterworks—\$50,426.

Maintenance of Muar Railway—\$24,833.

Purchase of Lorries—\$83,450.

Purchase of Rollers—\$20,798.

Improvements to water supply at Muar—\$36,303.

„ „ „ „ Batu Pahat—\$29,353.

„ „ „ „ Mersing—\$15,661.

„ „ „ „ Kluang—\$9,179.

#### ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT

128. The B. T. units generated during the year were 782,427, which, allowing for a loss of 38,624 in transmission, left 743,803 available for sale. The accounts showed an excess of revenue over expenditure of \$69,266, representing a profit of \$49,666 on the years working, after deducting interest and depreciation. Proposals for erecting a larger Power Station on a different site have been approved, and the work is being put in hand this year.

#### XXI.—SURVEYS

129. The average effective strength of the staff throughout the year was 86 including the Superintendent and seven European Surveyors.

Difficulties were experienced in obtaining assistant surveyors and the position as regards the subordinate staff is far from satisfactory.

130. The following return shows the state of survey work with reference to requisitions:—

Details	GRANT LOTS		NATIVE HOLDINGS	
	Number	Area in Acres	Number	Area in Acres
Unsatisfied requisitions on 31st December, 1925	2,850	43,357	12,667	40,689
Requisitions received during 1926	1,444	45,128	4,763	19,382
	4,294	88,485	17,430	60,071



Details	GRANT LOTS		NATIVE HOLDINGS	
	Number	Area in Acres	Number	Area in Acres
Requisitions satisfied during 1926 ...	1,057	26,842	1,789	7,078
Requisitions cancelled during 1926 ...	183	2,788	154	459
Requisitions remaining unsatisfied on 31st December, 1926 ...	3,054	58,855	15,487	52,534
	4,294	88,485	17,430	60,071

Details of unsatisfied requisitions:—

Details	GRANT LOTS		NATIVE HOLDINGS	
	Number	Area in Acres	Number	Area in Acres
Awaiting survey or demarcation ...	1,131	20,506	9,529	34,858
In hand in field ...	932	15,330	1,930	7,646
In Land Offices for settlement ...	682	12,160	2,923	6,021
In Office awaiting, check etc. ...	309	10,859	1,105	4,009
	3,054	58,855	15,487	52,534

131. The amount of field work done shows a decrease in the number of lots surveyed and in chainage, and a slight increase in area. The total cost was considerably greater. The decrease in the number of small holdings surveyed is disappointing, and is mainly due to the incompetence and lack of energy displayed by the Subordinate Surveyors engaged on the work. Moreover the field staff is much below strength.

132. During the year 1,110 grants, 9 mining leases, 6 agricultural leases, 26 mining certificates and 7,276 mukim extracts were sent to Collectors.

NOTE.—A requisition is satisfied when the work of the Survey Department is so far completed that titles can be supplied when demanded.

133. Office work included the drawing of 426 certified plans, covering 6,603 lots of an area of 50,600 acres; while 475 settlement tracings, in duplicate, 1,096 survey tracings, and 230 sun prints were prepared. Thirty-seven new standard sheets were drawn, 28 being on the 8 chain scale, and 62 tracings and prints of standard sheets were prepared for various offices, and 24 standard sheet tracings revised for Land Offices.

134. The much needed new State map, scale 3 miles to an inch, was published in June. Lithograph maps of each district, scale one mile to an inch in black and white, were also issued, and met with more demand than was anticipated.

135. At the invitation of the Johore Government, Mr. J. DEWAR, of the Federated Malay States and Straits Settlements Surveys, visited the State, inspected all Survey Offices, and made a report which contained valuable criticisms and suggestions. The greatest need of the Department is a large increase in the number and efficiency of the Assistant Surveyors, and until suitable material is available, and recruiting both for the field and office staffs shows marked improvement, there is little hope of catching up the accumulation of arrears. Unfortunately the Johore Malay does not appear to be attracted by the Department, and applications for appointments are few and far between.

136. The expenditure of this Department amounted to \$257,507 compared with \$245,430 in 1925. The total revenue collected by the Land Offices on account of survey was \$53,829 and on account of demarcation \$60,622.

## XXII.—TOWN BOARDS

### JOHORE BAHRU

137. This Board is in charge of the townships of Johore Bahru, Tebrau, Rengam, Kluang, Batu Sepuloh, Scudai and Sedenak, and of the villages of Bekok, Paloh, and Senai, which have been declared Town Board areas under section 50 of the Enactment. The by-laws made applicable to these areas are those which concern building and conservancy. No revenue was collected from these villages.

The total revenue collected by the Board was \$252,870 compared with \$215,670 in 1925.

The revenue collected for electric light in Johore Bahru amounted to \$74,032 as against \$63,295 in 1925, and for motor vehicles \$41,929 against \$20,761.



The year was a prosperous one on the whole, and the work of the Board is increasing. More attention must be paid to the outlying villages, which are developing rapidly, and require careful supervision.

#### KOTA TINGGI

138. The revenue in 1926 was \$20,971 against \$18,190 in 1925. The village of Pengerang was brought under the control of the Board. No new shop houses were built in Kota Tinggi.

#### MUAR

139. The Muar Board is in charge of the townships of Bandar Maharani, Panchor, Tangkak, Parit Jawa, Sungei Idrus and Bukit Pasir, and supervises sanitary work in the villages of Serom, Parit Bakar, Sungei Renchong, Tanjong Agas, Bukit Kangka, Sagil Luar, Bekoh, Gersek and Sim-pang Jeram.

The revenue was \$246,009 in 1926 compared with \$190,028 in 1925, \$59,323 being collected on account of licences for motor vehicles.

#### BATU PAHAT

140. This Board is in charge of the townships of Bandar Penggaram (Batu Pahat) and Senggarang and supervises sanitary work in the villages of Benut, Rengit, Parit Kemang, Semrah, Pesrai, Yong Peng, Sri Gading and Hup Choon Kang.

The revenue was \$138,886 compared with \$113,088 in 1925. Taxes on motor vehicles accounted for \$32,159 of this increase.

There was considerable building activity in Bandar Penggaram. A new lay out for Senggarang has been approved, but Yong Peng remains to be dealt with.

#### ENDAU

141. This Board is in charge of the townships of Mersing and Jemaluang. The revenue for 1926 was \$13,450. Revenue from taxes on motor vehicles amounted to \$2,966. Serious fires broke out at Endau and Jemaluang, doing considerable damage.

#### SEGAMAT

142. This Board is in charge of the townships of Segamat, Batu Anam, Buloh Kasap and Labis, and (under section 50

of the Enactment) of Kampong Gonting, Jabi, Jementah and Kampong Jalan Genuang. The revenue was \$34,617 compared with \$25,950 in 1925. House and Land Assessment were collected at Segamat and Batu Anam only. Taxes on motor vehicles amounted to \$9,126. The new town site of Buloh Kasap was levelled and laid out, and building operations will begin shortly.

#### XXIII.—VETERINARY

143. This department was in the charge of His Highness TUNKU ABU BAKAR with Veterinary Inspectors at Johore Bahru, Muar and Batu Pahat. In the out-stations the Assistant Surgeons are in charge of Veterinary work.

There were two mild out-breaks of foot-and-mouth disease at Segamat, 162 animals being infected, with 4 deaths.

The total number of animals imported and exported was as follows:—

		Horses	Oxen	Sheep and goats	Swine
Import	...	71	5,289	2,818	15,754
Export	...	84	129	119	2,034

#### XXIV.—STAFF

##### MALAY STAFF

144. The following Senior Malay Officers retired in the course of the year:—

Haji ISMAIL BIN Haji SULEIMAN, Inspector, Malay Schools.

Captain MOHAMED SALLEH BIN DAPAT, Johore Military Forces.

Captain MOHAMED ALI BIN ARSHAD, Johore Military Forces.

Inche MOHAMED TAIB BIN ABU TALIB, Deputy Commissioner of Customs.

##### EUROPEAN STAFF

145. I succeeded Mr. T. W. CLAYTON as Acting General Adviser on the 27th May.

Captain MEADOWS FROST, M.C., Commissioner of Lands and Mines, was transferred to Malacca on the 26th June, Mr. C. H. G. CLARKE filling the vacancy.



Mr. H. G. R. LEONARD succeeded Mr. L. McLEAN as Financial Commissioner on the 8th January.

Mr. W. S. EBDEN was 1st Magistrate, Johore Bahru, till the 12th January, when he proceeded to Segamat as Assistant Adviser, Mr. W. N. GOURLAY going to Batu Pahat as Second Assistant Adviser. Mr. F. C. MARSHALL, Warden of Mines, filled the post of 1st Magistrate, Johore Bahru.

Mr. J. FALCONER became Second Assistant Adviser, Muar, *vice* Mr. H. J. COCKMAN on the 10th February, and Mr. A. L. BIRSE took Mr. J. HUGGINS' place on the 1st March as Receiver Alsagoff Concession, becoming Assistant Adviser, Kukub, on the 1st September.

#### XXV.—GENERAL

146. This was the thirty-first year of His Highness the Sultan's reign, but the usual birthday celebrations did not take place owing to the state of His Highness's health, which was unfortunately not of the best throughout the year.

I regret to have to record the death of Her Highness the Sultana, which occurred on the 8th March at the Istana Pasir Plangie.

His Highness the TUNGKU MAHKOTA was appointed an Honorary Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George, and the Dato MENTRI BESAR an Honorary Commander of the Order of the British Empire. The Insignia of the Orders were presented by His Excellency the Governor at Government House, Singapore, on the 29th December in the presence of a distinguished gathering, and there was an At Home the same afternoon at the Istana Besar.

C. W. H. COCHRANE,

*General Adviser.*

JOHORE BAHRU,

25th May, 1927.

#### APPENDICES.

	PAGE
A.—Assets and Liabilities, 1925 and 1926 ...	40
B.—Revenue Receipts ...	41
C.—Expenditure ...	41
D.—Statistical Returns, 1922–1926 ...	42



APPENDIX A  
Statement of Assets and Liabilities on 31st December, 1926 with corresponding figures for 1925

LIABILITIES	31st Dec., 1925		31st Dec., 1926		ASSETS	31st Dec., 1925		31st Dec., 1926	
	\$	c.	\$	c.		\$	c.	\$	c.
Deposits	...	...	1,238,793	77	Cash	...	...	3,708,839	86
Opium Revenue Reserve Fund	...	...	...	...	Cash in Transit	...	...	217,433	05
Toh Ah Boon Education Fund	...	...	...	...	INVESTMENTS SURPLUS FUNDS (at cost):—	...	...	...	...
Suspense	...	...	...	...	British War Loans	...	...	...	...
S. S. Loans	...	...	...	...	National War Bonds	...	...	...	...
Surplus	...	...	...	...	Other Sterling Securities	...	...	...	...
			800,000	00	S. S. War Loans	...	...	...	...
			17,253,174	54	Fixed Deposits	...	...	...	...
			...	...	INVESTMENTS SPECIFIC FUNDS (at cost):—	...	...	...	...
			...	...	Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve Fund	...	...	...	...
			...	...	Toh Ah Boon Education Fund	...	...	...	...
			...	...	Advances	...	...	...	...
			...	...	Loans	...	...	...	...
			...	...	Due by other Governments	...	...	...	...
			...	...	Stock of Chandu	...	...	...	...
			...	...	Suspense	...	...	...	...
Total	...	...	19,291,908	31	Total	...	...	19,291,368	31
			27,973,463	77				27,973,463	77

## APPENDIX B

Comparative Statement of Actual Revenue  
for 1925 and 1926

Head of Revenue	Actual 1925	Actual 1926	Increase	Decrease
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Land Revenue	2,201,299	2,173,477	...	27,822
Forest Revenue	111,123	135,435	24,312	...
Customs	5,922,218	7,190,960	1,268,742	...
Licences, etc.	5,295,254	6,460,016	1,164,762	...
Fees of Court	196,466	221,534	25,068	...
Posts and Telegraphs	135,704	192,218	56,514	...
Ports and Harbour Dues	34,955	39,440	4,485	...
Railways	357,000	352,500	...	4,000
Interest	566,356	604,323	37,967	...
Miscellaneous Receipts	14,764	9,352	...	5,412
Municipal	488,126	705,535	217,409	...
Lands Sales	561,327	696,775	135,448	...
Total	15,884,592	18,781,565	2,934,707	37,734

## APPENDIX C

Comparative Statement of Actual Expenditure for  
1925 and 1926

Heads of Expenditure	Actual 1925	Actual 1926	Increase	Decrease
	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.
Pensions	188,406 64	230,822 93	42,416 29	...
Personal Emoluments	2,997,496 85	3,312,449 49	314,952 64	...
Other Charges	1,838,653 56	2,098,224 16	259,570 60	...
Transport	59,050 33	23,142 57	...	35,907 76
Opium Reserve Fund	...	5,898,498 08	5,898,498 08	...
Interest	56,000 00	28,000 00	...	28,000 00
Miscellaneous Services	598,318 26	472,119 55	...	126,198 71
Purchase of Land	222,870 32	1,176,223 31	953,352 99	...
Public Works (A. R.)	1,298,804 98	1,534,716 71	235,911 73	...
Public Works (S. S.)	2,520,720 99	3,325,034 91	804,313 92	...
Total	9,780,321 93	18,099,231 71	8,509,016 25	190,106 47



## APPENDIX D

## STATISTICAL RETURN OF PROGRESS, 1922 - 1926

		<i>Revenue</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
		—	—
1922	...	8,625,223	8,785,873
1923	...	11,094,955	7,064,166
1924	...	10,947,960	8,095,276
1925	...	15,884,592	9,780,322
1926	...	18,781,565	18,099,232





