

JOHORE ANNUAL REPORT.

FOR THE YEAR

1925

BY

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1926.

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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE STATE OF JOHORE FOR THE YEAR 1925.

I.—FINANCIAL.

1. The Revenue for 1925 amounted to \$15,884,592 as compared with \$10,947,960 for 1924 and \$11,094,955 for 1923. Actual Revenue exceeded the Estimate by \$5,886,148.

2. The increase of \$4,936,632 over the revenue for 1924 is chiefly accounted for by increased receipts under the main heads of Customs, Licences, Land, Land Sales and Interest as shown in the following table:—

		1924.	1925.	Increase.	%
		—	—	—	
		\$	\$	\$	
<i>Customs.</i> —	Rubber	... 1,033,705	3,038,328	2,004,623	194
	Tobacco	... 652,642	972,620	319,978	49
	Spirits	... 440,170	717,069	276,899	63
<i>Licences.</i> —	Chandu	... 3,258,030	4,429,720	1,171,690	36
<i>Land.</i> —	—	... 1,637,699	2,201,299	563,600	34
<i>Land Sales.</i>—	...	... 310,523	561,327	250,804	81
<i>Interest.</i>—	...	... 374,052	566,356	192,304	51

3. The percentage contributions of the principal heads of revenue to the total revenue (exclusive of Land Sales) for the years 1921–1925 were as follows:—

		1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
		—	—	—	—	—
Land and Forests	...	13·3	15·5	14·9	16·4	14·5
Customs	...	25·0	24·8	35·8	33·0	37·2
Licences	...	45·5	45·4	37·5	36·4	33·3
Other Revenue	...	16·2	14·3	11·8	14·2	15·0
		100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0

EXPENDITURE.

4. The total expenditure in 1925 was \$9,780,322 as compared with \$8,095,275 for 1924 and an estimate of \$11,286,267 for 1925.

5. The expenditure on Public Works, Special Services, was \$994,565 more than in 1924 but fell short of the Estimates by \$1,248,919. Expenditure on Personal Emoluments and Other Charges increased by \$278,497 and \$273,826 respectively, but on Miscellaneous Services there was a decrease of \$104,601. There was a small increase of \$5,330 on Pension, etc.

INVESTMENTS.

6. During the year £350,000 (\$2,989,051) was remitted to the Crown Agents for investment. Investments in Sterling Securities increased from \$5,327,236 on 1st January, 1925, to \$10,380,561 on 31st December, 1925. Not allowing for redemption the average rate of interest being earned by such securities was approximately $4\frac{3}{4}$ per cent which can be considered quite satisfactory. Investments in Straits Settlements Government Securities remained unchanged at \$1,157,734 and local Fixed Deposits amounted to \$3,300,000.

7. The Surplus at the end of the year amounted to \$17,253,175 as compared with \$11,141,620 at the end of 1924. On the Assets side Cash (including Cash in Transit) amounted to \$3,926,273 while the Advance Account and Loans stood at \$137,469 and \$108,020 respectively. On the Liabilities side the Straits Settlements Loan remained at \$800,000.

The following are shown in appendices:—

Appendix A.—Statement of Assets and Liabilities 1924 and 1925.

Appendix B.—Statement of Actual Revenue, 1924 and 1925.

Appendix C.—Statement of Actual Expenditure, 1924 and 1925.

Appendix D.—Statistical Return of Progress 1921 to 1925.

II.—TRADE.

8. The total trade for the year 1925 shows a value of \$167,590,314 compared with \$81,807,947 in 1924, constituted as follows:—

		1924.	1925.
		—	—
		\$	\$
Imports	...	33,688,565	49,874,197
Exports	...	48,474,134	118,214,613
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		82,162,699	168,088,810
Less Re-exports	...	354,752	498,496
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		81,807,947	167,590,314
		<hr/>	<hr/>

IMPORTS.

9. The following table shows, under the main heads, the value for 1924 and 1925:—

		1924.	1925.
		—	—
		\$	\$
Class	I. Animals, Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	17,505,199	18,876,750
	II. Raw Materials and Articles mainly unmanufactured ...	3,103,101	6,817,266
	III. Articles wholly or mainly manufactured	13,021,531	17,961,991
	IV. Coin and Bullion ...	7,350	174,356
	V. Sundries ...	51,384	6,043,834
		<u>33,688,565</u>	<u>49,874,197</u>

The large increase under "Sundries" is due to the fact that the Heading "Sundries" was omitted early in 1924 from Trade Returns, but was re-introduced in 1925 and has been used to excess by clerks lacking a knowledge of English, when they were at a loss for the correct description of articles imported.

EXPORTS.

10. Out of a total value of \$118,214,613 Rubber accounted for \$97,195,046 as against \$30,090,966 in 1924. The next largest item was copra with a value of \$6,026,179. The value of tin ore exported was \$3,040,020 compared with \$2,348,888 in 1924.

III.—CUSTOMS.

11. The total Customs revenue collected was \$6,018,133. This amount is 55 per cent more than the 1924 total of \$3,830,993.

12. (i) REVENUE BY DISTRICTS, 1921 - 1925.

District.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
	—	—	—	—	—
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Muar ...	179,643	317,590	740,883	711,486	1,759,927
Batu Pahat ...	211,822	337,876	548,541	560,800	871,718
Kukub ...	150,811	159,541	229,424	203,357	227,663
Johore Bahru	975,907	1,099,505	1,658,743	1,561,560	2,282,788
Kota Tinggi ...	176,618	212,436	346,338	437,600	461,924
Endau ...	153,185	100,057	136,727	145,302	152,599
Segamat ...	44,222	76,035	188,377	210,888	261,514
	<u>1,892,208</u>	<u>2,303,040</u>	<u>3,849,033</u>	<u>3,830,993</u>	<u>6,018,133</u>

(ii) REVENUE BY PRODUCTIVE GROUPS, 1921 - 1925.

<i>Group.</i>		<i>1921.</i>	<i>1922.</i>	<i>1923.</i>	<i>1924.</i>	<i>1925.</i>
		—	—	—	—	—
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Arecanuts	...	78,322	86,065	107,539	81,156	82,054
Copra	...	220,027	204,392	220,997	237,523	258,198
Gambier	...	16,050	25,497	31,497	51,990	41,509
Pepper	...	2,415	1,441	808	841	616
Rubber	...	106,924	341,040	1,306,123	1,473,613	3,038,328
Tapioca	...	37,529	40,133	72,774	79,766	64,503
Other Agricultural Produce	...	89,312	106,850	82,367	73,782	70,847
Forest Produce	...	140,368	82,792	83,294	77,281	71,059
Minerals	...	265,175	287,108	324,522	432,618	427,311
Marine Produce	...	28,521	17,801	16,844	17,331	13,996
Miscellaneous Produce	...	3,632	2,657	1,744	2,653	5,457
Alcoholic Liquor	...	390,150	374,449	435,694	443,112	707,069
Tobacco	...	396,137	508,630	615,885	655,255	972,619
Petroleum	...	24,527	82,183	97,145	113,000	169,938
Matches	...	5,744	51,274	61,383	59,454	92,632
Live Animals	...	1,532	1,541	1,847	1,651	44
Weighing Fees	...	84,947	88,053	387,307	28,519	83
Tobacco Licences	...	896	1,134	1,263	1,448	1,870
Total		1,892,208	2,303,040	3,849,033	3,830,993	6,018,133

13. 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.				
Group.				1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
54	Arecanuts	...	...	4.3	3.8	3.11	2.14	1.07
198	Copra	...	...	12.2	9.2	6.39	6.25	4.17
	Pepper	...	...	0.1	0.1	0.02	0.02	.71
509	Gambier	...	...	0.9	1.1	0.91	1.37	.01
516	Rubber	...	...	5.9	15.4	37.74	38.77	50.55
	Tapioca	...	...	2.1	1.9	2.10	2.10	1.11
328	Other Agricultural Produce	...	...	4.9	4.8	2.38	1.94	1.21
	Minerals	...	...	14.7	13.0	9.38	11.38	7.16
503	Forest Produce	...	...	7.8	3.7	2.41	2.03	1.22
	Marine Produce	...	...	1.6	0.8	0.49	0.46	.25
347	Miscellaneous Produce	...	...	0.2	0.1	0.05	0.07	.10
59	Spirits Imports	...	...	21.6	17.0	12.59	11.66	11.79
	Tobacco Imports	...	...	21.9	23.0	17.80	17.24	16.22
311	Live Animals	...	...	0.1	0.1	0.05	0.04	.01
96	Petroleum	...	...	1.4	3.7	2.81	2.97	2.85
157	Matches	...	...	0.3	2.3	1.77	1.56	1.57
69				100.0	100.0	100.00	100.00	100.00

IV.—CHANDU DEPARTMENT.

14. This Department is in charge of the Superintendent Chandu Monopolies who also Commissioner of Trade and Customs. He is assisted by one European Inspector of Chandu Shops, the remainder of his staff, except for one Chinese Interpreter, consists of Malays.

15. In addition to the three Government retail shops opened in 1924 eight were opened on 1st January, 1925, and eleven more on 1st July, 1925, and preparations were completed for opening a further twelve shops on 1st January, 1926. These shops were entirely staffed with Malays who have carried out their work in a satisfactory manner. There was one case of defalcation by a clerk at Muar who was convicted in Court and sentenced to imprisonment.

16. The number of "Off" licences remaining on 31st December, 1924, was 188 and on 31st December, 1925, was 48; only nine of these were to be renewed in 1926. "On" licences for smoking shops were decreased by 28 in 1925.

—CHINESE PROTECTORATE AND LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

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

18. The Protector of Chinese is also Registrar of Societies under "The Societies Enactment, 1915," and under this Enactment 12 Societies were registered and 5 were exempted from registration.

19. The number of Indian labourers employed on Estates in Johore during the last five years was as follows:—

1921	...	...	...	...	...	15,956
1922	...	...	...	...	...	14,755
1923	...	...	...	...	...	15,413
1924	...	...	...	...	...	17,725
1925	...	...	...	...	...	18,381

20. The health of the estates was satisfactory, the general death-rate and death-rate from malaria fever were lower than in 1924.

VI.—LAND AND MINES.

21. The revenue for 1924 and 1925 was as follows:—

Rents:—

	1924.	1925.
	—	—
	\$	\$
Land Rents, Recurrent	1,455,026	1,940,406
Land Rents, Annual Licences	18,981	19,504
Mining Rents	13,348	12,940
Rents of Government Plantations	716	576

Licences:—

Gravel, Stone, etc.	893	1,417
Mining	63	615
Prospecting	6,524	7,517

Fees:—

Miscellaneous	1,901	3,868
Notices, Warrants, etc.	4,359	7,061
Registration of Titles, etc.	12,402	21,312
Survey and Demarcation	122,061	170,728

Total	1,636,274	2,185,944
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NT.
ried*Land Sales:—*'The
were

ring

	1924.	1925.
	—	—
	\$	\$
Premium on Agricultural Land ...	307,560	535,923
Premium on Mining Land ...	10,422	16,180
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total ...	317,982	552,103
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Other sums collected in 1924 and 1925 but not credited as land revenue were:—

and

	1924.	1925.
	—	—
	\$	\$
<i>Fees:—</i>		
Rubber Dealers Enactment ...	98,612	105,155
Burials Enactment ...	...	...
Mineral Ores Enactment ...	300	500
<i>Fees:—</i>		
Sale of Boundary Marks ...	9,089	9,387
Sale of Plans ...	801	1,404
Miscellaneous ...	1,130	2,124
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total ...	109,932	118,570
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Grand total ...	2,064,188	2,856,617
	<hr/>	<hr/>

22. The Collections by Districts in 1925 were as under:—

Revenue detailed.	Johore Bahru.	Muar.	B. Pahat.	Endau.	Segamat.	K. Tinggi.	Total.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
RENTS.							
Land Rents (Recurrent)	586,347	543,312	327,462	31,135	199,144	253,006	1,940,406
" Annual Li-							
cences ...	7,884	2,125	1,598	2,334	688	4,875	19,504
Mining Rents ...	125	184	103	9,569	...	2,959	12,940
Government Plantations	100	91	150	145	...	90	576
LICENCES.							
Gravel, Stone, etc. ...	268	323	135	5	208	478	1,417
Mining ...	...	615	...	...	...	...	615
Prospecting ...	100	162	100	4,595	105	2,455	7,517
FEES.							
Miscellaneous ...	2,246	1,116	344	71	...	91	3,868
Notices and Warrants ...	902	3,167	1,515	191	1,108	178	7,061
Registration of Titles ...	5,338	8,881	4,561	544	1,307	681	21,312
Survey and Demarcation	43,750	59,465	46,083	4,041	8,564	8,825	170,728
Total ...	647,060	619,441	382,051	52,630	211,124	273,638	2,185,944
LAND SALES.							
Premia on Grants ...	98,247	204,434	149,111	1,875	10,634	71,622	535,923
" Mining Lands	...	...	360	7,820	...	8,000	16,180
Total ...	98,247	204,434	149,471	9,695	10,634	79,622	552,103
MISCELLANEOUS LICENCES.							
Rubber Dealers Enactment ...	8,952	56,523	26,753	1,098	7,545	4,284	105,151
Mineral Ores Enactment	500	...	...	...	...	...	500
REIMBURSEMENT-IN-AID.							
Sale of Boundary Marks	666	3,529	3,261	418	600	913	9,38
" Plans ...	991	183	24	...	83	123	1,40
Miscellaneous (House Rents) and Licences under Water Enactment ...	...	1,675	25	...	424	...	2,12
Total ...	11,109	61,910	30,063	1,519	8,652	5,320	118,57
Grand Total ...	756,416	885,785	561,585	63,841	230,410	358,580	2,856,61

COMPARISON.

23. A comparison of revenue excluding land sales, miscellaneous licences and reimbursements for the last five years shows:—

Total.				Percentage of increase or decrease over previous year.
\$				
	1921 ...	...	946,359	- 11 per cent.
,940,406	1922 ...	...	1,213,964	+ 28 „ „
19,504	1923 ...	...	1,513,202	+ 25 „ „
12,940	1924 ...	...	1,636,274	+ 8 „ „
576	1925 ...	...	2,185,944	+ 35 „ „

24. The noticeable increase of revenue in 1925 was principally due to (a) the considerable number of occupiers of land without registered title who paid fees and came on to the application books owing to the Government's promise of easy terms for all who came on the Books not later than 30th June, 1925, (b) the collection of large outstanding arrears of rent by means of a more rigorous enforcement of the sections for recovery of rent in Part VII of the Land Enactment (c) the high price of rubber which obtained for the second half of 1925.

REGISTRATION.

25. Registration work in the Office of the Commissioner of Land and Mines is shown in the following table:—

LAND ENACTMENT.

	1924.	1925.
Total number of transactions	2,969	4,746
Number of Grants registered	661	715
Number of transfers registered	895	2,200
Number of charges registered	400	289
Other transactions	1,013	1,542

MINING ENACTMENT.

Mining Leases issued	7	10
Mining Certificates issued	19	50
Prospecting Licences	93	86
Other transactions	20	18

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

	1924.	1925.
	—	—
Mukim Registers	928	2,282
Surat Sementara	4,184	9,000
Miscellaneous transactions ...	748	870
Total ...	5,860	12,152

APPLICATIONS.

27. The application books were closed from 1st March, 1925, onwards to applications for unoccupied country land in all districts except Endau, as the Land and Survey Departments were unable to cope with the applications already on the books.

SETTLEMENT.

28. In Muar demarcation and settlement of small holdings under the Settlement Enactment were continued. In Batu Pahat there was no further extension of the area demarcated under the Settlement Enactment but the settlement of holdings already demarcated and the issue of extracts were proceeded with. Four thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven extracts were issued in Muar mostly in exchange for Surat Sementara which are temporary titles issued to small holders pending demarcation and settlement.

MUKIM REGISTERS.

29. Mukim Registers are in existence in the District of Johore Bahru, Muar, Batu Pahat and Segamat, but owing to lack of surveyors to carry out demarcation on an adequate scale it has not been found possible to introduce Mukim Registers into Endau and Kota Tinggi districts.

ALSAGOFF CONCESSION, KUKUB.

30. The boundaries of the land belonging to the Alsagoff Concession having been surveyed and the total area ascertained, it now became possible for the Government to enter into negotiations with the Receiver for buying out the Concession. Negotiations were proceeding very favourably at the end of the year, and a settlement was in sight.

VII.—AGRICULTURE.

31. The field staff of the Department consisted, for the greater part of the year, of the Inspector of Agriculture, the special field officer (temporary) Muar, one junior agricultural assistant, four agricultural probationers and six sub-inspectors. Four agricultural apprentices were undergoing training at the Department of Agriculture, S. S. and F. M. S., Kuala Lumpur.

RUBBER.

32. Increased prosperity in the Industry has resulted in an extension in planted areas, reclamation of old areas abandoned during the slump and a general improvement of existing properties. The necessity for soil conservation is fully realised and silt pits, contour draining or cover crops or a combination of these are now the rule on hilly and undulating land. General estate sanitation and pest treatment have received careful attention on a large number of estates. In last year's report it was stated that "the Chinese and Japanese estates had required constant attention" in the matter of disease. This statement requires some qualification, as on some of the Chinese and Japanese estates systematic measures for control of disease and pests were taken in 1924 and disease was never serious. Satisfactory progress is reported during 1925.

The area reported to be planted with rubber in Johore as on the 31st December, 1925, is as follows:—

Year of planting.	Large Estates.	Medium Estates.	Small-holdings.	Total.
	(a)	(b)	(c)	
	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>
1918 or earlier ...	245,899	27,949	157,226	431,074
1919 ...	24,177	3,696	10,600	38,473
1920 ...	16,955	2,541	9,010	28,506
1921 ...	6,969	900	3,531	11,400
1922 ...	3,924	460	2,120	6,504
1923 ...	5,806	847	3,127	9,780
1924 ...	4,100	450	2,766	7,316
1925 ...	749	339	630	1,718
Total ...	308,579	37,182	189,010	534,771

The average price of rubber was \$67.83, \$121.55, \$136.38 and \$156.14 respectively, for the quarters commencing 1st February, 1st May, 1st August and 1st November, 1925.

The Restriction of Rubber exports was in force throughout the year. The percentage of Release was 55 in the quarter commencing the 1st February and advanced with quarterly increases of 10 during the following quarters.

COCONUTS.

33. The area under coconuts was approximately 90,000 acres. The export of copra amounted to 29,775 tons valued at \$6,025,000. The coconut plantations are distributed along the west coastal districts. Some of the largest and most productive areas lying between Benut and Sungei Senggarang. A fringe of palms also extends along part of the South and East coasts.

PADI.

34. The area under wet padi during the 1924 - 1925 season was approximately 5,600 acres, a slight reduction on the figure of the previous year, but the total yield of about 869,000 gantangs shows an average yield of more than 50 per cent in excess of last year's. In addition about 1,330 acres of dry padi were planted giving an estimated yield of 280,000 gantangs.

PINEAPPLES.

35. The export amounted to 652,840 cases and 29,611,118 fruits representing a total yield of about 54,000,000 fruits. The area under pineapples is estimated at 16,000 acres. Six factories operated during the year. The price of fruits towards the end of year was higher than usual varying from \$3 to as much as \$6.50 per 100 for large fruits.

AFRICAN OIL PALM.

36. One thousand and thirty-five acres were planted up during the year and 1,400 acres were cleared for planting in 1926. There have been further enquiries about suitable land for this form of cultivation and it is probable that there will be a considerable increase of planting in the next few years.

OTHER CROPS.

37. *Patchouli*.—Little interest was shown in patchouli in 1925. It is estimated that an area of 150 acres mostly in small patches is planted with this crop.

Betel nuts.—The export, 185,000 pikuls was less than in 1924 but many fine areas are to be seen in the Batu Pahat and Kukub districts where the practice of planting supplies among the older trees should maintain output for some years to come. There are young plantations coming into bearing. In Muar district palms are becoming old and less productive. The estimated total area under this crop is 7,500 acres.

Tapioca.—There has been an increase in the export. Planting continues in Muar and Segamat districts. The estimated area of this crop is 16,000 acres.

Sago.—This palm grows well near the rivers of the west coast and numerous small Chinese factories are to be found along the banks of the Simpang Kanan and Simpang Kiri rivers. There is also an area of about 800 acres at Kukub. Total export was 23,500 pikuls.

DISEASES AND PESTS.

Rubber.

38. There has been but little spread of diseases and pests during the year: the most prevalent were—

Mouldy Rot.—This has received constant attention and a large quantity of disinfectant has been retailed in small quantities or distributed free to small holders. Control has been well maintained and the spontaneous use of disinfectant in treating this disease on small holdings is increasing.

Pink Disease.—This has given trouble in some districts but outbreaks have not been serious. The west coast areas have not suffered from this disease.

Root Diseases.—Both *Fomes Lignosus* and *Fomes Pseudoferreus* are fairly widely distributed but control measures are now a matter of routine on most of the larger estates.

White ants continue to take their toll of trees particularly in those areas where clearing of timber was delayed.

39. *Coconuts*.—The disease discovered at Benut and referred to in last year's report is still unidentified. A Malay probationer who has received special training in coconut diseases was stationed at Benut and supervised control measures. The spread of this disease was not serious in 1925. The disposal of dead trees is always a matter of difficulty in coastal areas: it is no easy task either to burn or bury the trunks effectively. Other pests were noted in various areas but did not cause serious damage.

VIII.—MINES.

40. The Mines department consists of a Warden of Mines, an Inspector of Mines, two Mines Overseers and the usual Clerical Staff.

41. The total revenue derived from mining in 1924 and 1925 is shown below:—

	1924.	1925.
	—	—
	\$	\$
<i>Export duty on:—</i>		
(a) Tin-ore	268,148	288,156
(b) Iron-ore	164,350	135,996
(c) China Clay	120	135
Rents on mining leases ...	13,349	12,939
Premium	10,423	16,180
<i>Licences:—</i>		
(a) Prospecting	6,525	7,517
(b) Individual	170	615
(c) Ore buyers	300	500
	<u>463,385</u>	<u>462,038</u>

42. The expenditure in 1925 was \$16,640 compared with \$16,322 in 1924.

43. The amount of tin-ore exported in 1925 was 23,160 pikuls against 23,695 pikuls in 1924. The average price was \$131.26 a pikul.

44. The Japanese Haematite (Iron-Ore) Mine at Bukit Medan produced 271,992 tons of ore against 235,118 in 1924. During the five years this deposit has been worked over 800,000 tons have been exported. The output is controlled mainly by the supply of shipping and labour, the ore is much in demand among the smelters in Japan. The metal contents are high and the ore is found to be more satisfactory than low grade ore supplied from mines in China.

45. The labour force on the Mines during 1925 was 3,536 persons and machinery of 691 horse-power was employed. Except on the Japanese Iron Mine, the whole labour force is Chinese.

46. The China clay industry was dormant till August when exports on a small scale were commenced, the clay being used for fillings in rubber manufactories in Singapore. 50,000 latex cups a month are turned out and command a ready sale locally.

47. An area of 13,897 acres was held under mining titles in 1925 compared with 14,316 acres in 1924.

48. Prospecting Licences over 32,217 acres were issued during the year. Areas amounting to 1,389 acres were selected. Prospecting was mainly confined to the Endau District. No new mining districts were discovered.

IX.—FORESTS.

49. The mangrove forest on the west coast between Sungei Rengit on the north and Pontian Besar on the south was explored. Many of the best mangrove areas have been spoilt by squatters who have cleared irregular areas through the mangrove belt. A plan of the whole area has been prepared from photographs taken from seaplanes which indicate cleared spaces and it is hoped to fix the landward boundaries from the information thus obtained and to reserve as much of the area as possible. A portion of the forest between the 16th and 18th mile on the eastern side of the Kluang Mersing Road was examined and found to contain excellent kapur and resak forest. The north-western and northern portion of the area now proposed as the Pantu Muntahak reserve was examined. Fair kapur forest was found on the slopes of Muntahak, Seraya on some of the ridges and Chengai on the lower slopes of the hills in the northern portion. Two small enumeration surveys were made on the western side at the 9th mile and one on eastern side at the 18½ mile Kluang Mersing Road. Countings were made along 7½ miles of rentis giving an area of 62 acres. The average volume of timber per acre worked out at over 50 tons which is very satisfactory. Enumeration surveys must however be made over a much more extensive area before much reliance can be placed on the figures obtained.

50. The Rengam Reserve consisting of 38,000 acres was finally gazetted. The Gunong Arong and Banang Reserves were still awaiting final gazetting at the end of the year.

51. The timber market remained fairly steady till July but prices rose rapidly towards the end of the year. The revenue under this heading showed an increase of \$11,830 as compared with the previous year.

52. The amount of timber actually extracted in 1925 was 27,634 tons and the export was 17,814. The Federated Malay States Railway took 818 tons of sleepers.

53. The Mersing mill worked successfully during the year, and there was an increasing demand for kapur flooring and scantlings from this mill. Three new saw-mills were in course of erection during the year—one of these is on the banks of the Batu Pahat river, and two on the Mersing Road.

54. Two samples of lac were sent to the Research Officer and have been favourably reported on. Samples of lac varnish were prepared from this lac which gave excellent results when used on wood or metal.

55. The amount of firewood and fuel upon which royalty was paid was 36,733 tons.

56. The revenue for 1924 and 1925 is shown below:—

	1924.	1925.
	—	—
	\$	\$
Timber	64,502	76,332
Firewood and Charcoal ...	16,814	18,262
Minor Produce	25,807	15,813
Other Sources	4,760	2,157
	<u>111,883</u>	<u>112,764</u>

57. The total expenditure amounted to \$56,072.

58. The staff at the end of the year consisted of the Conservator of Forests, one Ranger Grade II, four Rangers Grade III, eight Foresters and forty-four forest-guards. It is hoped to obtain the services of a trained European Officer for exploration work in 1926.

X.—SURVEYS.

59. The average effective strength of the staff throughout the year was 84 including the Superintendent and six European Surveyors. Difficulties were experienced in obtaining assistant surveyors and in keeping up the strength of the survey coolies owing to the high wages paid to rubber tappers.

60. The following returns show the state of survey work with reference to requisition :—

<i>Details.</i>	<i>Grant Lots.</i>		<i>Native Holdings.</i>	
	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Area in Acres.</i>	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Area in Acres.</i>
—	—	—	—	—
Unsatisfied requisitions on 31st December, 1924 ...	2,769	47,156	10,092	35,976
Requisitions received during 1925 ...	1,098	28,029	5,065	13,796
	<u>3,867</u>	<u>75,185</u>	<u>15,157</u>	<u>49,772</u>
Requisitions satisfied during 1925 ...	863	27,378	1,751	6,582
Requisitions cancelled during 1925 ...	154	4,450	739	2,501
Requisitions remaining unsatisfied on 31st December, 1925	2,850	43,357	12,667	40,689
	<u>3,867</u>	<u>75,185</u>	<u>15,157</u>	<u>49,772</u>

Details of unsatisfied requisitions :—

<i>Details.</i>	<i>Grant Lots.</i>		<i>Native Holdings.</i>	
	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Area in Acres.</i>	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Area in Acres.</i>
—	—	—	—	—
Awaiting survey or demarcation ...	980	15,200	7,694	22,849
In hand in field ...	724	11,736	1,803	6,442
In Land Offices for settlement ...	356	10,692	2,470	8,398
In Office awaiting, check etc. ...	790	5,729	700	3,000
	<u>2,850</u>	<u>43,357</u>	<u>12,667</u>	<u>40,689</u>

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

61. During the year 760 grants, 4 leases, 7 agricultural leases, 16 mining leases, 40 mining certificates and 7,063 mukim extracts were sent to Collectors.

62. Progress of surveys under the Settlement Enactment was slower than in 1924. Settlement tracings of 4,725 small holdings were sent to the district Land Offices and of these 2,217 lots were unsettled at the end of the year. The rate of demarcation and settlement of small holdings was slow in 1925.

63. Office work included the drawing of 391 certified plans covering 5,998 lots of an area of 39,000 acres, 31 tracings of standard 16 chain sheets were brought up to date for Land Office, 50 new tracings of standard sheets were prepared and 74 sun-prints of standard sheets made. Seven hundred and eighty-four settlement tracings, 850 tracings for surveyors and 150 miscellaneous tracings were prepared.

A series of District Maps on scale one mile to one inch were prepared and forwarded to the Survey Office, Kuala Lumpur, with a view to the compilation of a new State Map.

64. The expenditure of this Department amounted to \$245,430 compared with \$220,661 in 1924. The total revenue collected by the Land Offices on account of survey was \$44,423 and on account of demarcation \$122,168.

XI.—JUDICIAL.

SUPREME COURT.

65. Forty-two criminal cases and 34 criminal appeals were registered. Four Criminal Assizes were held at Johore Bahru, four at Muar and four at Batu Pahat.

One hundred and seventy-five civil suits, 13 civil appeals, 221 administration suits and 179 miscellaneous were registered.

66. The Court of Appeal sat on four occasions.

MAGISTRATES' COURT.

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

		<i>Criminal.</i>	<i>Civil.</i>
	Johore Bahru (including Kluang)	2,503	518
	Kota Tinggi	570	84
	Kukub	460	47
	Muar	1,911	403
	Batu Pahat	1,341	300
	Endau	232	73
	Segamat	682	138
		<u>7,699</u>	<u>1,563</u>

68. The Assistant Adviser, Kota Tinggi, visited Pengerang once a fortnight and held Court there. First Class Magistrate's cases at Kukub were taken by the Receiver of the Alsagoff Concession who was gazetted a First Class Magistrate.

XII.—POLICE.

69. The strength of the Force was on the 31st December, 1,015 all ranks the approved establishment being 1,110.

70. The following police buildings were erected during the year :—

District Headquarters and Barracks at Pengerang, Police Station at Gunong Pulai built by the Singapore Municipality, Police Stations at Semerah, Sri Gading, Parit Separap, Senggarang, Sembrong, Sungei Rengit, Benut, Bakri, Sagil, Parit Jawa and Jementan, quarters for the A. C. P. Segamat 20 married quarters at Muar. In addition a Police Station and Barracks at Kuala Sedili, Tebrau, Jemaluang, Peserai and Bekok (Tangkak) a Police Station at Kesang and a District Headquarters Station at Tangkak were under construction.

RECRUITMENT, CASUALTIES AND DISCIPLINE.

71. During the year under review 96 recruits were enlisted, of whom 86 were Malays and 10 Sikhs. One hundred and twenty-four uniformed officers left the force on pension, discharge or dismissal and three died.

72. The discipline of the force was satisfactory.

HEALTH.

73. Four hundred and fifty-eight members of the force were admitted to the Hospital, and 2,550 were treated as out-patients. There were 3 deaths. Four members of the rank and file were discharged medically unfit.

CRIME.

74. The total number of offences of all kinds reported was 10,356 compared with 9,439 in 1924.

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

	1923.	1924.	1925.
Murder and Homicide	34	31	44
Gang-robbery	15	14	7
Robbery	57	68	36
House-breaking	28	19	57
Thefts (over \$100)	94	144	170
Counterfeit coin and stamps	13	21	3

The reduction in robberies is noticeable and may be attributed to a variety of causes. The disturbed condition of affairs in China offered a better field of operations for the activities of the dangerous criminals. Other bad character found it simpler and more profitable to indulge in rubber smuggling and rubber

thieving rather than in violent crime. House-breaking and serious theft reports continue to increase for which the high price of rubber is mainly responsible. House-breaking and theft of rubber from stores and smoke-houses is extremely difficult to suppress, and in many cases must be attributed to breach of trust by a caretaker or servant.

75. Unlawful societies continue to wield great influence throughout the State and more particularly in Kukub, Kota Tinggi and Batu Pahat districts. Smuggling of rubber began to decrease in the latter part of the year owing to the increase of the percentage of Standard Production of holdings which was allowed to be exported.

FIREARMS.

76. Three thousand three hundred and ninety-two firearms were registered against 3,505 in 1924.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

77. Seven thousand three hundred and fifty-two weights and measures were verified by the Police Department compared with 6,697 in 1924.

MOTOR CARS AND DRIVERS.

78. The registration of Traction Engines and Motor Cars was handed over in February to 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 license drivers under the Enactment. In 1925 1,373 drivers' certificates were issued as compared with 738 in 1924 and 556 in 1923. Of the 1925 total 755 certificates were issued in Muar.

NOXIOUS ANIMALS.

79. Twenty tigers, 11 leopards and panthers and 9 crocodiles were destroyed and handed over to the Police. The number of persons reported killed by noxious animals was 62, 50 by tigers, 7 by crocodiles, 1 by snake, 1 by bear, 2 by elephants and 1 by bees. Man-eating tigers caused great havoc in the neighbourhood of Bukit Kepong and Renchong in Ulu Muar.

GAMBLING SUPERVISION.

80. One hundred and sixty-seven cases were brought and fines amounting to \$4,102 including confiscations were imposed. Gaming is reported to be carried on mainly amongst mining coolies in out of the way places, and in certain registered clubs; one of the latter was closed by order of the Government after a conviction in Court.

EXPENDITURE.

81. The expenditure on the Police was \$584,333 compared with \$566,482 in 1924.

XIII.—JOHORE MILITARY FORCES.

82. A satisfactory year's work is reported, and the forces were maintained at full strength. The discipline was good. A detachment went to Singapore on 22nd November under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Dato ABDUL HAMID and took part in Manœuvres with the regular and Volunteer troops. They were complimented by the General Officer Commanding on their turn out and the part they took in the operations.

On 24th March the General Officer Commanding, with the concurrence of His Highness the Sultan, inspected the Johore Military and Volunteer Forces and commented favourably on their steadiness on parade and handling of their arms.

On 3rd June a detachment went to Singapore to take part in the King's Birthday parade.

A review of the forces was held on the Military Parade Ground on His Highness the Sultan's Birthday.

83. The Johore Military Forces team won, for the second year in succession, the "Royal Johore Challenge Cup". The competition was open to all Military and Volunteer units and recognised Rifle Clubs in Malaya, and there was a very keen contest for the Trophy the runners up being the Malay States Volunteer Regiment. The Forces also won prizes at the Malay States Volunteer Regiment Rifle Association Prize Meeting at Kuala Lumpur in April, at the Whitsuntide Prize Meeting at Bukit Timah, and the Malaya Command Rifle Meeting at Penang.

84. The Johore Volunteer Forces were maintained at full strength. The contingents at Johore Bahru, Muar, Batu Pahat and Mersing took part in the ceremonial parades held in each of these stations in honour of His Highness the Sultan's Birthday.

The signal section under the supervision of Lieutenant Tungku AHMAD at Johore Bahru is reported to have made good progress.

JOHORE VOLUNTEER RIFLES (EUROPEAN VOLUNTEERS).

85. Major W. B. Y. DRAPER, Commanding Officer, was at his own request transferred to the Reserve of Officers and was succeeded by Second-Lieutenant E. F. G. DAVIES, M.C., and Lieutenant MEADOWS FROST, M.C., of the Malayan Volunteer Infantry was transferred to the Johore Volunteer Rifles as second in command with the rank of Captain.

Camps were held during three week ends at Siglap, Singapore, by arrangement with the S. S. Volunteer Forces. They were well attended and useful work was done. Tactical exercises were held for the various platoons, and progress was made in musketry training.

XIV.—PRISONS.

PRISON POPULATION.

86. Admissions to the two State Prisons, Johore Bahru and Muar, totalled 2,054 as against 1,583 in 1924. This increase is mainly due to rubber smuggling.

The daily average numbers for 1924 and 1925 are shown in the following table:—

	1924.		1925.	
	<i>Johore Bahru.</i>	<i>Muar</i>	<i>Johore Bahru.</i>	<i>Muar.</i>
Civil prisoners ...	8·71	·11	10·35	16·22
Convicted prisoners ...	262·94	152·75	460·89	176·80
Convicted prisoners in the State prisons numbered as follows:—				
	<i>Johore Bahru.</i>		<i>Muar.</i>	
Remaining on 1st January, 1925 ...	315	165		
Admitted during 1925 ...	1,159	895		
Total ...	1,474	1,060		
Released during 1925 ...	914	522		
Transferred ...	—	414		
Escaped ...	—	—		
Died ...	8	2		
Executed ...	4	—		
Remaining on 31st December, 1925 ...	548	122		
Total ...	1,474	1,060		

Classification of prisoners on 31st December, 1925.

	<i>Johore Bahru.</i>	<i>Muar.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Long Sentence ...	133	...	133
Short Sentence ...	409	122	531
Prisoners on remand ...	3	9	12
Awaiting banishment ...	17	...	17
Sentenced to death ...	6	...	6
His Highness's pleasure ...	5	...	5
Total ...	573	131	704

HEALTH.

87. There were 8 deaths in the Prison Hospital at Johore Bahru, and there were two deaths in Muar.

The average daily number in hospital were :—

Johore Bahru	...	...	...	...	16·3
Muar	...	...	...	...	4·05

DISCIPLINE.

88. One hundred and eighteen offences by prisoners were dealt with and eight floggings were inflicted. There were no serious disorders in either prison.

LABOUR.

89. At Johore Bahru an average of 220 prisoners were engaged by the Public Works Department on extramural labour, which consisted principally of earth work, drainage and tree-felling connected with anti-malarial works and Government Quarters, and extension of the Johore Bahru Rifle Range.

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 87·25. Useful work was done for the Public Works Department and a large amount of stone was broken for road metal.

RECIDIVISM.

90. Of the prisoners admitted during the year 47 had one, 16 two and 14 three or more previous convictions.

EXECUTION.

91. Four executions were carried out at Johore Bahru.

STAFF.

92. 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 a European Gaoler and a Warder.

EXPENDITURE.

93. The expenditure on the maintenance of the Johore Bahru Prison amounted to \$143,367 against \$109,159 in 1924. The expenditure at Muar was \$48,245 against \$33,076 in 1924.

REVENUE.

94. A sum of \$9,508 was received from the laundry, bakery and work-shops at Johore Bahru. A sum of \$782 was collected at Muar.

VAGRANT WARDS.

95. The two State Prisons at Johore Bahru and Muar are also vagrant wards under the Vagrancy Enactment, 1921.

Admissions of vagrants in the vagrant wards during the year were as follows:—

		<i>Johore Bahru.</i>	<i>Muar.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
		—	—	—
Remaining on 1st January, 1925	...	2	...	2
Admitted in 1925	...	15*	...	15
		—		—
		17		17
		—		—
Released during the year	...	...	...	...
Died	...	...	...	...
Repatriated	...	15	...	15
Remaining on 31st December, 1925	...	2	...	2
		—		—
		17		17

Of the vagrants admitted 86.66 per cent were Chinese, 6.67 per cent Indians and 6.67 per cent Javanese.

XV.—MARINE DEPARTMENT.

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

	<i>Vessels Entered.</i>		<i>Vessels Cleared.</i>	
	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Tonnage.</i>	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Tonnage.</i>
Ocean going steamers	40	136,318	40	136,318
Coasting steamers	3,635	234,981	3,635	234,981
Sailing vessels	7,475	139,535	7,578	140,628

97. The number and tonnage of the Japanese ocean going steamers calling at Batu Pahat to load iron ore were practically the same as in the previous year. These vessels load their cargo from lighters off the mouth of the river.

98. The Straits Steamship Company maintained a regular service of steamers to Batu Pahat and Muar. Wharfage and godown accommodation at these ports is deficient and is being increased.

99. The total number of passengers arrived at all ports was 99,363 and the total number of passengers departing was 84,321.

* Including 4 transferred from Muar.

100. All lights and buoys were maintained in good order, the new Aga Flashing lights at the entrances of the Benut and Pontian Besar rivers operated well and proved useful.

XVI.—POST OFFICE.

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

	1923.	1924.	1925.
Letters, papers and parcels received ...	2,894,592	3,723,088	4,180,337
Letters, papers and parcels despatched ...	1,870,129	1,945,205	2,226,018
Value of Money Orders issued ...	\$413,065	\$411,339	\$583,031
Value of Money Orders paid ...	\$ 95,886	\$100,546	\$135,597

The revenue was \$137,955 as against \$108,351 in 1924. The expenditure was \$127,401 against \$96,609 in 1924.

TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.

102. Fifty-three thousand two hundred and twenty-five telegrams were received and 33,382 telegrams were despatched during the year against 35,846 and 22,022 respectively in 1924.

XVII.—MEDICAL.

103. The number of births registered in 1925 was 12,497 compared with 12,296 in 1924. The number of deaths registered was 8,938 against 8,274 in 1924.

104. On an estimated population of 320,876 the birth-rate was 38.95 per mille and the death-rate 27.85 per mille.

The infantile mortality for the year was 195.33 per mille compared with 182.90 in 1924. It is hoped that with the increased output in trained midwives the infantile mortality rate will decrease. Midwives on the completion of their training are sent to outstations to practise. They receive a subsidy from the Government till they are able to support themselves.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

105. There have been no cases of Plague or Cholera.

Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.—There were 3 cases all fatal.

Chicken-pox and Measles.—Thirty-one cases of chicken-pox and 301 of measles (including German Measles) were reported. There were no deaths from measles.

Influenzal Pneumonia.—Three cases with one death.

Small-pox.—Only two cases both of which recovered.

Diphtheria.—Two cases, neither virulent.

Enteric Fever.—Thirty-four cases with 6 deaths.

SPECIAL DISEASES.

106. *Ankylostomiasis*.—In 1925 the cases were 2,024 and the deaths 81 compared with 1,798 and 68 respectively in 1924.

Beri-beri.—The number of cases treated in Government Hospitals was 493 and the deaths 49, against 677 and 63 respectively in 1924.

Black Water Fever.—One case was treated at Batu Pahat Hospital which proved fatal.

Dysentery and Diarrhœa.—The cases and deaths in the Government hospitals show a decrease from 1,043 and 140 in 1924 to 888 and 135 in 1925.

Malarial Fever.—Twelve thousand cases were treated in Government and Estate Hospitals, and the percentage of deaths to total treated was 3.16 against 2.85 in 1924.

Phthisis.—In the Government and Estate Hospitals 417 cases were treated with 144 deaths. Five hundred and five deaths were registered as being due to this disease.

Yaws.—The total number of injections given in Government Hospitals was 3,667, of which 2,660 were for new and 1,007 for old cases. One thousand five hundred and seventy-one injections were given at Batu Pahat, 564 at Kukub, and 550 at Segamat, and 18 in Johore Bahru.

Pneumonia.—Total of cases treated in Government Hospitals was 433 with a total number of deaths 174.

HOSPITALS.

107. The existing Government Hospitals were maintained. Admissions were 17,854. On the 31st December, 1924, there were 1,105 patients remaining and of the total 16,437 were discharged, 12 were transferred, 150 absconded, 1,323 died and 1,037 remained in the hospitals on the 31st December, 1925. The percentage of deaths to the total treated was 6.97.

MATERNITY WARDS.

108. The number of cases treated in the maternity wards at Johore Bahru was 106 against 116 in 1924. Thirty-five cases were treated in their own houses against 76 in 1924. At the close of the year 25 certified midwives were practising in the State. Ten probationer midwives were in training during the year.

MENTAL HOSPITAL.

109. The number of patients at the end of the year was 198. The Asylum was visited weekly by the Superintendent of the Singapore Mental Hospital.

LEPER ASYLUM.

110. The number of lepers in the Johore Leper Asylum at the end of the year was 77. All female lepers, of whom there were 7 at the end of the year, are transferred to the Leper Camp at Singapore.

VACCINATIONS.

111. The total number of vaccinations during the year was 11,200 compared with 13,321 in 1924.

OUT-PATIENTS.

112. The number of out-patients treated at the various stations was 65,396 against 64,421 in 1924.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

113. There is only one whole-time Health Officer who is stationed in Johore Bahru but visits all districts periodically. The Medical Officer, Muar, and Assistant Surgeons in charge of other out-station Hospitals were gazetted Health Officers under the Anti-malarial Enactment.

METEOROLOGICAL.

114. *Rainfall.*—Kota Tinggi shows the highest rainfall for Government stations, 134.55 inches. The lowest rainfall for the Government stations was 82.45 Muar.

Temperature.—Temperature variations were greater than during the previous year, there being a difference of 28 degrees between the highest maximum, 94.5 (Tangkah) and lowest minimum 66 (Kukub).

115. Anti-malarial measures have been undertaken in most of the larger towns in the State but the most important works, chiefly subsoil drainage, have been done in Johore Bahru. Oiling is carried out regularly. Mosquito spot maps have been made of the towns of Johore Bahru, Mersing, Bandar Maharani (Muar) Bandar Penggaram (Batu Pahat) and of several villages.

BUILDINGS.

116. *Medical.*—A new second class ward for female patients and a 36 bed ward for third class patients were completed at the General Hospital, Johore Bahru. Muar Hospital was extended by two general wards, Tangkah by a new dysentery ward and a 16 bed female ward, and Segamat by a 16 bed female ward. An outdoor dispensary was opened at Benut, an isolated town on the west coast. A new hospital was opened at the Gaol, Johore Bahru.

FINANCIAL.

117. The expenditure during the year on Personal Emoluments and Other Charges was \$544,813 and the revenue collected was \$30,525.

XVIII. VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

118. This department was in the charge of His Highness Tungku 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.

119. There were three outbreaks of Foot-and-Mouth Disease during the year, all in Muar district, but they were not of a serious character and were easily suppressed.

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

		<i>Oxen.</i>	<i>Buffaloes.</i>	<i>Sheep and goats.</i>	<i>Swine.</i>
65,396	Import	4,117	669	3,649	14,554
	Export	167	13	116	2,568

XIX.—EDUCATION.

VERNACULAR SCHOOLS.

	<i>Schools.</i>		<i>Number.</i>	<i>Enrolment.</i>	<i>Average attendance.</i>	<i>Staff.</i>
121.	Boys	...	73	5,275	4,031	146
	Girls	...	7	428	337	15

RELIGIOUS CLASSES.

	<i>Schools.</i>		<i>Number.</i>	<i>Enrolment.</i>	<i>Average attendance.</i>	<i>Staff.</i>
	Boys	...	24	1,523	1,148	43
	Girls	...	4	200	140	5

The average attendance at the vernacular schools was 70 per cent of the enrolment.

Malay Training College.—Ten teachers were under training.

ENGLISH SCHOOLS.

	<i>Schools.</i>		<i>Enrolment.</i>	<i>Percentage of attendances.</i>	<i>Masters.</i>	<i>Pupil Teachers.</i>
Other	English College	...	77	96	7	...
	Bukit Zaharah School		753	95	28	3
	Muar School	...	331	90.5	13	...
	Batu Pahat School	...	373	91.9	16	...
	Total	...	1,534		64	3

123. In 1925 thirteen boys were entered for the Junior Cambridge Examination and 7 passes were obtained. The falling off in numbers is due to boys, who have qualified themselves for posts in the Government Service by passing the Government Entrance Examination, leaving the schools to take up appointments in the clerical service.

124. Four new class rooms were completed for Muar School, and additional accommodation for Batu Pahat School is to be provided in 1926.

125. Arrangements were made to provide free dental treatment for school children in Johore Bahru and between September and December 186 children received treatment. Daily visits were paid to the boys' school in Johore Bahru by a Dresser of the Medical Department.

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

XX.—TOWN BOARDS.

JOHORE BAHRU.

127. This Town Board is in charge of the townships of Johore Bahru, Tebrau, Rengam, Kluang and Sedenak, and of the villages of Bekok and Paloh alongside the railway, and of Batu Sepuloh Scudai and Senai on the Johore Bahru-Batu Pahat road, which were declared Town Board areas under section 50 of the Enactment in January. 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 \$215,670 compared with \$189,904 in 1924.

The revenue collected for electric light in Johore Bahru amounted to \$63,295 as against \$50,816 in 1924.

In March the Department took over the licensing of motor vehicles for Johore Bahru district. The revenue collected from this source amounted to \$20,761.

KOTA TINGGI.

128. The revenue in 1925 was \$18,191 against \$16,819 in 1924. The village of Mawai was brought under the control of the Board.

MUAR.

129. 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 Simpang Jeram.

The revenue was \$190,028 in 1925 compared with \$154,373 in 1924. \$31,913 of the revenue was collected on account of licences for motor vehicles.

BATU PAHAT.

130. 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 \$113,088 compared with \$77,271 in 1924. Taxes on motor vehicles accounted for \$17,772 of this increase.

There was considerable building activity in Bandar Penggaram.

ENDAU.

131. This Board is in charge of the townships of Mersing and Jemaluang. The revenue for 1925 was \$12,546. Revenue from taxes on motor vehicles amounted to \$2,062.

SEGAMAT.

132. This Board is in charge of the townships of Segamat, Batu Anam, Buloh Kasap and Labis and the two villages of Jementah and Bandar Jabi. The revenue collected was \$25,950 compared with \$19,047 in 1924. House and Land assessment were collected in respect of Segamat and Batu Anam only. The revenue collected for taxes on motor vehicles amounted to \$3,859.

XXI.—PUBLIC WORKS.

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

					\$
Provision	...	...	...	...	6,029,637
Expenditure	...	...	...	...	4,218,068

134. The cost of supervision including special temporary allowances, but excluding other charges was 8 per cent of the total expenditure.

WORKS AND BUILDINGS.

The expenditure was as follows:—

					\$
Annually Recurrent	...	...	...	...	168,417
Special Services	...	...	...	...	1,621,648

Under special services in Johore Bahru the new Training College was well advanced at the end of the year. Two new wards and 3 sets of quarters for Assistant Surgeons were completed. A new Prison Hospital with necessary extension of Gaol wall was built. In Muar district good progress was made with the Mosque, a new ward was built for the Hospital, an extension made to Prison buildings, and the Muar Civil Service Club was completed. In Batu Pahat district the new Civil Service Club was completed, the P. W. D. store

was nearly finished. Houses for subordinate officers were built in Johore Bahru, Muar, Batu Pahat, Segamat and Kota Tinggi districts, and new schools were erected in various districts to replace temporary buildings, a reinforced concrete wharf was built at Benut.

ROADS, STREETS AND BRIDGES.

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

ANNUALLY RECURRENT.		SPECIAL SERVICES.	
<i>Provision.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>	<i>Provision.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>
— \$	— \$	— \$	— \$
840,850	787,420	1,038,226	677,568

The following shows mileage on roads and paths upkeep during the year:—

		TOWN ROADS.		COUNTRY ROADS.	
		<i>Metalled.</i>	<i>Natural.</i>	<i>Metalled.</i>	<i>Natural.</i>
		—	—	—	—
Johore Bahru	...	51'00	...	99	...
Segamat	...	4'00	...	68'00	...
Kota Tinggi	...	3'00	...	33'00	...
Kluang	...	4'50	...	87'50	2'00
Muar	...	18'50	...	122'00	6'00
Batu Pahat	...	10'00	...	66'00	...
Endau	...	3'75	...	39'00	...
Total	...	94'75	...	514'50	8'00

The total length of roads upkeep was 617·25 miles at a cost of \$1,177 per mile compared with a cost of \$1,204 per mile in 1924.

Difficulty was experienced in obtaining an adequate supply of granite for road maintenance work. A new quarry is being opened at Bukit Mor in Muar district but stone will not be available till 1926. Road maintenance work also suffered from a shortage of labour.

SPECIAL SERVICES.

136. *Road Extension Scheme.*—At the end of 1924 there were 284½ miles open to traffic and during 1925 an additional 4 miles were opened, making a total of 288½.

There were 14¼ miles under construction making a total of 302½ miles completed and under construction.

The total expenditure during the year was \$146,331 making a total since 1911 of \$4,857,053.

The position on each section was as follows:—

- Section I.—Batu Anam-Tambang, $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles—Completed in 1920.
- Section II.—Batu Anam-Jementah, 8 miles—Completed in 1918.
- Section III.—Jementah-Ulu Jementah, 7 miles—Completed in 1917.
- Section IV.—Ulu Jementah-Tangkak, 19 miles—Completed in 1918.
- Section V.—Tangkak-Sungei Mati, 9 miles—Completed in 1914.
- Section VI.—Sungei Mati-Kesang, 5 miles—Completed in 1912.
- Section VII.—Tangkak-Chohong, 3 miles—Completed in 1913.
- Sections VIII. and IX.—Tenang-Segamat, 12 miles—Completed in 1921.
- Section X.—Muar-Renchong, 21 miles—Metalling was completed to Renchong village $20\frac{1}{4}$ miles from Muar.
- Section XI.—Kluang-Batu Pahat, 34 miles—Completed in 1917.
- Section XII.—Ayer Hitam-Muar, 44 miles. This road was metalled and opened to traffic as far as the 15th mile from Ayer Hitam, *i.e.*, three miles beyond Yong Peng. A further $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles was under construction in the Kluang district. In the Batu Pahat district $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles were under construction on both sides of the Simpang Kiri river. In the Muar district $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles were under construction. This goes through very bad swamp where no good earth is available for road-making. It will be necessary to transport earth by light railway from the hill at the $15\frac{1}{2}$ mile from Muar.
- Section XIII.—Kulai-Ayer Hitam, 38 miles—Completed in 1919.
- Section XIV.—Rengam-Ulu Benut, 8 miles—Completed in 1919.
- Section XV.—Kluang-Mersing, 65 miles—Completed and open to traffic early in 1922.
- Section XVI.—Yong Peng-Paloh, 19 miles—Completed in 1924.
- Section XVII.—Layang-Layang-Ulu Johore, $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles—earth road only.
- Section XVIII.—Gunong Pulai-Pontian Kechil, 19 miles. This has been substituted for the Renchong-Labis portion of section X. Three miles from 25th mile (from Johore Bahru) were bridged, metalled and opened to traffic. A new laterite quarry was opened at the 27th mile where cooly lines, lorry shed and Overseer's quarters were erected. Earthwork was in hand on a further three miles including 1 mile at Pontian Kechil end. It will be necessary to transport earth towards Pontian Kechil by light railway from the hill near 29th mile.

NEW ROADS.

137. In Johore Bahru district. $2\frac{3}{4}$ miles of earthwork were constructed for a new road to Plintong. In Muar district four miles of earthwork were completed from 15-19 mile Serom-Ulu Jementah Road and $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles were gravelled.

In Batu Pahat district $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles of Senggarang-Ulu Benut Road from 17 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles were metalled. Progress on this road was slow and unsatisfactory owing to difficulties of transport of granite and the inexperience of the labour and supervising staff.

Segamat district. The earthwork of the Batu Anam-Buloh Kasap road was completed and work was commenced on three bridges, one of 140 feet and two of 60 feet span. These bridges are being built with concrete trestles and timber superstructure.

Tenang-Labis Road—Felling and earthwork were commenced at Tenang in August and Labis in October.

BRIDGES.

138. Eighty-eight thousand and eighteen dollars were spent on the substitution of permanent for temporary bridges and culverts throughout the State.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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

ANNUALLY RECURRENT.		SPECIAL SERVICES.	
<i>Provision.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>	<i>Provision.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>
\$	\$	\$	\$
422,914	344,137	361,235	220,998

ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT.

140. The total B. T. units generated was 707,750 which allowing 46,550 for loss in transmission, left a balance of 661,200. The demand for electrical current exceeded the supply and it was necessary to refuse many applications. Proposals to enlarge the Power Station so as to allow the installation of additional engines or in the alternative to erect a larger Power Station on a more central site were under consideration at the end of the year.

TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.

141. One additional trunk line Johore Bahru-Kluang was constructed and opened for traffic in August. One new line Muar to Johore-Malacca boundary was erected and is ready to be opened as soon as the new Muar exchange is completed. A considerable amount of work remains to be done in the improvement of circuits particularly in Muar district. It is hoped to open Trunk and Telegraph lines to Batu Anam from Kluang in 1926.

XXII.—COUNCIL OF STATE AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

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

1. Repeal Enactment.
2. Anti-malaria Enactment.
3. Johore European Volunteer Enactment.
4. Negotiable Instruments Enactment.
5. Railways Enactment, 1914, Amendment Enactment.
6. Police Force Enactment, 1916, Amendment Enactment.
7. Prisons Enactment, 1914, Amendment Enactment.
8. Registration and Military Service Repeal Enactment.
9. Netherlands Indian Labourers Protection Repeal Enactment.
10. Export of Rubber (Restriction) Enactment, 1923, Amendment Enactment.

The Executive Council met on 48 occasions during the year.

XXIII.—STAFF.

MALAY STAFF.

143. Ungku HUSEIN BIN ABDUL RAHMAN, D.K., State Commissioner, Batu Pahat, retired on pension and was replaced by Dato MOHAMED SHAH BIN AWANG, D.P.M.J., Magistrate Muar. Dato ABDULLAH BIN HAJI OTHMAN, D.P.M.J., State Commissioner, Endau, retired on pension and was replaced by Major Dato DAUD BIN HAJI SULEIMAN, D.P.M.J.

EUROPEAN STAFF.

144. Mr. G. HEMMANT acted as General Adviser till 11th April, when Mr. HAYES MARRIOTT resumed the duties of his appointment till 8th May. Mr. MARRIOTT was relieved by Mr. T. W. CLAYTON who acted till the end of the year.

On 6th July, 1925, Mr. W. BURTON, Acting Legal Adviser, was transferred to Kuala Lumpur and Mr. W. PRYDE took his place.

Mr. M. REX acted as Financial Commissioner and Auditor-General till 11th June, when Mr. McLEAN resumed the duties of his appointment.

Mr. G. E. CATOR was in charge of the Customs and Chandu Departments from 1st January, 1925—12th February, 1925 and from 17th October, 1925, till the end of the year. Mr. M. E. SHERWOOD, M.B.E., was in charge from 13th February, 1925 till 21st August, 1925, when he proceeded to Europe on medical leave. Mr. E. T. WILLIAMS filled the gap between 22nd August, 1925 and 16th October, 1925.

XXIV.—GENERAL.

145. This was the thirtieth year of H. H. the Sultan's reign and on the occasion of H. H.'s birthday addresses of congratulation were presented by the Government service and the various communities.

A Game Warden's Department was instituted with Headquarters at Kluang in March and Captain AHMAD, Johore Military Forces, was appointed Game Warden. Fifteen elephants and three deer which had destroyed rubber trees were killed. Fifteen cases were brought under "the Wild Animals and Birds Protection Enactment."

I regret to have to record the death of Mr. M. E. SHERWOOD, M.B.E., which took place in Switzerland while he was on leave.

T. W. CLAYTON,
Acting General Adviser.

JOHORE BAHRU, *May 19th, 1926.*

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APPENDICES.

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APPENDIX A.

Statement of Assets and Liabilities on 31st December, 1925 with corresponding figures for 1924.

LIABILITIES.	31st Dec., 1924.	31st Dec., 1925.	ASSETS.	31st Dec., 1924.	31st Dec., 1925.
Deposits	...	...	Cash	...	...
S. S. Loans	...	...	Cash in Transit	...	...
Surplus	...	...	INVESTMENTS (at cost) :—	...	...
			British War Loans ...	598,810 53	...
			National War Bonds ...	3,823,293 50	...
			Other Sterling Securities ...	5,963,387 01	...
			S. S. War Loans ...	1,157,734 22	...
			Fixed Deposits ...	3,300,000 00	...
			Due by other Governments	...	...
			Stock of Chandu	...	...
			Advances	...	...
			Loans	...	...
			Suspense	...	...
Total ...	12,997,552 97	19,291,968 31	Total ...	12,997,552 97	19,291,968 31

APPENDIX B.

Comparative Statement of Actual Revenue for 1924 and 1925.

Head of Revenue.	Actual 1924.	Actual 1925.	Increase.	Decrease.
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Land Revenue ...	1,637,699	2,201,299	563,600	...
Forest Revenue ...	110,059	111,123	1,064	...
Customs ...	3,504,043	5,922,218	2,418,175	...
Licences, Excise etc. ...	3,875,787	5,295,254	1,419,467	...
Fees of Court, etc. ...	164,195	196,466	32,271	...
Posts and Telegraphs ...	107,251	135,704	28,453	...
Port and Harbour Dues ...	33,078	34,955	1,877	...
Railways ...	357,000	357,000	...	...
Interest ...	374,052	566,356	192,304	...
Miscellaneous Receipts ...	15,330	14,764	...	566
Municipal ...	458,943	488,126	29,183	...
Land Sales ...	310,523	561,327	250,804	...
Total ...	10,947,960	15,884,592	4,937,198	566

APPENDIX C.

Comparative Statement of Actual Expenditure for 1924 and 1925.

Head of Expenditure.	Actual 1924.	Actual 1925.	Increase.	Decrease.
	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.
Pensions, Retired Allces., etc. ...	183,075 88	188,406 64	5,330 76	...
Personal Emoluments ...	2,719,000 23	2,997,496 85	278,496 62	...
Other Charges ...	1,564,827 75	1,838,653 56	273,825 81	...
Railways ...	...	...	...	...
Transport ...	53,064 52	59,050 33	5,985 81	...
Interest ...	56,000 00	56,000 00	...	...
Miscellaneous Services ...	702,919 61	598,318 26	...	104,601 35
Purchase of Land ...	59,702 08	222,870 32	163,168 24	...
Public Works, A. R. ...	1,230,531 30	1,298,804 98	68,273 68	...
Public Works, S. S. ...	1,526,155 62	2,520,720 99	994,565 37	...
Total	8,095,276 99	9,780,321 93	1,789,646 29	104,601 35

APPENDIX D.

STATISTICAL RETURN OF PROGRESS, 1921 - 1925.

				<i>Revenue.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>
				—	—
6	1921	...	...	7,689,054	11,159,450
	1922	...	...	8,625,223	8,785,873
6	1923	...	...	11,094,955	7,064,166
	1924	...	...	10,947,960	8,095,276
	1925	...	...	15,884,592	9,780,322