



QA 445/24

J O H O R E,
A N N U A L R E P O R T.
FOR THE YEAR 1923.

CONTENTS.

- I.- FINANCIAL
- II.- TRADE
- III.- CUSTOMS
- IV.- CHINESE PROTECTORATE AND LABOUR DEPARTMENT
- V.- LAND
- VI.- AGRICULTURE
- VII.- MINES
- VIII.- FORESTS
- ~~IX.~~ IX.- SURVEYS
- X.- JUDICIAL
- XI.- POLICE
- XII.- MILITARY FORCES
- XIII.- PRISONS
- XIV.- POST OFFICE
- XV.- MEDICAL
- XVI.- VETERINARY
- XVII.- EDUCATION
- XVIII.- TOWN BOARDS
- XIX.- PUBLIC WORKS
- XX.- DISTRICTS
- XXI.- COUNCIL OF STATE AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
- XXII.- STAFF
- XXIII.- GENERAL

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE STATE OF JOHORE

FOR THE YEAR 1923.

1.- FINANCIAL.

1. The total revenue for 1923 amounted to \$11,094,954 and the total expenditure to \$7,064,166, giving a surplus for the year of \$4,030,788. The estimated and actual totals are compared in the following table:

	Estimated. \$	Actual. \$	Difference. \$
Revenue ...	6,885,200	11,094,954	4,209,754
Expenditure ...	7,641,194	7,064,166	577,028
Difference ...	755,994	4,030,788	

REVENUE.

2. The revenue was more than that for 1922 by \$2,469,731, an increase of 28.6 per cent.

3. The following are the chief increases and decreases under sub-heads:

Head	Head Sub-head	Sub-head 1922	1922-1923	1923-Increase	Increase Decrease	Decrease Per Cent.	
		\$	\$	\$	\$		
Land	Land Rents	1,017,989	1,353,376	335,387		+ 32.9	
	Survey Fees	147,658	95,852		51,806	- 35.0	
Customs	Copra	206,662	220,134	13,472		+ 6.5	
	Rubber	146,514	1,314,795	1,168,281		+ 797.3	
	Minerals	284,339	335,044	50,705		+ 17.8	
	Spirits	372,478	433,227	60,749		+ 16.3	
	Tobacco	506,971	614,005	107,034		+ 21.1	
	Opium	45,514	72,874	27,360		+ 60.1	
	Forest Produce	79,907	85,798	5,891		+ 7.3	
	Gambier	25,393	32,746	7,353		+ 29.0	
	Licenses etc.	Chandu	3,411,646	3,519,556	107,910		+ 3.1
		Pawn-Brokers	106,352	111,663	5,311		+ 4.9
Rubber-Dealers		82,554	111,717	29,163		+ 35.3	
Municipal	Stamp Duties	77,213	114,481	37,268		+ 48.2	
	Assessment	147,462	170,635	23,173		+ 15.7	

4. The percentage contributions of the principal heads of revenue to the annual total (excluding Land Sales) in the years 1919-1923 were as follows:

3857417

	<u>1919</u>	<u>1920</u>	<u>1921</u>	<u>1922</u>	<u>1923</u>
Land & Forests	9.3	9.6	13.5	15.5	14.9
Customs	32.0	32.4	25.0	24.8	35.8
Licenses, & etc.	47.0	47.8	45.5	45.4	37.5
Other Revenue	11.7	10.2	16.2	14.3	11.8
	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>

EXPENDITURE.

5. The total expenditure was less than that of 1922 by \$1,721,707, a decrease of 19.5 per cent.

6. Expenditure for 1922 however includes a sum of \$1,073,039 which was due on account of loss incurred on rice control in 1921. If this sum is deducted from 1922 Expenditure the decrease in 1923 is about \$650,000. The decrease is explained by a very large reduction in the expenditure on the Johore Causeway.

7. The more important sub-heads of miscellaneous expenditure were:

Temporary Allowances	.....	\$ 405,480
Causeway	.....	332,965
Other Expenditure	.....	192,465
Total...		<u>930,910</u>

The total sum expended on the Causeway up to the end of 1923 was \$2,739,740.

INVESTMENTS.

8. During the year sales of investments equivalent to a cost price of \$95,090 were effected. The amount of investments at the end of December, 1923, at cost price, remaining to the credit of the Government, was \$5,279,803, of which the market value was about \$5,400,000.

ASSETS and LIABILITIES.

9. The surplus at the end of the year amounted to \$8,296,220. On the liability side, under deposits, is included a sum of over \$203,540 on account of Rubber Restriction Duty.

10. The following are shown in appendices:

Appendix A (i)- Statement of Assets and Liabilities 1922&1923
 Appendix A (ii) Statement of Actual Revenue, 1922 and 1923
 Appendix A (iii) Statement of Actual Expenditure, 1922 & 1923
 Appendix C-----Statement

Appendix C.-- Statistical Return of Progress, 1913 to 1923

11.- TRADE.

11. The total trade for the year 1923 shows a value of \$84,171,818 compared with \$62,029,612 in 1922 constituted as follows:

	<u>1922</u> \$	<u>1923</u> \$
Imports	24,407,531	27,869,594
Exports	<u>37,861,597</u>	<u>56,779,727</u>
	62,269,128	84,649,321
Less Re-exports ...	<u>239,516</u>	<u>477,503</u>
	<u>62,029,612</u>	<u>84,171,818</u>

an increase of 35.7 per cent; imports show an increase of 14.2 per cent and exports an increase of 49.7 per cent.

IMPORTS.

12. The following table shows, under the main heads the value for 1922 and 1923.

Class	1922 \$	1923 \$	Increase or Decrease per cent.
A. Foods, Drinks and Narcotics	16,307,956	18,848,955	+ 15.6
B. Raw Materials	3,067,060	2,755,525	- 10.2
C. Manufactured Articles	4,368,395	5,453,904	+ 24.8
D. Coin and Bullion	8,468	49,407	+ 483.5
E. Sundries	655,652	763,803	+ 16.5
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>24,407,531</u>	<u>27,869,594</u>	<u>+ 14.42</u>

A detailed statement appears in Appendix B (1).

Exports.

13. The following table gives the percentages of the total exports from Singapore which represent the Johore exports in 1922 and 1923.

	<u>1922</u>	<u>1923</u>
Arecanuts	38.4	22.0
Copra	21.5	17.6
Pepper .....	.6	.3
Gambier	29.3	.....
Rubber	23.5	8.1
Tapioca	28.8	19.3

A detailed statement of exports appears in Appendix B (ii)

111.-CUSTOMS.

14. The total Customs revenue collected was \$3,859,033. This amount is 67.5 per cent more than the 1922 total of \$2,303,040.

15. (I) Revenue by Districts, 1919-1923

District	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923
Muar	992,554	835,792	179,643	317,590	740,883
Batu Pahat	350,738	354,164	211,822	337,876	548,541
Kukub	199,251	257,868	150,811	159,541	229,424
Johore Bahru	1,172,459	1,386,913	975,907	1,099,505	1,658,743
Kota Tinggi	382,327	459,222	176,618	212,436	346,338
Endau	270,490	234,520	153,185	100,057	136,727
Segamat	204,033	190,972	44,222	76,035	188,377
Total ...	3,571,852	3,719,451	1,892,208	2,303,040	3,849,033

(II) Revenue by Productive Groups, 1919-1923.

Group	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923
Arecanuts	91,551	107,629	78,322	86,065	107,539
Copra	241,683	330,130	220,027	204,392	220,997
Gambier	68,806	46,744	16,050	25,497	31,497
Pepper	17,429	8,931	2,415	1,441	808
Rubber	1,689,445	1,518,828	106,924	341,040	1,306,123 X
Tapicca	103,834	72,953	37,529	40,133	72,774
Other Agricultural Produce	60,849	104,003	89,312	106,850	82,367
Forest Produce	87,581	98,394	140,368	82,792	83,294
Minerals	346,074	389,080	265,175	287,108	324,522
Marine Produce	18,456	20,754	28,521	17,801	16,844
Miscellaneous Produce	4,522	6,045	3,632	2,657	1,744
Alcoholic Liquor	466,451	553,807	390,150	374,449	435,694
Tobacco	375,171	397,232	396,137	508,630	615,885
Petroleum	-	-	24,527	82,183	97,145
Matches	-	-	5,744	51,274	61,383
Live Animals	-	283	1,532	1,541	1,847
Weighing Fees	-	64,154	84,947	88,053	387,307 +
Tobacco Licence	-	484	896	1,134	1,263
Total	3,571,852	3,719,451	1,892,208	2,303,040	3,849,033

X. Johore Government's share of the duty collected under the Export of Rubber (Restriction) Enactments from 1.11.22 to 31.12.23
 + Includes \$330,144 being weighing fees on rubber from 1.11.22 to 31.12.23.

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

Group	Percentage.				
	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923
Arecanuts	2.6	2.9	4.3	3.8	3.11
Copra	6.8	9.0	12.2	9.2	6.68
Pepper	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.01
Gambier	1.9	1.3	0.9	1.1	0.91
Rubber	14.0	41.7	5.9	15.4	37.70
Tapioca	2.8	2.0	2.1	1.9	2.12
Other Agricultural Produce	1.7	2.9	4.9	4.8	2.39
Minerals	9.6	10.6	14.7	13.0	9.39
Forest Produce	2.4	2.7	7.8	3.7	2.45
Marine Produce	0.5	0.5	1.6	0.8	0.49
Miscellaneous Produce	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.02
Spirits Imports	13.6	15.3	21.6	17.0	12.59
Tobacco Imports	10.5	10.9	21.9	23.0	17.47
Live Animals	-	-	0.1	0.1	0.02
Petroleum	-	-	1.4	3.7	2.84
Matches	-	-	0.3	2.3	1.81
	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.00

17. Under the Rubber Restriction Scheme and are now two cents a pound for rent-paying land and three cents a pound for land not paying rent. In each case there is a heavy additional duty if rubber is exported in excess of the amount allowed to be exported at minimum rates.

The temporary weighing fees (now called temporary additional duties) to recoup the lost incurred in purchase of rice were taken of rubber as soon as the new duties were imposed.

Rubber goods manufactured in State are exempted from duty ~~until~~ for one year from 1st November, 1923.

The duties on other articles remained as in the previous year.

18. The following table gives the average prices per pikul for the years 1922 and 1923 upon which duty was assessed:

	1922	1923
Copra	10.35	10.00
Pepper	13.25	15.00
Gambier	14.25	15.00
Rubber	39.00	67.00
Tin	81.00	81.00

19. The total amount of export duties collected, less any refunds, was \$2,633,305 as against \$1,284,812 in 1922 an increase of 104.9 per cent. The main increases were rubber \$965,083, tapioca \$32,641, arecanuts \$21,474, copra \$16,605, tin-ore \$20,565, and iron-ore \$16,642. The main decrease was timber \$9,043.

20. The total amount of import duties collected, less refunds, was \$1,211,166 against \$1,017,094 in 1922, an increase of 19.0 per cent.

The duty on alcoholic liquors was greater by \$61,200 and on tobacco greater by \$107,200 than in 1922.

IV.- CHINESE PROTECTORATE AND LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

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

22. The Protector of Chinese is also Registrar of Societies under "The Societies Enactment, 1915," and under this Enactment 17 societies were registered and 12 were exempted from registration.

23. The number of Indian labourers employed on estates in Johore during the last five years was as follows:-

1919	...	...	...	12,895
1920	...	...	...	16,455
1921	...	...	...	15,956
1922	...	...	...	14,755
1923	...	...	...	15,413

24. The health of estates was reported last year as being the best for many years past, and in 1923 it was even better still.

25. During the year 50 (43 adults and 7 minors) decrepit and destitute Indian were repatriated through the Labour Office.

26. All Indian labour employed in the State is free and labourers are at liberty to leave their employment at any time upon giving a month's notice.

7.

V.- LAND and MINES.

27. The revenue for 1922 and 1923 was as follows:-

<u>Rents-</u>	1922 \$	1923 \$
Land Rents, Recurrent	1,010,429	1,356,850
" Annual Licences	14,154	14,941
Mining Rents	15,934	12,786
Rents of Government Plantations	749	577
 <u>Licences-</u>		
Gravel, Stone, &c.....	1,338	789
Mining	675	-
Prospecting	10,468	8,673
 <u>Fees-</u>		
Miscellaneous	2,380	3,758
Notices, Warrants, &c.....	3,775	4,906
Registration of Titles &c...	7,155	11,207
Survey and Demarcation	146,907	98,715
Total	1,213,964	1,513,202
 <u>Land Sales-</u>		
Premium on Agr: Land	167,710	263,652
" Mining Land	7,015	5,856
Total	172,725	269,508
 Other sums collected in 1922 and 1923 but not credited as land revenue were:		
<u>Licences-</u>	1922 \$	1923 \$
Rubber Dealers Enactment	79,798	106,434
Burials Enactment	500	-
Mineral Ores Enactment ...	400	300
 <u>Fees-</u>		
Sale of Boundary Marks	22,151	10,296
Sale of Palms	885	1,411
Miscellaneous	1,742	3,128
Total...	105,476	121,569
Grand Total.....	1,492,165	1,904,279

The following
Johore Bahru

28. The collections according to districts in 1923 were
as follows:-

Revenue detailed	Johore Bahru	Muar	Batu Pahat	Endau	Segamat	Total
<u>Rents</u>						
Land Rents (Recurrent)	566,731	405,276	209,848	33,946	141,049	1,356,850
" " Annual Licences	8,498	552	3,388	2,208	295	14,941
Mining Rents.	1,465	---	169	11,152	---	12,786
Government Plantations	190	220	167	---	---	577
<u>Licences</u>						
Gravel, Stones & Mining	577	186	103	---	123	789
Prospecting	2,765	---	---	5,908	---	8,675
<u>Fees.</u>						
Miscellaneous	2,482	801	19	443	13	3,758
Notices & Warrants	505	1,249	3,046	136	170	4,906
Registration of Titles	3,704	4,360	1,956	504	683	11,207
Survey & Demarcation	32,582	22,256	21,571	1,599	20,707	98,715
Total	619,099	434,900	240,267	55,896	163,040	1,513,202
<u>Land Sales.</u>						
Premia on Grants	72,039	54,642	111,658	3,118	22,195	263,652
" " Mining Lands	1,700	---	326	3,830	---	5,856
Total	73,739	54,642	111,984	6,948	22,195	269,508
<u>Miscellaneous, Licences</u>						
Rubber Dealers Enact:	10,240	61,937	27,200	579	6,478	106,434
<u>Reimbursements-in-aid.</u>						
Sale of Boundary Marks	5,064	2,209	1,925	234	2,864	10,296
" " Plans	1,176	146	25	17	47	1,411
Miscellaneous (House Rents)	3,128	---	---	---	---	3,128
Total	17,608	64,292	29,150	630	9,389	121,269
Grand Total	710,446	553,834	381,401	63,674	194,624	1,903,979

10/60

Number of charges

9.

The following additional revenue was collected by the
Johore Bahru Land Office:

Licence under the Mineral Enactment	Ore	\$
...	...	300

COMPARISON.

29. A comparison of revenue excluding land sales, miscellaneous licenses and reimbursements for the last five years shows:

		Percentage of increase or decrease over previous year.
1919	978,525	+34% per cent
1920	1,061,279	+8 " "
1921	946,359	-11 " "
1922	1,213,964	+28 " "
1923	1,513,202	+25 " "

30. The total recorded alienation of land in the State is as follows:

	<u>Acres.</u>
For Agricultural Town & Village Land	822,182
Mining	15,646
Total	837,828

Of the above 642,080 acres are held under completed titles, 195,748 acres under approved applications awaiting issue of titles.

Registration.

31. Registration work in the Office of the Commissioner of Lands and Mines is shown in the following table:

	<u>1922</u>	<u>1923</u>
Total number of transactions	2,549	3,170
Number of Grants registered	826	763
Number transfers registered	638	1,076
Number charges registered	331	535

Minig Enactment.

Total number of transactions	43	64
Number of mining leases registered	16	23
Number of certificates registered	11	16

32. In the District Land Offices in Muar and Batu Pahat the following transactions were registered:

	<u>Muar</u>	<u>Batu Pahat.</u>
Number of Mukim entries registered	643	341
Number of transfers registered	548	181
Number of charges registered	64	17

33. In addition the following transactions were registered in respect of Surat Sementara (incomplete titles).

	<u>Muar.</u>	<u>Batu Pahat.</u>
Original Documents ...	1,840	2,307
Transfers	1,508	1,022
Charges	79	18

Applications.

34. The application books were closed to applicants desiring to open up new areas for rubber, but applications continued to be accepted from persons already in occupation of rubber land who desired to legalize incomplete titles.

Very little new land was alienated for any form of cultivation and there was no demand for building lots in Town areas.

Settlement.

35. The Settlement Enactment, 1920, was put into force with great success in Muar and Batu Pahat. By means of the Enactment, areas of occupied lands are treated in blocks, settled and demarcated and the occupiers are ~~compelled~~ compelled to take out titles. About 6,000 lots have already been settled and it is intended soon to extend the system to other districts. The amount of land occupied in the State without any form of legal title is still very large, and is estimated at about one third of the cultivated area of the State.

Mukim Registers.

36. Mukim Registers are at present in existence only in Muar and Batu Pahat, where the number of entries is steadily increasing. It is hoped, however, to be able to start them in 1924 in Johore Bahru and Segamat, but the small holders have not yet quite realized the advantage of mukim registration as opposed to title by Grant.

Alsagoff Concession, Kukub.

37. The work of settlement was continued during the year and the demarcation of small holdings is nearly completed.

VI- AGRICULTURE.

The Agricultural Department now consists of the Inspector of Agriculture, an Assistant Inspector (temporary) in Muar, five Sub-Inspectors, two Probationers and four Apprentices.

Rubber.

The attention paid by large estates to diseases and pests, cultivation, soil conservation and agricultural sanitation has been very marked. Conservative systems of tapping have been adopted on most Estates. Bud grafting on a large scale has been tried on two Estates, the budding has been successful and the plants are making good headway.

The improvement of the rubber market has not had much effect yet on the condition of the small holdings, and the tapping is uniformly bad and excessive.

Cocoanuts.

A large and flourishing coconut industry has been established on the West Coast. Round Benut the cultivation is chiefly in the hands of Bugis settlers who have paid careful attention to draining. The holdings are usually overgrown with lalang and bushwood, but this is not necessarily an evil as it prevents the very heavy soil there from being baked in the hot day weather.

Padi.

The 1922 and 1923 crop was very poor owing to damage by rats. Owing to the extremely dry weather this seasons padi had to be planted very late and it is too soon to predict the nature of the yield.

The area under padi in Muar is increasing and large areas of hill padi are cultivated by Bugis on the West Coast.

Fruit.

The fruit season during the third quarter of the year was very successful.

Pineapples.

Four canning factories are still operating in the State and the industry is on the increase.

12.

Betel Nuts.

A large exports of these nuts is still maintained in Muar. As a result rule the palms are interplanted with rubber and coconuts and receive scanty attention. The industry is almost entirely in the hands of Chinese.

Other Crops.

The area under patchouli is slowly increasing and a distillery is in operation in Johore Bahru.

There is a fairly large sago palm industry especially in Batu Pahat.

Tapioca is still grown extensively in young rubber ^{clearings} by Chinese.

The cultivation of Gambier is on the decrease but there is still a small export from Kota Tinggi, Central Johore, and Kukub.

Tuba is largely grown by market gardeners, and a Japanese Estate is cultivating it on a large scale and putting an extract on the market.

Diseases and Pests.
Rubber.

Bark Diseases.

Mouldy Root. A strenuous campaign has been made against this disease but the conditions of the holdings in the districts where it is prevalent is such that little improvement can yet be reported.

Black Stripe.

This was reported in Kota Tinggi and Batu Anam but in each case was prevented from spreading.

Brown Bark. ^{Bark}

This is particularly common in the poorer soils of South Johore but it occurs throughout the whole State, being generally due to over tapping and failure to remove affected trees.

47. Stem Diseases.

Pink Disease. Isolated cases have occurred at several places in both North and South Johore, but there has been nothing in the nature of an epidemic.

Ustilina Zonata, Lev. Both stem and collar infections have been noted, but the distribution is not wide.

Root Diseases.

Fomes Lignosus, Klotzsch. This disease is particularly prevalent in young clearings, and also in young rubber interplanted with tapioca.

Wet Rot. (Fomes pseudo-ferreus, Wakef.). The centres of this disease have been kept under observation, and a considerable amount of work has been done in destroying old roots and timber and in isolating diseased areas.

Sphaerostilbe repens. A few cases have been noted but it is comparatively rare and has not caused much damage.

48. Pests.

White ants. These are still the most serious pest the rubber planter has to face in Johore. Stumping and clearing appears to be the only real preventive.

Dear and Pig. Considerable damage is done every year by these animals.

Boring Beetles. (Xyleborus fornicatus). These pests have been found active in neglected trees damaged by fire, lightning or wind.

Coconut Diseases and Pests.

49. Diseases.

A somewhat serious disease was discovered at Benut. It affected trees in groups and appears to be infectious. No organism has yet been discovered and it was is still being investigated by the Agricultural Department.

50. Pests.

Attacks of skipper caterpillars, scale and aphid have been met with but not in serious numbers.

Black beetles (Oryctes rhinoceros Linn.) are still common,

and in Batu Pahat owing to favourable breeding conditions, the damage done is considerable. The work of clearing these breeding grounds is progressing steadily.

Red Weevil (*Rhyncophorus schach*, Oliv.). Damage by this pest is noticeable especially near the Batu Pahat River, where it is very difficult to deal with the stumps of the sago palms on the marshy banks.

Padi.

51. The chief pests are *Podops coarctata*, *Leptocoris varicornis*, Fabr. (especially in Kota Tinggi), and a species of mole cricket known locally as 'sorok-sorok'. Rats have already been mentioned and in addition wild pigs and birds do a considerable amount of damage.

Other Crops.

52. Bananas were attacked by a leaf curling caterpillar (*Erionota thrax*.L.) and also by a weevil identified as *Sphenophorus sordidus*, Gerso.

A herd of elephants caused a good deal of damage to maize and bananas in Kota Tinggi.

Other fruit trees were attacked by a *Psychidae* pest, (especially on jambu bol trees), and by scale and aphid especially on lime and orange trees.

VII.- MINES.

38. The Mines Department consists of a Warden of Mines, an Inspector of Mines, two mines Overseers and the Usual Clerical Staff.

By arrangements with the Federated Malay States the geological survey was continued until towards the end of the year when the Geologist was incapacitate by illness.

39. The total revenue derived from mining in 1922 and 1923 is shown below:

<u>Export Duty.</u>	1922	1923
	₹	₹
(a) Tin-ore	175,872	196,437
(b) Iron-ore	111,367	128,009
Rents on mining leases	15,935	12,786
Premium	7,015	5,856
<u>Licenses.</u>		
(a) Prospecting	10,443	8,673
(b) Individual	675	250
(c) Ore buyers	400	300
Total	321,707	352,311

40. The expenditure in 1923 was \$21,123 compared with \$21,318 in 1922.

41. The amount of tin-ore exported in 1923 was 22,327 pikuls against 25,031 pikuls in 1922.

The Middleton Tin Mines Limited remained idle and operations were confined to ~~the plant of~~ lampan workings.

Tengkil Tin Mines treated 199,500 cubic yards for a return of 2,099 pikuls of ore.

Lingui Tin Mines ^{limited} treated 355,000 cubic yards for a return of 2,924 pikuls of ore.

42. The Japanese Harmatite (Iron-ore) Mine at Bukit Medan produced 154,161 tons of ore against 111,367 in 1922. The labour force has been increased to 990 and an 80 horse-power air compressor plant will shortly be employed for drilling. Thirty-one tongkongs and 11 launches and tugs are employed for the transport of the ore down the river to the sea.

53. The labour force on the mines during 1923 was 3,194 persons and machinery of 691 horse-power was employed. Except on the Japanese Iron mine the whole labour Chinese.

54. Forty-nine and three-quarter tons of china clay were exported from workings at Sungei Perpat. The works here are being employed with the object of turning out 600 tons a month. At present the clay is being exported to India, but it is hoped to arrange also for export to America and to undertake the manufacture of latex cups, tiles and rice bowls.

55. An area of 16,846 acres was held under mining titles in 1923 compared with 18,348 acres in 1922.

56. Prospecting licences over 46,215 acres were issued during the year. Areas amounting to 534 acres were selected and licenses for 21,392 acres remained in force at the end of the year. Prospecting was mainly confined to the Endau District, and two new localities, Ulu Sungei Madek and Ulu Sungei Ambat are now being investigated. Tin has also been found near Bukit Pelali in the Peninsula between the Johore River and the China Sea.

17.

VIII- FORESTS.

62. Exploration was carried out chiefly in the Endau District but work was also done in other parts of the State. Forest very rich in camphor was found south of the Kluang-Mersing road. Generally speaking the timber on the east of the railway is very much better than ^{on} the west.

63. Mangrove reserves of 1,600 acres at Kukub and 20,500 acres on the Pulai River, and an inland reserve of 20,000 acres at Jemaluang were finally gazetted. The final notification of another reserve of 15,000 acres at Gunong Arong was delayed owing to difficulties of survey.

64. Preliminary notifications were published for reserves of 200,000 acres at Bekok, 1,500 acres at Batu Pahat including Gunong Banang and the neighbouring hills, and 900 acres of mangrove at Sungei Pendas near Johore Bahru.

65. Two other reserves at Rengam and Ulu Mersing were provisionally approved by the Government during the year but the preliminary notices had not been issued before its close.

66. There was a marked recovery in the timber market, and in order to prevent the excessive felling of 'chengal' it was found necessary to raise the export duty. The object of preserving 'Chengal' is not only on account of the timber but also because it is the source ^{of} a valuable damar. It is hoped that in time timber cutters will take up other timbers for the export market.

67. The amount of timber actually cut in 1923 was 16,803 tons and the export was 16,099 tons.

68. The amount of firewood and fuel upon which royalty was paid was 35,331 tons. There is little of interest to record under this heading as the mangrove forests are still in need of rest and no coupes were opened during the year.

69. Departmental tappings of Damar Penak were started at Kota Tinggi but only on a small scale owing to difficulty in obtaining labour.

70. The total revenue amounted to \$104,485, being \$55,585 in excess of the expenditure.

7. The revenue for 1922 and 1923 is shown below:

	<u>1922</u>	<u>1923</u>
Timber	47,985	61,512
Firewood and Charcoal ...	10,037	13,365
Minor Produce	23,750	26,875
Other sources	563	2,733
	<u>82,335</u>	<u>104,485</u>

IX. - SURVEYS.

The average effective strength of the staff throughout the year was 64 including the Superintendent and six European Surveyors. Of the European Surveyors on agreement one left on expiration of agreement and one was allowed to resign. Only one of them was replaced.

The following returns shows the State of survey work with reference to requisitions:-

Details.	Grants Lots		Native Holdings.	
	Number	Area in Acres.	Number	Area in Acres.
Unsatisfied requisitions on 31st December, 1922.	2,834	94,309	9,284	30,083
Requisitions received during 1923.	659	28,261	1,672	4,345
	<u>3,493</u>	<u>122,570</u>	<u>10,956</u>	<u>34,428</u>
Requisitions satisfied during 1923.	570	46,964	2,625	7,905
Requisitions cancelled during 1923	76	5,589	46	129
Requisitions remaining 1923 unsatisfied on 31st Dec: 1923.	2,847	70,017	8,285	26,394
	<u>3,493</u>	<u>122,570</u>	<u>10,956</u>	<u>34,428</u>
<u>Details unsatisfied requisitions</u>				
Awaiting Survey or demarcation	756	32,373	1,595	5,138
In hand in field	663	10,610	1,711	5,967
In Land Offices for settlement	494	11,713	2,484	7,819
In Office awaiting, check &c.,	934	15,321	2,495	7,470
	<u>2,847</u>	<u>70,017</u>	<u>8,285</u>	<u>26,394</u>

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

During the year 780 grants, 13 mining leases, 31 agricultural leases, 17 mining certificates, and 3,519 mukin extracts were sent to Collectors.

75 In addition 1,266 lots of an area of 4,815 acres were satisfied in Muar under a Demarcation Scheme in connection with the Settlement Enactment. There probably remain some 35,000 small lots of this nature to be surveyed in the State.

76 Office work included preparation of 181 certified plans of agricultural lands, 78 certified plans of town lands and 118 plans of areas of mukin extract holdings. One thousand and eleven tracings were supplied to Land Offices besides 18 tracing of standard 16 chain and 4 chain sheets. Some 400 miscellaneous tracings were prepared for the use of surveyors and the public.

77 A Topographical plan of part of Johore Bahru town was prepared for reproduction.

78 The amount of field work done departmentally shows a remarkable increase at a reduced cost per acre as is shown below.

		<u>Lots</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Cost.</u>
1922	.....	4,195	23,175	96,191
1923	.....	8,896	42,595	109,417

It must however be pointed out that conditions were peculiarly favourable in 1923. The weather was good and consequently there was little sickness among the field staff. No senior surveyors were on leave and finally large areas of native holdings were being surveyed in a flat country.

Marked progress was especially made in surveys of native holdings under the Settlement Enactment, 1920. In Muar 4,791 lots of an area of 9,960 acres and in Benut 1,375 lots of an area of 19,250 acres were dealt with. In addition to this some 45 miles of standard traverses permanently marked were completed and 5 minor Trigonometrical stations were fixed.

79 During the year 90 lots totalling 6,300 acres were surveyed by contract surveyors at a cost of \$10,500. In future all surveyors surveys are to be carried out departmentally.

80 The expenditure of this Department amounted to \$238,180 being \$40,945 less than in 1922. The total revenue collected by the Land Offices on account of survey was \$55,215.

JUDICIAL.

Thirty eight criminal cases were registered and 12 criminal appeals were heard. Four criminal assizes were held at Johore Bahru, four at Muar and four at Batu Pahat.

Four hundred and four civil suits, 8 civil appeals, 185 administration suits and 332 miscellaneous were registered.

The Court of Appeal sat on three occasions.

MAGISTRATES' COURTS.

A compilation of the return of cases is given:-

	criminal Criminal	Civil.
Johore Bahru (including Kota Tinggi, Kukub and Kluang).....	3,202	910
Muar	1,531	1,139
Batu Pahat	1,136	420
Endau	224	80
Segamat	682	319
	<u>6,775</u>	<u>2,868</u>

22

XI.- POLICE.

84. The strength of the Force was on the 31st December, 27 officers and 948 other ranks and for the first time on record the strength of the rank and file was up to the approved establishment.

85. At the close of the year 49 police stations and 2 headquarter offices were maintained. In addition police detachments were stationed at Sagil, Panchot, Renchong, Sri Gading and Batu Ragi. New police station at Kim Kim and Yong Peng were nearly completed at the end of the year.

RECRUITMENT, CASUALTIES and DISCIPLINE.

86. During the year under review 189 recruits were enlisted, of whom 184 were malays and 5 sikhs. One hundred and thirty-four uniformed officers left the force on pension, discharge or dismissal.

At the close of the year there were only three European officers. At least 2 more are ~~required~~ for efficiency.

87. The discipline of the force continues to improve, and though there is undoubtedly still a considerable amount of ~~ee~~ corruption in the force, it is anticipated that it will continually decrease with the improved standard now required of recruits, and also with the enrolment of a better type of Malay Inspectors.

HEALTH.

88. Five hundred and sixty-five members of the force were admitted to hospital, and 3,146 were treated as out-patients. There were 7 deaths compared with ⁵/₂ in 1922.

CRIME.

89. The total number of offences of all kinds reported was 8,655 compared with 9,280 in 1922. For various causes it appears that the proportion of false reports in Johore is greater than in the rest of the Peninsula. The following figures however show that the decrease in serious crime is being maintained.

			Murder and culpable homicide.	Robberies	Thefts.
1919	...	...	40	107	1,280
1920	...	...	46	119	1,509
1921	...	...	52	154	1,371
1922	...	...	29	109	1,360
1923	...	...	34	72	1,048

90. Not only has the number of reports of robberies decreased, but the type of those reported are generally less formidable than in previous years, and point to the work of casual robber rather than of organized gangs. A daring robbery were committed in Johore Bahru Town in December but two of the three robbers were arrested and subsequently convicted and sentenced. Secret Societies still cause trouble but 27 prosecutions were instituted with good effect. There are however some signs that the activity of the Protectorate and Police in Singapore is driving a considerable number of Secret Society promoters to this State.

FIREARMS.

91. Three thousand two hundred and fifty nine firearms were registered against 3,002 in 1922. There were 46 prosecutions under the Arms Enactment.

WEIGHTS and MEASURES.

92. Thirteen thousand three hundred and ninety two weights and measures were verified by the Police Department and 90 prosecutions were instituted.

MOTOR CARS and DRIVERS.

93. Two hundred and ninety three private cars and 628 hire cars were registered during the year. The corresponding figures for 1922 were 227 and 460. One hundred and fifty six motor lorries compared with 105 in 1922, and 123 motor bicycles against 99 were also registered. Licenses were granted to 556 drivers as against 327 in 1922.

DESTRUCTION OF OFFENSES.

Rebonds amounting to \$1,940 were paid for the destruction

24

24

NOXIOUS ANIMALS.

94. Rewards amounting to \$1,940 were paid for the destruction of noxious animals. Sixty three persons were killed by tigers and 20 by crocodiles.

GAMBLING SUPERVISION.

95. One hundred and fifty five cases were brought and fines amounting to \$6,494 including confiscations were imposed.

FIRES.

96. Sixty two fires were reported to the Police during the year. The most destructive fire occurred at Panchor when plank and attap buildings valued at \$45,000 were destroyed under very suspicious circumstances. Another large fire occurred at Lobok Pekan where wooden buildings valued at \$16,500 were destroyed. Fortunately in none of these fires was there any loss of life.

EXPENDITURE.

97. The expenditure on the Police was ~~\$524,138~~ \$524,920 compared with \$524,138 in 1922

XII. JOHORE MILITARY FORCES.

98. The Johore Military Forces were maintained at their usual efficiency.

99. Field training was carried out in March at Kota Tinggi. It consisted of combined operations with British Troops and His Excellency the ^{General} Officer Commanding expressed his appreciation of the work done by the Forces.

100. A detachment took part with great credit in the parade in honour of His Majesty the King's birthday on the 3rd June. A review was held by His Highness the Sultan at the Parade ground on his birth day (17th September), in which besides the Forces there we also participated the Johore Malay Volunteers, the Police and the Malay College Cadets.

101. The Malay Volunteers were kept to strength, and through the keenness of the officers very marked improvement was noticeable.

EUROPEAN VOLUNTEERS.

102 The European Volunteers were entirely reorganized. The old Force was disbanded and the new "Johore Volunteer Rifles" under the command of Major W. B. Y. Draper, M.C., was constituted on the 29th April. His Highness the Sultan kindly consented to accept the rank of Honary Colonel. An adjutant arrived from England early in the year, and practically every able-bodied European in the State has joined up.

XIII. PRISONS.

Prison Population

103 Admissions to the two State prisons, Johore Bahru and Muar, totalled 1,293 as against 1,421 in 1922.

The daily average numbers for 1922 and 1923 are shown in the following table :-

	1922		1923.	
	Johore Bahru	Muar	Johore Bahru	Muar
Convicted prisoners	257.0	91.2	266.4	93.1
Civil prisoners	27.4	24.2.	7.5	13.3

Convicted prisoners in the State prison numbered as follows:-

	Johore Bahru	Muar
Remaining on 1st January, 1923	282	81
Admitted during 1923	<u>672</u>	<u>619</u>
Total ...	954	700
Released during 1923	701	540
Transferred	-	29
Escaped	1	-
Died	15	3
Executed	1	-
Remaining on 31st December, 1923	<u>236</u>	<u>128</u>
Total	<u>954</u>	<u>700</u>

Classification of prisoners on 31st December, 1923.

	Johore Bahru	Muar	Total
Long Sentence ...	143	-	143
Short Sentence ...	92	128	220
Prisoners on remand ...	16	13	29
Awaiting banishment ...	13	-	13
Sentenced to death ...	1	-	1
Total	<u>265</u>	<u>141</u>	<u>406</u>

HEALTH.

102. There were 15 deaths in the Prison Hospital at Johore Bahru, and there were three deaths in Muar.

The average daily number in hospital were :-

Johore Bahru	.....	.....	.....	5.8
Muar	.....	.....	.....	4.8

DISCIPLINE.

105 Two hundred and fifty two offences by prisoners were dealt with and six floggings were inflicted. There were no serious disorders in either prison.

LABOUR.

106 At Johore Bahru an average of 116 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.

A large number of concrete bricks and pipes were manufactured inside the prison.

Prisoners undergoing hard labour were also employed in baking, carpentering, chick-making, tailoring, 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 54.6.

RECIDIVISM.

107 Of the prisoners admitted during the year 56 had one, 24 two, and 21 three or more previous convictions.

27
EXECUTION.

108 One execution were carried out at Johore Bahru.

STAFF.

109 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.

EXPENDITURE.

110 The expenditure on the maintain maintenance of the Johore Bahru Prison, amounted to \$105,399 against \$116,847 in 1922. The expenditure at Muar was \$24,794 against \$29,558 in 1922.

REVENUE.

111 A sum of \$9,483 was received from the laundry, bakery and workshops at Johore Bahru. A sum of \$546 was collected in Muar.

VAGRANT WARDS.

112 The two state State prisons at Johore Bahru and Muar are also vagrant wards under the Vagrancy Enactment, 1921.

Admissions of vagrants in Johore Bahru vagrant ward during the year were as follows: (There ~~are~~ were no vagrants in the Muar ward during the whole year).

	<u>Johore Bahru.</u>
Remaining on 31st January, 1923.	8
Admitted in 1923	46
	<u>54</u>
	=====
Released during the year	1
Died	4
Repatriated	49
Remaining on 31st December, 1922	-
	<u>54</u>
	=====

Of the vagrants admitted 78.2 per cent were Chinese, 19.6 per cent Indians and 2.2. per cent Javanese.

XIV.- POST OFFICE.

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

	1921	1922	1923
Letters, papers and parcels received	1,968,472	2,423,135	2,894,592
Letters, papers and parcels despatched	1,214,570	1,626,107	1,870,129
Value of Money Orders issued	\$429,028	\$372,208	\$413,065
" " " " Paid	93,698	90,846	95,886

The revenue was \$95,070 as against \$84,803 in 1922. The expenditure was \$95,566 against \$99,499 in 1922.

Telegraphs and Telephones.

Thirty-nine thousand and fifty-eight telegrams were received and 20,832 telegrams were despatched during the year against 30,000 and 14,533 respectively in 1922.

No additions have been made to the trunk route mileage. The number of subscribers increased from 138 to 181.

XV.- MEDICAL.

A Census of the State was taken on the 24th April, 1921. The final figures show that the population was 282,234 compared with 180,412 enumerated at the 1911 Census, an increase of 56.4 per cent.

116. It is not possible to give an exact statement of the population as on 31st December, 1923. The excess of births over deaths from the census date to the end of the year was 2,702. The excess of passengers booked to Johore by the railway over passengers booked from Johore to other places was 598. On the other hand there are no records of the number of persons who arrive and depart by road, and the returns of passengers arriving and leaving by the coasting steamers are incomplete. As far ^e however as can be ascertained the arrivals and departures by such vessels about balanced one another, so that it may be taken that the population is slightly increasing.

117. The number of births registered in 1923 was 10,969 compared with 10,223 in 1922. The number of deaths registered was 8,267 against 8,248 in 1922.

118. On the 1921 Census figures the birth-rate was 35.45 per mille and the death-rate 26.72 per mille. Amongst the Malays the birth-rate was 46.98 per mille and the death-rate 26.07 per mille.

The infantile mortality for the year was ^{196.28} 175.19 per mille.

EPIDEMICS and CONTAGIOUS DISEASES.

119. The territory has again been entirely free from cholera.

Plague.-- Four cases with three deaths.

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis-- There were 9 cases of which 6 were fatal. All the cases were sporadic

Chicken-pox and Measles-- Seven cases of chicken-pox and 46 of measles (including German Measles) were reported. There was one death from measles.

Influenza-- This was ^{more} prevalent than in 1922. 830 cases with ^{were treated} 421 deaths being reported.

death

Veneral Disease. The total number of cases treated in the Government and Estate Hospitals was 898 and there were 6 deaths from Syphilis.

In 1923 a considerable advance was made in the treatment of Syphilis. Previous to July patients were obliged to pay the cost of the drug when anti-syphilitic injections were given but after that date these were given free and in the ordinary course of hospital treatment.

This means that the effectiveness of the treatment became very considerably enhanced in the second half of 1923. The following ~~shew~~ figures shew this.

Number of tubes for injection (Salvarsan, etc) used in 1922.	435 tubes
Number of tubes for injections (Salvarsan, etc) used in 1923.	725 "

Influenzal Pneumonia-- Twenty-one cases with three deaths.

Small-pox-- Only one case which recovered.

Typhoid Fever-- Ten cases were reported, of which 8 were fatal.

Special Diseases.

Ankylostomiasis-- In 1923 the cases were 1,486 and the deaths 52 compared with 1,276 and 46 respectively in 1922.

Beri-beri-- The number of deaths recorded as due to this disease fell from 318 to 83 and the number of cases ~~were~~ treated in the Government Hospitals fell from 396 to 364.

Black Water Fever-- Sixteen cases with eight deaths occurred during the year compared with ⁷37 cases and one death in 1922.

Dysentery and Diarrhoea-- The cases and deaths in the hospitals show an increase from 728 and 141 in 1922 to 1,810 and 215 in 1923.

Malarial Fever-- There is an increase in the malarial ~~fever~~ figures for 1923. ^{But due to} Not only have the total number of deaths ^{been} less (3,687 in 1923 against 3,821 in 1922) ^{and} but the percentage of deaths to total cases treated in the hospitals has enormously improved, (3.28 per cent in 1923 against 5.33 per cent in 1922).

Phthisis-- This disease is unfortunately rapidly increasing both in its incidence and mortality. In the Government Hospitals there were 501 cases and 207 deaths against 408 cases and ¹⁹²1921 deaths in 1922.

HOSPITALS.

The existing Government Hospitals were maintained. Admissions were 12,755. On the 31st December, 1922, there were 956 patients remaining and of the total 11,436 were discharged, 28 were transferred 139 absconded, 1,108 died and 1,000 remained in the hospitals on the 31st December, 1923. The percentage of deaths to the total treated was 8.08.

Maternity Wards.

The number of cases treated in the maternity wards at Johore Bahru was 96 against 62 in 1922. Twenty cases were treated in their own houses against 40 in 1922. At the close of the year 12

12 certified midwives were ~~practising~~ practising in the State, all of whom have been trained locally, in addition 2 midwives were granted certificates to practice midwifery in the State and 5 probationers were entered for training during the year.

Lunatic Asylum?

123 The number of patients at the end of the year was 152. As in previous years the Asylum was visited weekly by the Superintendent of the Singapore Asylum.

Leper Asylum.

124 The number of lepers in the Johore Leper Asylum at the end of the year was 58. All female lepers, of whom there were 4 at the end of the year, are transferred to the Leper Camp at Singapore. ~~Experiment were made on a few cases with the "Mocorgol" treatment but the result on the whole disappointing.~~

Vaccinations.

125 The total number of vaccinations during the year was 11,642 compared with 39,229 in 1922. That the State is undoubtedly ~~very~~ well protected by vaccinations is shown by the fact that there was only one case occurring during the year.

Out-Patients.

126 The number of out-patients treated at the various stations was 56,431 compared with 60,032 in 1922.

Anti-Malarial Measures.

127 A sum of \$14,000 was expended in oiling and the upkeep of anti-malarial drains under the supervision of the Health Department.

128 In Johore Bahru a considerable amount of permanent work was done in annihilating actual and ~~perpetuating~~ potential breeding grounds either by filling or sub-soil drainage.

METRO

METEOROLOGICAL.

Rainfall.- Mersing shows the highest rainfall for Government stations, 105.31 inches. The lowest rainfall for the Government stations was 69.12 at Muar.

Temperature.- Temperature variations were greater than during the previous year, there being a difference of 34 degrees between the highest maximum, 99 (Mersing) and lowest minimum 65 (Kukub).

BUILDINGS.

No works of importance were undertaken.

FINANCIAL.

The expenditure during the year on Personal Emoluments and Other Charges was \$449,323 and the revenue collected was \$32,961.

XVI. VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

This Department was in the charge of H.H. Tungku Abubaker with Veterinary Inspectors at Johore Bahru, Muar and Batu Pahat. In the out stations the Assistant Surgeons are in charge of veterinary work.

133. There were two slight outbreaks of Foot and Mouth Disease during the year, one in Batu Pahat and one in Muar; both were efficiently controlled.

Particular attention was paid to the inspection of animals intended for sale slaughter, and in the 3 big towns no animal is allowed to be slaughtered without a previous veterinary examination. The dairies are also carefully supervised, and a marked improvement is noticeable in their sanitary condition.

134. The Department is also in charge of the Preventive of Cruelty to Animals, and although there was several cases brought before the Courts the treatment of their animals by bullock-cart drivers has undoubtedly improved.

XVII. — EDUCATION.

Vernacular Schools.

Schools	Number	Enrolment	Average attendance	Staff.
Boys	68	4,691	3,731	130
Girls	5	271	224	8

Religious Classes.

Boys	22	1,313	970	35
Girls	4	171	140	4

The average attendance at the vernacular schools was 77.6 per cent of the enrolment.

Malay Training College - Ten teachers were under training.

English Schools.

English College

English Schools.

Schools	Enrolment	Percentage of attendances	Masters	Pupil Teachers
English College	80	-	6	-
Bukit Zahrah School	594	90.8	23	3
Muar School	265	91.2	11	-
Batu Pahat School	305	93.6	13	1
Total ..	1,244		53	4

In 1923 twenty-one boys were entered for the Junior Cambridge Examination and 17 passes were obtained. For the first time in the history of Johore Education boys were entered for Senior Cambridge..These entries numbered 7 and 4 passes were obtained.

The Standard for the Government Entrance Examination which is carries out by a local board of examiners was raised and 20 boys were passed. Most of them will remain at the schools to sit for the Junior Cambridge.

English College.- The strength was maintained at 80 and the health was generally good. A bathing pagar was started in June and there are now only 12 boys unable to swim. The Cadet-corps was drilled twice a week and gave a very creditable account of itself at the parade held on H.H. the Sultan's birthday. In scholartic results the College is rather disappointing and has for the last 2 years lost its premier position in the State.

Bukit Zahrah Day School.- The number rose to nearly 600 and entries into the Primary Class had to be suspended owing to lack of accommodation. This will be provided for by the provision of extra Vernacular accommodation elsewhere.

Muar Day School.- The number rose from 202 to 265.

Batu Pahat Day School.- The number rose from 241 to 305, and even with the extra class rooms added at the beginning of the year there is very little room to spare.

XVIII. TOWN BOARDS.

Johore Bahru and Kota Tinggi.

This year Town Board was in charge of the Townships of Johore Bahru, Tebrau, Renggam and Kluang. Another Board but having the same President was in charge of the township of Kota Tinggi.

The total revenue collected by these two Boards was \$194,316 compared with \$218,910 in 1922. The decrease is partly due to the secession of Segamat, Buloh Kasap and Batu Anam, and also to the fact that the Town Board did not pay for its own Electric supply and so reduced the receipts under Electric Lighting.

There was slight renewal in buildings enterprise in Johore Bahru and the buliding of Sedenak Village was completed.

The Board controls markets at Johore Bahru, Tebrau and Kota Tinggi. The prices of food-stuffs were fairly steady throughout the year but are still considerably above pre-war prices.

It was an eventful year from the Town Board point of view Kota Tinggi was fairly prosperous but in Johore Bahru and Kluang empty shop houses and business failures were in evidence, though there was some recovery at the end of the year.

MUAR.

The Muar Board is in charge of the townships of Bandar Maharani, Panchor, and Tangkak.

The revenue was \$154,118 in 1923 compared with \$117,789 in 1922, the expenditure was \$75,828 compared with \$79,927 i The large increase in revenue is mainly due to activity in collecting arrears. In comparing expenditure and revenue it must be remembered that in all the Boards the expenditure on roads, buildings &c., is borne by the Public Works Department and that expenditure under the Town Board Votes only covers Administration and Causeway. Conservancy.

Nine shop houses and 25 compound houses were built during the year.

BATU PAHAT

137. This Board is in charge of the townships of Bandar Penggaram (Batu Pahat) and Senggarang.

The revenue was \$72,373 compared with \$59,620 in 1922 and the expenditure was \$40,485 compared with \$35,680.

There was several considerable building activity in Bandar Penggaram. During the year 35 new shop houses have been completed and 30 were in course of erection, and in addition 68 compound houses were either built or building. On the other hand 108 houses were condemned by the Board as unfit for use.

ENDAU.

140. This Board is in charge of the townships of Mersing and Jemaluang. The revenue for 1923 was \$11,245 and the expenditure was \$13,595.

SEGAMAT.

141. This Board is in charge of the townships of Segamat Batu Anam and Buloh Kasap. The revenue collected was \$17,056 compared with \$14,056 in 1922.

XIX. PUBLIC WORKS.

142. The provision and expenditure during the year were:-

Provision	\$3,494,749
Expenditure	\$2,554,811

143. The expenditure in 1923 was greater than in 1922 by \$385,492. The cost of supervision including special temporary but excluding other charges allowances was 11 per cent of the total expenditure.

WORKS and BUILDINGS.

The expenditure was as follows :-

Annually Recurrent	\$129,674
Special Services	\$314,381

\$47,165 was spent in constructing quarters for Subordinates officers.

\$23,677 was spent on reclamation of land.

37
76
\$24,254 was spent on protection of sea and river walls.

\$11,582 was spent on repairs to and renewals of Malay Schools.

ROADS, STREETS and BRIDGES.

The provision and expenditure during the year were as follows :-

<u>Annually Recurrent</u>		<u>Special Services.</u>	
<u>Provision</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Provision</u>	<u>Expenditure.</u>
\$ 795,500	\$ 778,100	\$ 416,467	\$ 350,809

MILEAGE.

The following shows mileage on roads and paths upkept during the year :-

	<u>Town Roads.</u>		<u>Country Roads.</u>	
	<u>Metalled</u>	<u>Natural</u>	<u>Metalled</u>	<u>Natural.</u>
Johore Bahru	47.00	-	90.00	-
Segamat	2.75	-	69.00	-
Kota Tinggi	3.00	-	30.00	-
Kluang	4.00	-	88.00	2.00
Luar	18.50	-	122.00	6.00
Batu Pahat	10.19	-	65.00	-
Endau	3.50	-	38.25	-
Total	88.94	-	502.25	8.00

The total length of roads upkept was 599.19 miles at a cost of \$1,298 per mile compared with a cost of \$1,196 per mile in 1922.

SPECIAL SERVICES.

145
Road Extension Scheme.- At the end of 1922 there were 248.5 miles open to traffic and during 1923 an additional 27.5 miles were opened, making a total of 276.

There were, in addition 8.5 miles under construction.

The total expenditure during the year was \$113,647 making a total since 1911 of \$4,602,605.

Section X.- Labis-Muar, 47 miles.- This road is metalled to the 15½ mile (Landron Estate), from the Muar end, one mile at the Rengchong end.

Section XI.- Kluang-Batu Pahat, 33 miles.- Completed in 1917.

Section XII.- Ayer Hitam-Muar, 44 miles. The section between Ayer Hitam and Yong Peng (12 miles) is completed and open to traffic. Fifteen miles from Muar are metalled and metalling and bridging for one mile beyond Yong Peng ^{is} also completed.

Section XIII.- Kulai-Ayer Hitam, 38 miles.- Completed in 1919.

Section XIV.- Renggam-Ulu Benut, 8 miles.- Completed in 1919.

Section XV.- Kluang-Mersing, 65 miles.- Completed and open to traffic ~~in 1919~~ early in the year.

Section XVI.- Yong-Peng-Paloh, 19 miles. This section has been substituted for the Ulu Lenggor-Endau Road. Only one mile remained to be metalled at the end of the year.

Section XVII.- Gunung Pulai-Pontian Kechil, 19 miles. This has been substituted for the Rengchong-Labis portion of Section X. Five miles of earthwork and 5 miles of bridging and metalling were completed.

Section XVIII.- Layang-Layang-Ulu Johore, 4½ miles - earth road only.

The position on each section was as follows:

- Section I.- Batu Anam-Tambang, 8½ 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-Tengkak, 19 miles - Completed in 1918.
- Section V. - Tengkak-Sungei Mati, 9 miles. - Completed in 1914.
- Section VI.- Sungei Mati-Kesang, 5 Miles. - Completed in 1912.
- Section VII. - Tengkak-Chohong, 3 miles.- Completed in 1913.
- Section VIII. and IX. - Tenang-Segamat, 12 miles. - This road was substituted for the Segamat-S'Pinang and Tenang-Kampong Tenang Roads. Completed and opened to traffic in 1921.

Section X re. see slip A.

New Construction.

\$13,562 was spent in metalling the first 3 miles of the Senggarang-Benut Road. \$26,082 was spent in construction of new streets and back lanes, \$24,882 in town drains and \$35,705 on waterproofing roads.

Bridges.

\$103,785 was spent on the substitution of permanent for temporary bridges and culverts throughout the State.

Miscellaneous.

The provision and expenditure during the year were as follows:

<u>Annually Recurrent</u>		<u>Special Services</u>	
<u>Provision</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Provision</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
\$	\$	\$	\$
365,815	295,458	538,966	382,811

A water supply for Segamat was nearly completed at a cost of \$21,228. ~~\$48,074 was spent on the installation of pumps~~

\$48,074 was spent on the installation of pumps for the reservoir at Johore Bahru and the work is now well in hand.

\$158,718 was spent on pipes and fittings and general improvement of the Muar water supply.

\$21,134 was spent on the purchase and erection of stone breaking plant and 16 lorries were purchased at a cost of \$69,712.

3940 36
XX.- DISTRICTS.

MUAR.

150 The revenue collected in the district was \$1,054,299 in 1923 compared with \$877,944 in 1922. Land revenue increased from \$289,761 in 1922 to \$434,903 in 1923.

Five hundred and ninety-five steam ships of a tonnage of 123,422 tons entered the port and the same number and tonnage left. In addition 1,189 native vessels (tonnage 19,852 tons) entered and 1,244 vessels (tonnage 29,261) left.

The number of passengers arriving at the port was 19,878 and the number leaving was 22,460.

BATU PAHAT.

151 The revenue collected was \$849,558 compared with \$617,340 in 1922. Land revenue rose from \$166,922 in 1922 to \$240,270 in 1923.

There is on an average rather more than one steamer a day to and from Singapore, and in 1923, 15,842 passengers arrived and 13,841 passengers left.

ENDAU.

152 The revenue collected was \$222,876 against \$214,982 in 1922. Land revenue decreased from \$71,944 in 1922 to \$55,931 in 1923.

The tonnage of ships entering the port was 2,914 tons; the number of passengers arriving was 1,706 and leaving 1,067.

SEGAMAT.

153 The revenue collected was \$286,332 against 228,419 in 1922.

KOTA TINGGI.

154 The revenue of this District was \$407,956. An Assistant Adviser was stationed there in November.

KUABU.

155 The revenue of this District was \$278,730. The Receiver of the Alsagoff Estate assists in the Courts and is in charge of the Land Office in addition to his other duties.

4/2/20

The revenue in the Districts does not include the revenue derived from the estates of the Sultan.

XXI.- COUNCIL OF STATE AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

The Council of State met on six occasions and the following Enactments were passed :-

1. Uniforms.
2. Weight and Measures.
3. Official Secrets.
4. Bankruptcy
5. Analyst' Certificates.
6. Aliens Restriction.
7. Telegraphs.
8. Deleterious Drugs (Amendment)
9. Export of Rubber (Restriction).
10. Wild Animals and Birds Protection.
11. Johore Volunteer Forces (Amendment).
12. Passport.

The Executive Council met as usual every week.

XXII.- STAFF.Malay Staff.

Last year I recorded the retirement of Dato Mohamed bin Mahbob, C.M.G., the Chief Minister, owing to ill-health and I regret this year to record his death which took place on 16th May.

I have also to record the deaths of Inchi Jaafar bin Hussain, the District Officer at Kota Tinggi and also of Captain Yahya bin Mohamed Ali, who had only recently retired for the post of Marine Harbour Master, Johore, for many years.

Following on the resignation of Ungku Mohamed bin Mohamed Khalid, the State Commissioner, Muar, Ungku Ali bin Abdullah was transferred from Batu Pahat to Muar. He was succeeded by Ungku Hussain bin Abdul Rahman the State Commissioner, Endau, and Ungku Hussain was succeeded at Mersing by Dator Abdullah bin Haji Othman.

40

On the death of Inchi Jaafar bin Hussain, Inchi Mentol bin Haji Ahmed was transferred from Tangkak to Kota Tinggi and he was succeeded by Inchi Abdulghani bin Arshad.

On the occasion of His Highness' birthday, Ungku Abdul Aziz bin Abdul Majid was given the post of Deputy Chief Minister, a post that had been for some years in abeyance. Ungku Abdul Aziz, however, continues to perform in addition his duties as Auditor.

EUROPEAN STAFF.

Mr. W. D. Scott., the Commissioner of Lands and Mines retired on pension in August. He was succeeded by Captain Meadows Frost, M.C., but as the latter was on leave, Mr. G. E. Shaw, O.B.E., held the acting appointment during the remainder of the year.

Mr. F. E. Taylor was transferred to the Federated Malay States in September and was succeeded as Commissioner of Trade and Customs by Mr. G. E. Cator.

Mr. Millington on going on leave was succeeded in February by Mr. M. E. Sherwood, O.B.E., as Assistant Adviser, Muar.

Mr. F. T. Tree at Batu Pahat was succeeded by Mr. M. C. Hay in September.

On the departure on leave of Mr. Whitehouse, the Receiver of the Alsagoff Estate at Kukub, he was relieved by Mr. F. K. Wilson from Segamat and Mr. H. F. Monk was transferred from Mersing to Segamat. The post of Assistant Adviser at Mersing was not filled but in place thereof an Assistant Adviser was stationed at Kota Tinggi. Captain North Hunt being transferred from Batu Pahat where he had been acting as 2nd Assistant Adviser. He in turn was replaced at Batu Pahat by Mr. Dawson.

Mr. A. C. Jomaron was transferred to Kelantan in July and he was relieved as 2nd Assistant Adviser at Myar by Mr. Cockman.

Dr. W. B. Burne Orme retired on pension from the post of Principal Medical Officer, Johore, in July June, after 3 years of excellent administrative work. Dr. R. D. Fitzgerald, M.C., held the acting appointment till the end of the year.

XXIII.- GENERAL.

The occasion of His Highness the Sultan 50th birthday on the 17th September, was ~~celebrated~~ celebrated enthusiastically all over the State. In Johore Bahru in addition to the usual ceremonial there was a Polo Tournament in which His Highness' sons took a prominent part. His Highness the Sultan of Perak brought a team down from Perak and there were also team from Selangor and Singapore.

I regret to record that His Highness the Sultan has been in indifferent health for some time past and he found it necessary to give up most of his active work in the State from the beginning of November. His Highness The Tungku Mahkota was appointed temporarily as President of the Executive Council and he has ably carried out his duties in that capacity.

Mr. H. Marriott was General Adviser during the year and this report was written by him. The delay in publication is due to certain figures not being available earlier.

H. Marriott

Ag. General Adviser.

Johore Bahru,

10 July, 1924.

A P P E N D I C E S.

A. FINANCIAL RETURNS -

- (i) Assets and Liabilities 1922 and 1923.
- (ii) Revenue Receipts.
- (iii) Expenditure.

B. TRADE RETURNS -

- (i) Imports, 1922 and 1923.
- (ii) Exports, 1922 and 1923.
- (iii) Trade Returns, 1914 - 1923.

C. STATISTICAL RETURN, 1914 - 1923.

Appendix A. (i)

Statement of Assets and Liabilities on the 31st December, 1923, with corresponding figures for 1922.

Liabilities	31st December 1922.	31st December 1923.	Assets	31st December 1922.	31st Dec. 1923
Deposits	675,913 49	756,856 46	Cash	1,987,722 45	3,377,959 91
S.S. Loans	800,000 00	800,000 00	Cash-in-transit	122,567 70	181,394 77
Suspense	3,506 75	-- --	Investments (at cost) :-		
Surplus	4,265,431 94	8,296,220 54	5% War Loan Bonds 1929/47 £47,150	\$ 381,589.95	
			5% War Loan Stock 1929/47 £28,479,15.8	217,220.58	
			4% Nigeria Stock 1963 £2,191.18.9	16,206.39	
			5 1/2% S.S. Conversion Loan 1929 \$631,000-	595,830.71	
			5 1/2% S.S. War Loan 1928 \$601,900-	558,435.26	
			5% Victory Loan 1934 \$3,900-	3,461.25	
			Fixed Deposits	3,507,052.61	
			Due by other Governments	265,152 75	628,304 39
			Stock of Chandu	8,832 00	2,106 81
			Advances	468,855 18	344,317 72
			Loans	37,995 00	37,930 00
			Suspense	-- --	1,260 31
	5,744,852 18	9,853,077 00		5,744,852 18	9,853,077 00

2/28

Appendix A. (ii).

Comparative Statement of Actual Revenue for 1922 and 1923.

Head of Revenue	Actual 1922	Actual 1923	Increase	Decrease
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Land Revenue	1,224,989	1,510,158	285,168	
Forest Revenue	86,686	105,005	18,319	
Customs	2,098,595	3,878,086	1,779,491	
Licenses, Excise etc.	3,838,615	4,058,975	220,360	
Fees of Court, etc:	178,664	174,594		4,069
Posts and Telegraphs	85,153	94,420	9,266	
Port & Harbour Dues	29,974	31,001	1,027	
Railways	357,000	357,000		
Interest	137,159	162,531	25,372	
Miscellaneous Receipts	7,278	15,556	8,278	
Municipal	408,073	443,967	35,893	
Land Sales	173,032	263,657	90,624	
	8,625,223	11,094,954	2,473,801	4,069

4058.975
 3857.467

 201.508

49/100

Appendix A. (iii).

Comparative Statement of Actual Expenditure for 1922 & 1923.

Head of Expenditure	Actual 1922	Actual 1923	Increase	Decrease
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Pensions, Retired Allces. &c:	179,374	178,219	.....	1,155
Personal Emoluments	2,368,716	2,476,291	107,574	.....
Other Charges	1,273,588	1,199,537	.....	73,851
Railways	24	.....	.....	24
Transport	32,623	30,005	.....	2,617
Interest	49,807	56,000	6,192	.....
Miscellaneous Services	3,039,540	930,912	.....	2,108,628
Purchase of Land	19,518	10,018	.....	9,499
Public Works A. R.	1,089,538	1,200,327	110,788	.....
Public Works S.S.	733,340	982,854	249,514	.....
	8,785,873	7,064,166	474,070	2,195,778