

With the Compliments
of
The General Adviser, Johore.

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FOR

1937

BY

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JOHORE BAHRU:

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STATE OF JOHORE
ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1937.

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE AND HISTORY.

1. Johore lies at the extreme south of the Malay Peninsula. It is bounded on the north by Pahang, on the north-west by Negri Sembilan and Malacca, on the west by the Straits of Malacca, on the south by the Straits of Tebrau, and on the east by the China Sea. Its area like that of Wales is approximately 7,500 square miles. The interior is in great part covered with jungle. The country is less mountainous than any other part of the Peninsula.

2. The following was the rainfall recorded in 1936 and 1937:—

	1936	1937
	—	—
	Inches.	Inches.
Johore Bahru (South) ..	112.92	104.22
Kota Tinggi (South-east) ..	119.56	116.70
Pontian (South-west) ..	105.27	87.59
Kluang (Central) ..	95.86	98.88
Batu Pahat (west) ..	120.10	83.86
Mersing (East) ..	147.31	96.40
Segamat (North) ..	73.19	79.08
Muar (North-west) ..	128.10	98.17

The highest rainfall was recorded at Johore River Estate, Kota Tinggi, *viz.* 151.98 inches; the lowest at Paya Lang Estate, Segamat, *viz.* 68.49 inches. The highest average maximum temperature recorded was 93.04° F at Muar in February, the lowest 81.8° F at Mersing in December. The highest average minimum temperature recorded was 75.20° F. at Segamat in April, the lowest 69.8° F at Kota Tinggi in April. The highest maximum temperature recorded was 99° F at Muar on the 1st December; the lowest 74° F at Mersing on 21st December. The highest minimum temperature recorded was 83° F at Pontian on the 10th December; the lowest 60° F at Muar on the 4th February.

During the past five years the temperature has been as follows:—

Year	Highest Maximum	Lowest Minimum
1933	97°F.	64°F.
1934	98°F.	65°F.
1935	99°F.	64°F.
1936	97°F.	62°F.
1937	99°F.	60°F.

* 3. In the days of Buddhist Singapore there must have been traffic up the great Johore river of the hinterland, whose upper reaches offered tin, camphor and aboriginal slaves. At Ganggayu, which is identified with the still existing tributary of the Johore river called Lenggiu, one of the 11th century Chola kings is said by the *Malay Annals* to have built a fort of black stone but it has never been traced. Perhaps, too, the Ji-lo-t'ing, of which Chao Ju-Kua wrote in 1225 A.D., was the modern Jelutong at the south-east corner of Johore.

In a Javanese work the *Nagarakretagama* composed in 1365 A.D. we reach historical fact. It speaks of Ujong Medini, that is, Ujong Tanah or Land's End (as Johore was often called) as one of the countries subdued by Majapahit just before that date along with Pahang and Tumasik or Old Singapore.

4. Malacca then grew to be the first trading centre of the East. After its conquest by the Portuguese in 1511, the son of the last ruler of Malacca settled in Johore and continued the historic Sultanate. The history of the next 300 years is an almost uninterrupted record of wars. Hostilities with the Portuguese persisted nearly until the arrival of the Dutch in 1602. Johore bears no small part in Dutch colonial history; relations were friendly, despite a diplomatic struggle for commercial privileges. But the conquest of Batu Sawar (near Kota Tinggi) by the Achinese in 1615 closed one chapter of Johore history as the conquest of Johore Lama by the Portuguese in 1587 had closed another, and it appeared then to the Dutch that the renowned kingdom of Johore had come to an end. In return

* The following historical paragraphs were compiled by Sir Richard Winstedt, K.B.E., C.M.G., D. LITT., late General Adviser.

for assistance at the attack on Malacca in 1641, the Dutch tried to restore Johore to its position as premier Malay State. But the capital was burnt by Jambi in 1673: in 1699 the Sultan was assassinated, and in 1717 the throne was seized by a Sumatran adventurer, Raja Kechil. Then the Bugis appeared and the capital of the old empire was transferred to the Riau Archipelago.

5. After continuous intrigues between the Malay and Bugis chiefs, the Dutch in 1784 recognized the Sultan of Lingga as ruler of the Johore empire, drove the Bugis from Riau and stationed there a Resident with a garrison: the Malay Sultan and Bugis Viceroy accepted the position of dependent princes but the old empire was in a state of dissolution, the Bendahara and Temenggong being virtually territorial chiefs in Pahang and Johore respectively.

This was the position when the British, by virtue of treaties made in 1819 and 1824, obtained a complete cession of the island of Singapore. Visitors emphasize the then deserted character of Johore: in 1847 Johore Lama consisted of 25 huts, and not till 1855 was the capital moved to its present situation at Johore Bahru.

6. The extension of the Pax Britannica "helped Johore to grow populous again". Moreover since 1855 the country has been governed by enlightened and progressive rulers, Sultan Abubakar who died in 1895 and Sultan Ibrahim the present ruler. In 1895 the Sultan undertook to receive a British agent having the functions of a Consular officer; in 1910, having had an unofficial adviser for some years, the Sultan reorganized his Government with the assistance of the Governor of the Straits Settlements; in 1914 a General Adviser with enlarged powers was appointed. The recent history of the State has been a record of continued prosperity. Since 1924 the completion of a causeway across the Straits of Tebrau has permitted uninterrupted traffic by rail and road between Johore and Singapore and by railway between Singapore and Bangkok.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

7. In 1895 the late Sultan Abubakar gave Johore a written constitution. It provided for the election of the Sovereign and the State allowance of His Highness and his family and for the descent or succession. It provided also for the constitution and duties of:

- (a) a Council of 8 to 12 Johore Malay "assistants and Ministers and coadjutors to the Sovereign"—it corresponds broadly to a Privy Council—

(b) a State Council of 16 or more members presided over by the Mentri or Prime Minister, with functions similar to those of the Legislative Council of a British Colony, its enactments requiring the consent of the Sultan which under certain conditions must be given. "If there shall be any enactment or regulation or matter or thing not approved or sanctioned by the Sovereign, it may be introduced again at the next meeting of the Council of State, and if for three times successively it shall not have been approved, the said matter may not again be introduced until one year has elapsed from the time it was last considered. Should the matter be again decided in the same manner by the Council of State for the fourth time, it shall be expedient on the part of the Sovereign to approve and sanction the same, because the moral responsibility of the Sovereign then entirely ceases". Members are appointed by the Sultan with the advice or concurrence of the Council of Ministers. Under a supplementary ordinance of 1914 they need not all be Malays and actually include Europeans official and unofficial, Chinese and Indian.

In 1912 Sultan Ibrahim added:

(c) an Executive Council, to be presided over by the Sultan, which has functions similar to those of the Executive Council in a British Colony. To it are referred all applications for agricultural and mining lands, all P. W. D. contracts and tenders, questions of promotion as well as the initiation of legislation and any other matters of importance.

8. By an agreement signed in 1914 Johore agreed to receive and provide a residence for a British General Adviser, "whose advice must be asked and acted upon on all matters affecting the general administration of the country and on all questions other than those touching Malay Religion and Custom..... The collection and control of all revenues of the country shall be regulated under the advice of the General Adviser".

If there is a difference of opinion between the Sultan and the General Adviser, it was agreed that the opinion of the State Council should be taken and communicated to the High Commissioner along with the views of the General Adviser.

Johore then also agreed to have European Judges, and to appoint European official members on its Executive Council; Malay and European officers were to be treated on terms of equality. European officers are seconded to the State from the Malayan Civil Service and the big joint departments of Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States. Both Malay and English are official languages for use in the Courts.

9. Under the aforesaid constitution with its several Councils administration is carried on by the Malay Mentri or Prime Minister with the Malay State Secretary as the Government's official spokesman and a number of other Malay officials; policy and executive action being subject to the scrutiny and approval of the General Adviser who is assisted by various British officers, namely Legal and Financial Advisers, Commissioners of Lands and Mines, Trade and Customs and Police, a Warden of Mines, a Principal Medical Officer, a State Engineer, a Controller of Labour, a Protector of Chinese, a State Agricultural Officer, a Superintendent of Education, a Conservator of Forests, a Controller of Posts, Telegraphs, a Superintendent of Surveys and a Chief Electrical Engineer. All these heads of departments have, in turn, their assistants European and Malay. There are a Malay Treasurer and a Malay Auditor, both with the Financial Commissioner to advise them. There are Malay State Commissioners in outlying districts, Malay District Officers, Collectors of Land Revenue, Custom officers, Inspectors of Police and so on.

10. The power of revising death sentences lies with the Sultan advised by his Executive Council. Land is held from the Sultan.

III.—POPULATION.

11. Mr C. A. Vlieland, M.C.S., writes as follows:—

The mean population of Johore in 1937, as estimated by methods IA and IIB of paragraph 420 of the 1931 Census Report, was

	Males	Females	Persons
Europeans ..	650	280	930
Eurasians ..	200	180	380
Malaysians ..	137,500	130,000	267,500
Chinese ..	173,800	94,500	268,300
Indians ..	43,600	29,000	72,600
Others ..	2,200	1,600	3,800
Total ..	357,950	255,560	613,510

The following table gives the estimated total mean population for each of the eight years 1930 to 1937, with the actual enumerated population of the 1st April, 1931, for comparison:—

	Males	Females	Persons
1930	372,300	197,100	569,400
1931	308,600	179,800	488,400
1932	277,200	175,400	452,600
1933	267,900	187,000	454,900
1934	285,200	188,300	473,500
1935	349,100	215,600	564,700
1936	391,400	239,800	631,200
1937	357,950	255,560	613,510
1931 (Census)	323,413	181,898	505,311

It appears that the great influx of male population which occurred in 1935 and 1936 has not been maintained, but that there has been a considerable exodus due to the fall in the economic barometer. The increase in female population on the other hand continued throughout 1937 and this increase, combined with the exodus of surplus male immigrants, resulted in a further movement of the sex-ratio in the direction of normality. These causes naturally produced a marked increase in the general birth-rate, which had declined in the previous three years owing to the set-back in the progress of the sex-ratio.

The general death-rate was slightly higher than in 1936, being 21.10 per mille as compared with 20.01. In considering this death-rate, it must however, be borne in mind that a rise in the birth-rate necessarily involves an increase in the death-rate, other things being equal, and the rise in the death-rate recorded for 1937 need cause no concern. The infantile mortality rate, which is a highly sensitive index of public health, in fact showed a gratifying fall.

The following table gives the general birth and death rates and infantile mortality rates for the population of all races combined for the past eight years:—

	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infantile Mortality Rate
1930	35.84	24.89	186
1931	39.41	22.20	152
1932	40.61	21.00	140
1933	44.36	21.41	149
1934	43.42	27.14	228
1935	40.77	23.42	182
1936	40.87	20.01	181
1937	44.10	21.10	154

IV.—HEALTH.

12. The following figures throw some light upon the incidence of disease.

The principal groups of diseases leading to death are as follows:—

Fever not specified	4,712
Convulsions	1,796
Premature birth and diseases of infancy	1,202
Pneumonia	950
Malaria	457
Old age	608
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	558
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	421
Beri Beri	254
Heart disease	226
Diseases of pregnancy, child birth and puerperal state	230
Dysentery	132

The following are the statistics for communicable diseases, treated in Government Hospitals during the last two years:—

	Malaria (positive)	Malaria (unspecified)	Beri Beri	Tuberculosis Pulmonary	Dysentery	Diarrhoea	Pneumonia	Ankylostomiasis	Influenza	Veneral Diseases	Yaws	Other diseases	Total
1936 Cases	5,923	1,838	685	813	606	573	923	1,236	1,666	929	51	25,773	41,016
Deaths	189	37	67	217	92	88	366	13	—	17	—	1,231	2,317
1937 Cases	7,765	1,333	372	698	641	629	948	1,256	2,074	1,332	45	26,141	43,234
Deaths	268	44	33	277	103	112	399	10	10	6	—	1,288	2,550

The following are the statistics for dangerous and infectious diseases:—

	Small-pox	Chicken-pox	Cerebro Spinal Fever	Typhoid Fever	Dysentery	Diphtheria	Measles	Tropical Typhus	Encephalitis lethargica	Acute poliomyelitis	Scarlet Fever	Typhoid Fever	Total
1936 Cases	4	182	6	331	22	34	55	5	—	7	—	—	646
Deaths	2	—	6	67	1	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	93
1937 Cases	—	135	11	301	20	77	1,064	3	1	—	2	5	1,621
Deaths	—	—	9	70	5	27	1	—	1	—	—	—	113

HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES.

13. *In-patients*.—The admissions were 41,142 against 38,805 in 1936, the total number treated being 43,234 as compared with 41,005 during 1936. The percentage of deaths to total treated was 5.90 as compared with 5.66 in 1936.

Out-patients.—The number of new cases treated was 258,800 compared with 174,075 in 1936. 120,875 were attended by five motor travelling dispensaries in Johore Bahru, Muar, Batu Pahat, Segamat and Kluang districts. The number of attendances during the year was 348,642 as against 265,894 in 1936.

Maternity Work.—3,026 cases were admitted to Government hospitals as against 2,743 in 1936. 172 confinements were attended at patients' houses. 64 ante-natal and 469 post-natal cases visits were made to patients' homes. During the year 88 certified midwives were practising in the State, and 30 probationer midwives were in training.

Women and Children's Clinics, (Johore Bahru, Muar, Batu Pahat, and Segamat).

33,420 infants and children under twelve years old were seen at the above centres. The number of healthy infants under one year old seen were 3,361. All other cases over twelve years old seen were 35,677. The total attendances were 69,097. 6,984 ante-natal cases were seen. 4,250 dressings, 9,975 weighings of 3,635 new babies and 1,949 vaccinations were done. 33,414 domiciliary visits, 40,846 visits to women and 65,719 visits to infants and children were paid. 716 maternity cases and 78 abnormal labours were conducted.

Mental Hospital.—The number of cases remaining on 31st December, 1936, was 506. There were 206 new admissions, making a total of 712. Of these 101 were discharged, 8 transferred, 2 absconded and 40 died. 561 patients remained at the end of the year. The total number of criminal lunatics treated was 38 including 7 vagrants. There were 2 escapes and no suicides or fatalities during the year. Meetings were held monthly by the Board of Visitors to the Mental Hospital.

The Leper Asylum contained 245 lepers at the end of 1936. During the year 114 new cases were admitted. The total number of lepers treated was 359. From the Asylum 62 lepers absconded, 16 were discharged and 14 died. 213 males and 54 females remained in the Leper Asylum at the end of the year. The attendance in the primary school was 22 of which 4 were girls.

Prison Hospitals—

(a) *Johore Bahru*.—194 cases were treated as in-patients during the year, with 5 deaths. There were three cases of judicial executions. The total number of attendances as out-patients during the year was 14,620.

(b) *Muar*.—83 cases with no deaths were treated as in-patients. The total number of new out-patients treated during the year was 573, and the total number of attendances as out-patients was 2,288.

14. *Johore Police Force*.—Out of a total strength of 67 officers and 1,275 other ranks in the Johore Police Force, 522 were admitted to hospitals in the State during the year. The total number of in-patients treated was 533 including 11 cases remaining from 1936. 59 cases of Malaria fever and 20 cases of eye diseases were admitted. There were four deaths in hospitals. The number of cases treated as out-patients was 3,483.

15. *Johore Military Forces*.—Out of a total strength of 39 officers and 890 other ranks in the Johore Military Forces, 517 were admitted to hospitals. The total number of in-patients treated was 530. There were 2 deaths. The total number of cases treated as out-patients during the year was 10,649.

V.—HOUSING.

16. The house accommodation may be divided into two broad classes, (a) houses in the country and (b) houses in towns.

(a) In the country the housing position is satisfactory. The Malay lives on his own land in a house built by himself or a building contractor. The poorer the house the better ventilated; the humble house is built of palm-thatch or bark, the wealthier of sawn planks with windows that superstition and fear of thieves keep closed at night. On estates the Indian labourer is housed in lines approved by the Health Department. To the cheap and readily accessible materials of the country the industrious Chinese quickly respond and the longer they live in the Malay Peninsula the bigger and more hygienic their dwellings. All that is really required is a roof to keep off the rain; otherwise the more open a house in the tropical climate the healthier and more comfortable.

(b) In towns the chief difficulties are insufficient ventilation and the illegal construction of cubicles. But no house can be built until its plan has been approved by a Town Board Committee, whose members include a Government Health Officer and a Government Engineer. A site-plan also has to be furnished so that town-planning requirements may be satisfied. Before the slump, in spite of close Government inspection, there was some degree of overcrowding owing to the high rents consequent on the rapid immigration of boom times. The desire to save rent by dividing its burden among many is still a source of overcrowding. There are no building societies. Government builds lines for its day-labourers and houses for its other employees. The coolies live rent-free. Other Government servants generally pay a low rental. The Chinese capitalist builds nearly all shop-houses, and in most of them above and behind the shop is a dwelling-house. A return of houses in town-board areas is included in Appendix E.

All villages and schools now have football and recreation grounds.

VI.—NATURAL RESOURCES.

MINERALS.

17. The quantities and values of Mineral exports for the last three years were:—

	1935			1936			1937		
	Tons	Value	Duty	Tons	Value	Duty	Tons	Value	Duty
		\$	\$		\$	\$		\$	\$
Tin-ore-	801	1,467,118	137,505	999	1,730,735	161,249	1,077	1,848,734	211,715
Iron-ore-	594,891	2,974,453	297,443	590,288	2,951,445	324,286	519,339	2,596,696	259,669
China Clay (Kaolin)	5	100	60	—	—	—	30	602	30
Gold	7.81 oz.	420	—	33.50 oz.	1,895	47	2.75 oz.	154	4
Bauxite-	—	—	—	36	219	17	12,628	62,659	6,314
Sand Clay & Stone	—	not recorded	—	28,700	46,590	4,757	1,056,735 pikuls	1,663,120	166,310
Wolfram	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.13	32	3
	—	1,442,091	435,017	—	4,730,884	490,356	—	6,171,997	644,045

(* Corrected figure).

18. The following revenue was derived from mining and minerals during the last three years:—

	1935	1936	1937
	\$	\$	\$
Rent on leases	9,517	10,433	10,503
Premia on leases	6,650	8,973	6,230
Prospecting licences	125	70	255
Ore buyers'	500	400	500
Dulang passes	482	440	423
	17,274	20,316	17,911
Export duty	435,019	490,355	644,045
Total	452,293*	510,671	661,956

(* Corrected figure).

In addition \$7,664 was collected from fees for removing minerals under Land Rule 21 as against \$3,846 in 1936. The grand total of revenue collected for 1937 therefore amounts to \$669,620.

The expenditure on the Mines Department was only \$21,736

19. The yearly census shewed a mining labour force of 4,528 against 4,304 in 1936. These are classified as follows:—

By minerals worked

	Iron	Tin	Gold	Bauxite	China Clay	Total
1937	1,875	2,426	—	209	18	4,528
1936	2,143	2,072	32	55	2	4,304
1935	1,022	1,491	18	—	—	2,531

By Method of Payment

	Contract	Wages	Tribute	Total
1937	1,881	1,991	656	4,528
1936	1,975	1,513	816	4,304
1935	1,115	662	754	2,531
1934	812	735	476	2,023

By Method of Mining

	1937	1936	1935	1934
Open cast	2,491	3,016	1,791	1,412
Underground	92	70	68	94
HYDRAULIC:—				
(a) Gravel Pump	1,348	590	284	93
(b) Lampan	293	325	120	249
Bucket Dredging	304	303	268	175
Total	4,528	4,304	2,531	2,023

By Nationality

	1937	1936	1935	1934
Europeans	10	6	6	6
Malays	423	341	203	38
Chinese	3,483	3,434	2,243	1,540
Japanese	79	72	34	29
Indians	532	450	45	317
Others	1	1	—	93
Total	4,528	4,304	2,531	2,023

The labour force is rated as:—

Staff and skilled labour	..	..	..	811
Unskilled labour	..	..	..	3,717

Average rates of pay were:—

Skilled labour	..	\$1.00 to \$4.00 per day
Unskilled	..	60-80 cents per day with food
	..	80-90 " " without food.

20. The total horse power of prime movers employed in mines was 7,151 as against 4,044 in 1936. The increase was due to the replacement of hand labour by machinery and the general modernisation of the mines.

21. The total area alienated for mining at the end of the year amounted to 10,596 acres of which 8,893 for tin, 1,462 for iron, 89 for gold, 4 for china clay, 129 for bauxite and 19 for wolfram.

22. *Tin Restriction.*—The output was subject to the Tin Control Scheme and the quota percentage release to producers was:—

January-March	..	..	100%
April-June	..	..	110%
July-September	..	..	110%
October-December	..	..	110%

Owing to the difficulties of access and the consequent necessity for making new roads and the delayed delivery of machinery, the mines were unable to increase their production sufficiently rapidly to prevent a considerable under production at the end of the year.

23. *Details of Mining.*

(a) *Tin Mining.*—There have been appreciable steps in the mechanisation and general modernisation of the working mines and gravel pumping is rapidly spreading in all the alluvial areas of importance which have been known and inefficiently worked in the past. This is shewn by the large increase in the horse power employed. The prospects for the successful working of the known "in situ" ore deposits are very good and it is more than probable that further deposits of this nature will be found before long especially in the area—Muntahak, Sisek, Tingkill and Tajam in South Central Johore, and also along a line running roughly North of this and slightly to the East of Jemaluang.

(b) *Iron Mining.*—The export of iron-ore was considerably affected by a shortage of shipping and by labour troubles on the mines. Some 100,000 tons of ore was stocked on the mines ready for export at the end of the year. Developments at the Sri Medan, Bukit Langkap and Pelepah Kanan mines increased the proved ore reserves.

(c) *Gold*.—No mines are working for gold. The small output represents the amount recovered as a bye-product in tin mining.

(d) *Bauxite*.—Bauxite mining has proved an unqualified success and the future in this connection is very bright. The ores shipped from Batu Pahat Mine have proved to be in the very highest class and bulk samples from mine near Sungei Kim Kim have also been favourably reported on.

AGRICULTURE.

24. Agricultural industries occupy the position of chief importance in the economy of the State. A considerable improvement in the market for all the important export staples was recorded during the year, the total value of all agricultural exports amounting to \$96,056,624. This figure shows an increase of approximately \$26,000,000 over that for 1936. In accordance with custom, crops are classified under three heads:—

(A) those grown on estates and small holdings (B) those grown on estates only and (C) those grown exclusively on small holdings. (A small holding for this purpose means an area of 25 acres or less).

25. (A) *Crops grown on estates and small holdings.*

Rubber.—This crop remains of primary importance both in area under cultivation and in value of exports. The total planted area at the end of 1937 was estimated at 883,904 acres, of which 360,759 acres were cultivated on estates and small holdings of less than 100 acres in extent. The total production of rubber during the year amounted to 123,408 tons, of which 71,833 were produced on estates of 100 acres and over and 51,575 on estates of under 100 acres. The total value of exports for 1937 was \$86,349,336.

Comparative figures of exports and value for the past five years are as follows:—

(Including dry weight equivalent of latex).

	Quantity in Piculs.	Value \$
1933	1,642,996	22,622,970
1934	1,747,099	47,563,787
1935	1,400,422	32,963,598
1936	1,495,527	59,348,483
1937	2,067,153	86,349,336

26. The area of budgrafted rubber at the end of 1937 was 75,777 acres, as against 69,761 for 1936.

During the year some 6,013 acres of rubber were replanted. 1,117 acres were planted for experimental purposes.

27. The general maintenance of small holdings continued to be reasonably satisfactory throughout the year, the assumption that upkeep determines the coupon issue being responsible in some measure for increased attention in this connexion.

Production on small holdings was well maintained throughout the year, the peak being reached during the third quarter, which coincided with a fall in the prices offered for export rights, and an economic market for uncouped rubber.

28. Mouldy Rot (*Ceratostomella fimbriata*) was again the most serious and wide spread disease of rubber. Control measures undertaken were generally of a satisfactory nature, approved fungicides being largely employed. The Department of Agriculture assisted by giving advice and demonstrations, and in addition distributed over 334 gallons of concentrated fungicide. The incidence of *Oidium Heveae* leaf mildew, was not so severe or widespread as during 1935, outbreaks being general throughout the State. Serious damage by grasshopper, *Valanga Nigricornis*, in a young area of replanted rubber was reported.

The Small Holders Advisory Service continued to function during the year. Lectures and demonstrations on all aspects of estate management were conducted and attracted a satisfactory amount of interest. Particular attention was given to the control of pests and diseases, improved manufacture of sheet rubber, the construction and operation of small smoke cabinets, and measures for the prevention of soil erosion. In addition assistance was rendered in obtaining supplies of unadulterated coagulants and approved fungicides.

29. *Coconuts*.—The area under coconuts was estimated at 171,366 acres as against 171,266 acres in 1936. 169,236 acres are cultivated by small-holders, 69,495 acres of which are intermixed with other kampong crops, situated principally along the alluvial belt flanking the west coast of the State. Following the satisfactory price for copra ruling at the end of 1936, the Singapore market opened with an average price of \$9.26 per picul for F. M. S. The price fell sharply during February, and following a slight recovery in March depreciated steadily and closed at \$4.81. Local prices followed the general trend of the Singapore market, discount ranging from cents 51 to \$1.65 per picul, depending upon quality, distance and transport costs to Singapore. Exports totalled 742,055 piculs valued at \$1,666,559 compared with 682,294 piculs, valued at \$2,881,710 for 1936. The copra industry in Johore is almost entirely a small-holders

industry, but not all owners of coconut holdings are producers of copra. In several areas in the State, coconut cultivators are content to sell their nuts or lease their holdings to Chinese, who are the principal copra producers. Nut prices followed the general trend of the copra market.

The Department of Agriculture assiduously pursued the policy of endeavouring to stimulate manufacture by the grower, and to this end concentrated on lectures and demonstrations and providing assistance in the erection of suitable types of drying cabinets of an approved design, which can be erected cheaply and operated conveniently. It is gratifying to be able to record further progress in this connexion: at the end of the year 32 cabinets have been erected and were in regular operation as against 44 in 1936. The majority being owned by Malays.

With the exception of an extensive attack by the *limacodid*, *chalcosealis albivittata* at Senggarang, which has completely cleared, the coconut crop remained remarkably free from all pests and diseases.

30. *Arecanuts*.—The area under this crop at the end of the year was estimated at 33,964 acres as against 34,793 acres in 1936, practically the whole of which is grown in mixed cultivation with other Kampong products. The chief export in the commodity was "Split" which is manufactured in all producing centres. The manufacture of boiled arecanut was suspended throughout the year, but some interest in a salted quality was evinced from time to time, production however was limited. No pest or disease of economic importance was recorded during the year.

31. *Tapioca*.—The area under Tapioca at the end of the year was estimated to be 3,458 acres of which 203 acres were planted as a sole crop. Corresponding figures for 1936 were 4,502 and 741 acres.

Exports of Tapioca produce amounted to 12,604 piculs, valued at \$85,707 which compares with 58,783 piculs, valued at \$213,406 in 1936 and 76,109 piculs, valued at \$223,874 in 1935. The Singapore market prices for the various grades of Tapioca produce were fairly steady throughout the year. Tapioca is gradually losing its importance as a crop in the State, owing largely to the prohibition against planting on virgin jungle land as a sole crop. During the year only two factories operated regularly, while a similar number in the Segamat district worked for a period of three months only owing to the limited supplies of root available. One factory continued to augment its short supplies of root with Sago palm stems. The grades commonly manufactured and exported are Flour, Flake and Seed Pearl.

32. *Coffee*.—The area under Coffee shows a slight decrease over that recorded in 1936. The total area planted is 5,528 acres of which 1,333 acres are planted as a sole crop. This compares with 5,620 acres in 1936 of which 1,156 were planted as a sole crop. The two types of Coffee most commonly cultivated are Liberian and Robusta, the former being more popular among Asiatic consumers. The export trade is small and amounted during the year to 1,216 piculs, valued at \$17,024. The only pest of economic importance recorded during the year was the coffee berry borer, *stephanoderes hampei*, which was responsible for some damage in most producing centres.

33. *Gambier*.—As in the case of Tapioca the area under this crop tends to decrease. At the close of the year the acreage planted with Gambier was 1,477 acres of which 790 acres are grown as a sole crop. This compares with a total acreage of 1,720 of which 778 acres were planted as a sole crop in 1936. Factories worked at irregular intervals, owing to a scarcity of raw material. Exports totalled 4,868 piculs, valued at \$21,928, which compares with 10,451 piculs, valued at \$52,157 in 1936.

34. *Tuba*.—The cultivation of this crop continued to attract the attention of all types of cultivators during the year, the area under cultivation at the close being estimated at 6,314 acres of which 722 were grown as a sole crop. This compares with 6,333 acres in 1936 of which 637 were grown as a sole crop. The average prices were root brought on ether extract \$30-\$16 and Rotenone content \$47.00-\$26.00.

35. *Pineapples*.—Prices for canned pineapples weakened throughout the year, and closed in December at a record low level G. A. Q. per case of 48 tins being quoted at:—Cubes \$2.70; Sliced Flat \$2.65; Sliced Tall \$2.80 and Golden \$2.80-\$2.95. Fruit prices were correspondingly low. The range of prices for various qualities of fruit per 100 was as follows:—

No. 1 .60-\$2.60, No. 2 .40-\$1.80, No. 3 .30-\$1.30. Exports and value for the past five years are as under:—

	No. of fresh fruit.	No. of cases of preserved pines.	Total Value. \$
1933 ..	26,430,800	946,680	3,858,319
1934 ..	33,556,687	1,115,309	4,838,962
1935 ..	41,231,874	1,096,045	4,938,505
1936 ..	27,983,507	1,494,266	5,941,823
1937 ..	29,119,839	1,406,884	5,638,000

Owing to the weakness of the market, there was no pronounced activity in opening up and planting new areas previously alienated. The total planted area remains therefore at the previous estimate of slightly over 56,000 acres.

Four factories, were in operation during the main crop season and the early part of the second crop season, thereafter three only remained active, but rarely worked to capacity. No material change has taken place in the general organisation of the industry, the collection and delivery to factories still performed by dealers.

In relation to legislation, the standardisation of can sizes and the introduction of a Malayan mark grade were considered during the year.

(B) *Crops grown on large estates.*

36. *Oil Palm.*—The area under this crop at the end of the year was 33,889 acres of which 26,643 are mature. Five estates are engaged in this form of cultivation, all of which are producing. The price of Palm Oil, in common with other vegetable oils, has fluctuated somewhat during the year: opening in January at £28.10.0 and rising to £30.0.0, the market weakened progressively and closed at £17.0.0 per ton. The market for kernels followed the trend of palm oil. From a top price of £17.15.0 per ton in January prices fluctuated on a declining market and closed at £10.10.0 per ton.

(C) *Crops grown exclusively on small holdings.*

37. *Padi.*—The area under padi, wet and dry was estimated at 8,030 acres and 880 acres against 9,420 and 1,136 recorded last year. The large decrease in the case of wet padi is due almost entirely to the abandonment of areas, not entirely suited to this form of cultivation, owing to the lack of facilities for drainage and irrigation. The area under dry padi continues to decrease, and except in the Muar District its cultivation does not find favour. In Northern Circle, crops suffered a severe setback owing to heavy rains and lack of adequate drainage facilities. In the coastal areas of Kukup crops were completely destroyed by tidal inundations of sea water, while areas in Batu Pahat were abandoned owing to continual flooding. Rats and birds continue to be the major pests of padi throughout the State. A somewhat serious infection, closely resembling the condition known as "Penyakit Merah" in the Federated Malay States, was again recorded at Tenglu in the Endau District.

The Annual Sawah Competition was held in Segamat District during the month of November and attracted 314 entries. This compares with 237 in 1936. Judging was greatly hampered and the competition robbed of much of its interest owing to general flooding in some of the best cultivated areas.

38. *Tobacco.*—The area under this crop at the close of the year was 1,275 compared with 1,318 in 1936. Prices of dry leaf have fluctuated considerably during the year, ranging from \$12.00 to \$30.00 per picul. Kluang and Batu Pahat remained the chief centres of production. The chief product of the factories are cigars, cheroots and shag.

39. *Patchouli.*—Considerable interest was taken in this crop. The area under this crop has increased from 440 acres in 1936 to 1,044 acres in 1937. Cultivation is confined to the districts of Segamat, Tangkak and Kluang. Prices remained fairly steady at between \$6.50-8.50 per picul until December when they dropped to \$4.50-\$6.00.

40. *Miscellaneous Fruit.*—The estimated area under fruit at the close of the year was 9,561 acres against 9,915 in 1936, cultivated almost entirely as a mixed crop. In addition 6,341 acres are estimated as being under banana cultivation. Muar, Batu Pahat and Segamat are the chief centres of production of mixed fruit, and Kukup, Batu Pahat and Kluang the chief centres of banana production. Fruit cultivation is largely a peasant industry, the most popular varieties grown being Rambutan, Durian, Mangosteen, Nangka (Jack Fruit), Duku, Langsat, Chiku and Mata Kuching. The mid year crop was much below average except in the circle where good yields of Durian, Rambutan and Mangosteen were reported.

41. *School Gardens.*—The number of school gardens in the State at the close of the year totalled 47 as against 44 in 1936. The standard of upkeep has been well maintained, particularly in the Northern Circle of the State where commendable keenness continues to be responsible for some excellent displays. The usual competition was held during the year with good results.

42. *Home Gardens.*—Further progress in the establishment of Home Gardens in the Northern Circle has been made. Over 300 have now been created as against 200 in 1936.

43. *Agricultural Shows.*—Three Agricultural Shows and Arts and Crafts Exhibitions were held in the State during the year.

State Agricultural Show.—The fourth State Agricultural Show and Arts and Crafts Exhibition was held on 12th and 13th August at Muar. The show was well supported. The Department of Agriculture by the use of graphs, photographs and a very comprehensive display of agricultural produce, directed attention not only to the importance of agriculture in the State, but also to its wide diversity. Other educational features of interest included a full size type copra cabinet in operation, and a pen of poultry having on display improved night and day shelters, nest boxes and feeding utensils. The attendance was estimated at 50,000.

Central Johore Show.—This 2nd show was held on 15th and 16th July at Batu Pahat. The show was well supported. Attendance was over 30,000.

Segamat District Agricultural Show.—This was held on 1st and 2nd July and was attended by some 15,000 people. Like the Central Johore Show it was an unqualified success.

In addition several Padi shows were staged.

LIVE-STOCK.

44. There were approximately 8,773 dairy cattle, mostly of Indian breed whose owners held milk-sellers' licences. The number of animals slaughtered in Government slaughter-houses in Johore for local consumption were: cattle (including buffaloes) 4,295, sheep and goats 6,427 and pigs 44,991. The import and export return shows a small Peninsular trade:—

	Horses		Cattle (including buffaloes)		Sheep & Goats		Swine	
	1936	1937	1936	1937	1936	1937	1936	1937
Imports -	13	44	2,833	3,828	2,722	5,041	2,578	4,858
Exports -	10	25	93	28	196	94	4,701	505

45. During the year, the State was free from any serious diseases of a contagious or infectious nature.

A census of live-stock in the State revealed the following figures:—

Buffaloes.	Cattle.	Swine.	Goats.	Sheep.
4,922	13,526	169,549	67,930	4,059

46. All the pig-farms are owned by Chinese; Indian and other cattle are mostly kept by Indians and there are a number of private dairies; Chinese and Malays breed buffaloes, and Malay small-holders breed goats and poultry.

MARINE PRODUCE.

47. There are fisheries round all the coasts. Japanese fishermen work off the East Coast using the method known as "moro ami" in which highly skilled divers are employed to locate the fish nets then being set over the area and the fish driven into them. Deep sea fishing is carried on by Malays with drift nets operating chiefly from Mersing and Sedili, the catches being sent to Singapore by lorry. There are also Chinese fishermen on all the coasts. Seine or drag nets are used off shore by Chinese and Malays, and in sheltered bays and estuaries fishing stakes with ground or lifting nets are employed. Illegal fishing by means of explosives, which has been prevalent in the past, has decreased. Fish caught by this means is easily recognised

owing to its mutilated appearance and the quickness with which decomposition sets in, rendering it unfit for consumption. Regular examinations of the markets and the prohibition of sale of any such fish, has proved to be the most successful way of dealing with the evil, the offenders finding themselves unable to dispose of their catches. River fish are caught in many places by nets, traps and rod and line. Fishing for the purpose of sale is carried out under licence, fishing on a small scale, for personal consumption only being exempt.

In 1936 the Revenue derived from fishing licences amounted to \$10,464, an increase of \$777 over the previous year. Any valuation of the total quantity of fish taken from Johore waters is impossible, as the greater part goes in the fishing boats direct to the Singapore markets, only that passing through the Customs at Ports, mostly in dried form, being recorded.

FOREST PRODUCE.

48. The forests produce timber, firewood, charcoal and such minor products as rattans, resins used for varnishes and the wild rubber used for the manufacture of chewing gum.

49. In common with all other tropical rain forests the forests of Johore are composed of a large variety of species of which only a limited number produce timber of commercial importance. There is a great difference between the types of forest found in the western and eastern parts of the State. The most important timbers produced on the East are the semi-hard *Dryobalanops aromatica* (*kapur*) and the hard *Shorea materialis* (*balau*) the distribution of which in the rest of the Peninsula is very limited. Second in importance are the semi-hard *Dipterocarpus spp* (*keruing*) and the useful soft timber of a number of species of *Shorea* (*meranti*). The forests on the west of the State approximate more closely to those found in the northern parts of the Peninsula and produce *meranti* and *keruing*, also the hard *Balanocarpus Heimii* (*chengal*) and a hard timber known locally as *resak* which is obtained from various trees of the genus *Shorea*. In addition to the timbers mentioned above increasing use is being made of miscellaneous timbers classified for revenue purposes as class 2 which, by reason of their lack of durability, were previously neglected. These have been found to be suitable for temporary construction and are now being cut in large quantities, particularly by saw-millers who must utilize these "inferior" timbers in order to

keep their mills working at full pressure. The result is that in the vicinity of sawmills the surrounding population have the advantage of a regular supply of well sawn cheap timber.

50. A very large proportion of the timber produced in Johore is still exported in the form of logs for the Singapore mills. This export, profitable though it may be, is giving rise to some uneasiness since the logs exported have to be of the very finest quality in order to stand the high cost of transport. The result is that the eyes are being picked out of the Johore forests for the benefit of Singapore, a process that cannot be allowed to continue indefinitely. The following table shows the amount of timber produced, exported and imported during the last five years.

Year	Timber produced tons	Timber exported tons	Percentage exported	Timber imported tons	Excess of Exports over Imports tons
1933	52,231	32,915	63.0	7,055	25,860
1934	58,357	35,069	60.1	18,030	17,039
1935	63,145	50,741	80.4	21,634	29,107
1936	58,907	35,856	60.8	25,927	9,929
1937	74,216	41,438	55.8	25,892	15,546

51. The total outturn of timber of all kinds was 3,710,801 cubic feet an increase of 765,460 cubic feet or 20.6% over the 1936 figure. There was a rise in the production of all classes except sleepers for the Railway which fell slightly.

52. Exports to Singapore amounted to 2,071,900 cubic feet or 55.8% of the total production being an increase of 13.5% by comparison with the amount exported in 1936. Other exports to places within Malaya include 65,360 cubic feet to Selangor, 35,729 cubic feet to Malacca and smaller quantities to Penang, Negri Sembilan and even Pahang.

53. The export of sawn timber to the United Kingdom remained practically stationary at 7,349 cubic feet as compared with 7,798 cubic feet in 1936.

54. The percentage of reserved forest to the area of the State still remains at 15.4. The percentage generally accepted as desirable is somewhere in the region of 25 but might well be more in a State so well situated to participate in a profitable export trade as is Johore. With Singapore, one of the largest timber consuming centres in the East, right on her doorstep Johore can count on a steady and increasing demand for timber of all classes. That demand is at present being supplied from unreserved forests particularly in the Kluang, Endau and Kota Tinggi districts to the detriment of the forests concerned since exploitation is highly selective, haphazard and virtually uncontrolled. On State land, moreover, such fellings cannot be followed up by departmental silvicultural operations which ensure adequate regeneration of the desired species to replace the mature trees felled. The creation of further reserves therefore is highly desirable unless the timber resources of the State are to be reduced to danger point.

Regeneration improvement fellings were carried out over 2,924 acres of forest reserve at a cost of \$3.15 per acre. The object of these fellings is to induce, by elimination of inferior and unmarketable species, the regeneration of valuable timber species. When adequate regeneration has been secured the remaining overwood may be removed in a final felling usually highly profitable to Government.

55. The total output of firewood was 3,298,645 cubic feet as compared with 3,139,825 cubic feet last year. There was an increase in mangrove production but the outturn from inland forests, after a promising increase in 1936, again fell off and was less than last year's figure by 323,587 cubic feet. This is mainly due to increasing competition by rubber firewood. The following table shows the outturn and export of firewood during the last five years.

Year	Firewood produced tons	Firewood exported tons	Percentage of export to outturn
1933	129,213	74,877	61.3%
1934	166,196	72,918	63%
1935	116,988	74,862	63.5%
1936	125,593	73,416	58.4%
1937	131,945	80,939	61.3%

The production of charcoal rose very considerably from 486,941 cubic feet in 1936 to 1,274,024 cubic feet in 1937. Mangrove production rose by no less than 518,126 cubic feet over last year's figure whilst inland production also increased by 268,957 cubic feet.

56. The revenue from minor forest produce remained steady at \$30,936. Decreases in the revenue derived from rotans and damars were compensated for by a marked increase in the revenue from *jelutong*. Despite the recent financial depression in the United States the market price for this commodity remained more than firm, buyers prices at round about \$60 per pikul refined being the highest offered in the history of the trade.

57. Five sawmills are now in operation within the State, a sixth is in the course of erection and applications for three further projects are under consideration.

58. Revenue collected amounted to \$342,901 being the highest total recorded since the formation of the department in 1921. The surplus of revenue over expenditure, \$232,339, was also a record.

MANUFACTURES.

59. Such processes of manufacture as are performed in Johore relate almost entirely to the treatment of the raw materials the production of which is the State's main industry. Thus there are factories on rubber, tapioca and oil-palm estates, which are engaged in the preparation of those commodities for export. A large proportion of the pineapples grown in Johore are preserved and packed in tins and those processes are carried out in factories.

In addition to these there were the usual little ice-works, aerated water plants, engineering work-shops and printing-works and *jelutong* factories.

VII.—COMMERCE.

60. The total trade amounted to \$150,251,261 as compared with \$111,650,968 in 1936.

The figures were as follows:—

	1936	1937
	—	—
	\$	\$
Imports ..	38,908,158	47,288,555
Exports ..	76,897,361	105,821,320
	<u>115,805,519</u>	<u>153,109,875</u>
Less Re-exports ..	4,154,551	2,858,614
	<u>111,650,968</u>	<u>150,251,261</u>

The values of imports for 1936 and 1937 under the various main heads were:—

	1936	1937
	—	—
	\$	\$
Animals, Food, Drink and Tobacco ..	17,679,345	20,106,699
Raw Materials and articles mainly manufactured ..	1,960,226	2,547,308
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured ..	19,143,399	24,237,927
Parcel Post ..	122,173	386,081
Coin and Bullion ..	3,015	10,540
	<u>38,908,158</u>	<u>47,288,555</u>

The total value of Imports was \$8,380,397 greater than last year: the imports under liquor, tobacco and petrol were chiefly responsible for this. In all big towns there was an organised examination of postal packages, which is in some degree responsible for the higher figure of value: it is probable that in 1936 numbers of articles received through the post were omitted from the return.

EXPORTS.

61. The following table shows, under the main heads, the quantity and value of exports for 1936 and 1937:—

Articles	How counted	1936 Quantity	1937 Quantity	1936 Value	1937 Value
				\$	\$
Arecanuts	Pikuls	261,046	286,602	1,554,124	1,785,529
Copra	do.	682,294	742,055	2,881,710	1,666,559
Pepper	do.	288	44	2,612	510
Gambier	do.	10,451	4,868	52,157	21,928
Coffee	do.	1,356	1,216	18,984	17,024
Rubber	do.	1,495,527	2,067,143	59,348,488	86,349,336
Sweet Potatoes	do.	1,677	13,247	4,971	46,364
Tapioca	do.	58,783	12,604	213,406	85,707
Pineapples	Nos.	27,983,507	29,119,839	712,082	727,975
Preserved Pineapples	Cases	1,484,266	1,406,884	5,229,741	4,910,025
Other Agricultural Produce	—	—	—	294,146	445,667
Total Agricultural Produce	—	—	—	70,312,416	96,056,624
Timber	Tons	35,856	123,034	559,954	1,005,994
Other Forest Produce	—	—	—	499,115	540,550
Total Forest Produce	—	—	—	1,059,069	1,546,544
Tin-ore	Pikuls	16,790	18,104	1,730,735	1,848,734
Iron-ore	Tons	590,288	519,339	2,951,445	2,596,696
Bauxite	do.	36	12,627	219	62,659
China Clay	do.	—	30	—	603
Gold Dust	oz. Troy	2.7.0	—	202	—
Wolfram	Pikuls	2	—	—	30
Gold Output	—	—	—	—	154
Total Minerals	—	—	—	4,682,601	4,508,875
Marine Produce	—	—	—	—	—
Swine	Nos.	5,326	535	264,732	327,152
Cattle	do.	30	43	97,396	7,748
Poultry	Dozens	4,916	6,181	1,060	2,158
Goats and Sheep	Nos.	231	33	28,666	33,101
Eggs	do.	17,439,541	10,732,760	2,874	237
Miscellaneous	—	—	—	218,250	176,311
				230,297	303,956
				76,897,361	102,962,706

62. Exports rose from \$76,897,361 to \$105,821,320, an increase of \$28,923,959. The increase was mainly due to the high value of rubber during the first three quarters of the year. The average price of rubber for the year was 31.56 cents per pound. The lowest price of rubber was 21 $\frac{3}{8}$ cents per pound in November and the highest was 44 $\frac{5}{16}$ cents per pound in April.

The price of tin averaged \$113.95 a pikul in January, \$94.13 in December. The lowest price was \$85 on 9th November and the highest \$149.00 on the 11th and 13th March. There was an increase of 1,314 pikuls in the amount of tin exported and an increase of \$117,999 in the value.

Revenue obtained from the export duty on arecanuts showed a striking rise, which is parallel to the 1933 figure. It is a cause for some satisfaction that this long established Johore industry, which had in previous years showed signs of stagnation, showed such a healthy revival. The export figure for pineapples of fresh fruit for canning in Singapore factories, and of the article canned in Johore showed a rise and there was great activity in the industry throughout the year. The old tapioca industry has declined and appears to be on its last legs. The very large increase in rubber revenue was due to the high price obtained in the middle period of the year and this was reflected in the very noticeable increase in the revenue obtained from petroleum, tobacco, liquor and matches, which being of general use demonstrate a high level of prosperity throughout the State and strong spending power. The fall in revenue from cotton piece goods and milk denotes not a decrease in imports, but an increase in the use of Empire produced articles, due to the operation of Preferential Tariffs.

Iron ore is carried direct to Japan by ocean-going steamers from both West and East Coasts, otherwise exports from Johore are mainly to Singapore in the first instance. The former exports are from a mine of long standing, which maintained its standard of productivity—the latter from a new mine, which began exports just before the North East monsoon and which can only export during fair weather: the probable extent of its productivity cannot, at present, be stated with any degree of precision, but it is far from negligible.

Certain articles of foodstuffs, e.g. sweet potatoes, fruits, eggs and poultry are sold in the Singapore market for local consumption, but most of the exports are shipped to other countries, which are indicated in Singapore statistics. A great amount of Johore rubber is shipped direct to other countries through Singapore shipping agents.

VIII.—LABOUR.

INDIAN IMMIGRATION FUND.

63. The cost of importing Indian immigrant labour is met by the Indian Immigration Fund, which was constituted in 1907 under the management of the Indian Immigration Committee. All employers of Indian labour working on estates, mines, public works, and other specified forms of employment contribute to this Fund in the form of assessment on the number of days' work

done by Indian labourers, a quarterly rate for every 72 days' work being fixed by the Indian Immigration Committee. The quarterly rates fixed during 1937, for men and women respectively, were as follows:—

	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
Men	72 cents	72 cents	\$2.88 cents	\$2.16 cents
Women	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

ASSISTED IMMIGRATION.

64. Assisted immigration from India was in operation in a restricted form throughout the year, and the assisted immigrants included (a) labourers recruited on kangani licence for work on oil-palm estates and (b) non-recruited labourers who were assisted to emigrate on a guarantee of employment on a particular estate. The majority of the latter emigrants were either labourers or relatives of labourers that had previously worked in the country or on the estate. The word "emigrant", it should be noted, is used in the loose popular sense and includes persons that have been five years or more in Malaya, who are not "emigrants" within the meaning of the Indian Emigration Act, 1922.

The total number of assisted immigrants destined for Johore that arrived in Malaya during the year was 8,827.

NON-ASSISTED IMMIGRATION.

65. In addition to the assisted immigrants there is a considerable yearly flow of non-assisted immigrants, that is, labourers and others who pay their own passages to Malaya. It is not known how many of the total number of such immigrants entering Malaya were destined for Johore.

REPATRIATION.

66. The total number of Indian labourers repatriated through the Labour Office in Johore Bahru during the year was 1,019.

ASSISTANCE TO INDIAN LABOURERS IN NEED OF RELIEF.

67. There was little unemployment during the year and labourers that applied to the Labour Office for assistance to find work were generally placed in employment without difficulty. The majority of applicants for relief were those who desired to be repatriated, and these included (a) labourers either temporarily or permanently unfit for further work in Malaya.

(b) labourers with sick dependents or young children without a female relative to look after them (c) fit widows who wished to return to India.

A small number of sick or decrepit labourers who had no relatives to look after them and did not wish to return to India were admitted to the Home for Decrepit Indians at Kuala Lumpur.

Depot.—The depot, which was opened in March, 1936 for housing labourers waiting for repatriation, unemployed, and others requiring relief, continued to be in use throughout the year in review. The total number of daily admissions, classified as repatriates and others, and the total number of meals supplied during the year, were as follows:—

	Admissions		Meals supplied
	Adults	Minors	
Repatriates	5,436	1,508	11,606
Others	2,030	261	3,090
Total	7,466	1,769	14,696

INDIAN POPULATION.

68. The Indian population of Johore as ascertained in the 1931 Census was 48,667, classified as 38,534 Tamils, 2,136 Telugus, and 7,197 Malayalis. Northern Indians numbered 2,371.

The average Indian Population for 1937 was estimated to be 72,600.

RETURNS AND VITAL STATISTICS.

(a) Employers of labour are required to furnish quarterly returns of labour population in a form prescribed under the Labour Code. Small employers do not usually furnish these returns and it is considered that in general no useful purpose would be served by attempting to collect returns from such employers.

The following table is a summary from these returns showing the number of returns received and the total number of labourers in private employment, including working minors but excluding dependents, at the end of each of the last five years.

LABOURERS IN PRIVATE EMPLOYMENT.

Year	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
No. of Returns	303	329	488	484	521
Indians ...	16,682	24,465	27,404	28,483	40,174
Chinese ...	17,802	25,740	24,976	26,223	32,006
Javanese ...	6,517	7,650	6,392	7,702	9,593
Others ...	1,198	1,497	1,254	832	821
Total ...	42,199	59,352	60,026	63,240	82,594

It will be seen from the above figures that while the total labour population has increased by over half in the past five years the Indian Labour population has almost trebled, but that Chinese and Javanese labour has nevertheless held its own. Figures of Malay labourers remained inconsiderable and are therefore included under "Others".

(b) The following are similar figures for labourers employed by Town Boards and Government Departments:—

LABOURERS IN GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT.

Year	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
No. of Returns	31	32	33	35	35
Indians ...	3,539	3,537	4,086	4,913	4,979
Chinese ...	554	403	787	1,066	968
Javanese ...	447	686	749	1,173	896
Others ...	534	561	898	1,028	558
Total ...	5,074	5,187	6,520	8,180	7,401

It will be seen from these figures that a general decrease in labour strength has taken place throughout 1937, particularly among Javanese and Others.

(c) The average Indian labour population and the death rate per mille, for the working population only, as computed from the returns for the year 1937, are as follows:—

	Average population	Death rate per mille
Private employment ...	36,651	11.21
Government employment	4,618	5.41

IX.—WORK AND WAGES.

INDIAN LABOUR.

(a) Indian labourers are mainly employed on tapping, field, and factory work on estates, road-construction and maintenance under the Public Works Department, scavenging and grass-cutting under the Town Boards and work on the permanent way under the Federated Malay States Railways. They are also employed on line work in the Posts and Telegraphs, anti-malarial oiling and maintenance under the Anti-malarial Board, in the Drainage and Irrigation Department and in the Johore Water Works. Skilled or semi-skilled Indian labourers are mainly employed by Government Departments but a number are also employed as engine-drivers and in other works on mines.

Average minimum rates of pay for the year excluding higher paid labourers, mandors, and skilled or semi-skilled workers, are given in tabular form below:—

Place of employment	Average rates of wages	
	Men	Women
Estates ... {	Weeders ...	40 —
	Tappers ...	40 — 55
	Factory ...	40 — 50
P. W. D. ...	50 — 68	40 — 48
F. M. S. Railways ...	50 — 56	—
P. & T. Department ...	50 — 80	—
Anti-malarial Board ...	50 — 68	—
Drainage & Irrigation Dept. ...	60 — 75	—
Waterworks ...	60 — 90	—

It may be noted that both on oil-palm estates and on many rubber estates a bonus or payment by results system is in force which enabled tappers on rubber estates and harvesters on oil-palm estates to earn higher rates than those quoted above.

Hours of work averaged on estates roughly 6-7 hours for tappers, 7-8 hours for weeders, and 8-9 hours for factory workers. In Government Departments hours of work averaged 8 a day, labourers employed by the Town Boards generally working a part day of 5 hours on Fridays.

Overtime work is payable under the Labour Code at double rates for work over 9 hours in any one day.

CHINESE LABOUR.

(b) Chinese labourers are employed mainly on tapping and the heavier field works on estates, and on earth works under Government Departments, and comprise the main working population of mines and pineapple factories. A number of skilled and semi-skilled Chinese labourers are employed by Government Departments and other employers. Except for a minority employed by European estates on daily pay, Chinese labourers generally work on a payment by results system, either through a contractor or on direct contract with the employer. It is in consequence difficult to ascertain their average earnings particularly where Chinese employers are concerned, more especially as the labourers themselves are often unwilling to give anything away. The following figures show the average rates paid to Chinese labourers on estates, for each quarter of the year:—

	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
Tappers ..	75	80-85	75-80	75-80
Weeders ..	70-75	60-70	60-65	60-65

These figures, which are considered to be approximately accurate, reflect, particularly among tappers, the changes in the price of rubber which from an average of 36.2 cents in January had reached an average of 40.8 cents in April and sank to an average of 23.3 cents in December.

Daily rates of pay for Chinese labourers on estates varied from 60-85 cents.

The average rates of pay for unskilled Chinese labourers working on mines were 60 cents-\$1.00 a day with food, or 80 cents-\$1.20 a day without food.

Rates of pay for labourers working in pineapple factories vary considerably in accordance with the nature of the work, of which the greater part is specialised, and it is not possible to state an average. There is moreover no reliable information available as to actual earnings.

JAVANESE LABOUR.

(c) Javanese labourers are employed mainly on tapping and heavier field works on estates, grass-cutting under the Town Boards, and river-cleaning under the Drainage and Irrigation Department. They are generally employed in conjunction with Indian labourers, both on estates and in Government Departments, are paid, when on daily pay, at the same rates and work the same hours. When working on contract rates at estate work other than tapping, their earnings probably approximate to those of Chinese labourers engaged on similar work.

A small number of Javanese labourers are employed on mines.

OTHER LABOUR.

(d) Other labour comprises mainly Malays and Northern Indians. Malay labourers are employed mainly in grass-cutting under the Town Boards and the Public Works Department, a small number being employed as tappers on estates where they generally supplement rather than form part of the regular labour force. They are paid at the same rates as Javanese and work the same hours. A small number of Malay labourers are employed in conjunction with Javanese on Mines.

Northern Indians are employed mainly on carting and earth-work on which latter their earnings are believed to approximate to those of Chinese labourers.

COST OF LIVING.

69. The index of labourer's cost of living is the price of rice, which remained fairly stable at 24 cents a gantang (Rangoon rice) during most of the year but rose together with other commodity prices, to 25 cents towards the close of the year. The cost of the Indian labourer's standard budget showed little variation during the year.

No detailed figures are available of the cost of living for labourers of other races.

The Chinese labourer feeds better than the Indian and his cost of living is naturally higher. This however is offset to some extent by the saving effected by the communal messing system.

LABOURERS' WELFARE.

(a) *Housing*.—The housing of labourers on the larger estates was generally satisfactory and with improving financial conditions fair progress was made with necessary renovations and replacements, although there was still room for improvement on a number of estates.

A notable development in the last few years has been the growing tendency of employers to provide detached or semi-detached cottages for family occupation in place of the old type of barrack lines and the cottage line is now generally favoured.

During 1937, 19 plans of new lines for Malays and Indians and 22 for Chinese were approved.

Lines whose population may sometime be Chinese and at other times South Indians are generally built with cement floors, but where South Indians only are to be housed wooden floors are now occasionally to be seen in new buildings, though there are still comparatively rare. Almost all the newer buildings, however, are supplied with fire places and chimneys, with consequent improvement in comfort and cleanliness.

Another notable development has been the improvement of housing accommodation on the smaller Asiatic-owned estates, which was maintained throughout the year, although here too there was still room for further improvement. It may be noted here, as what it is to be hoped, is an indication of an increasing appreciation by the smaller employers of their obligations to their labourers in this respect, that in the great majority of cases improvement was effected by means of recommendations by the Health and Labour Departments, and that in only ten cases was the issue of an order under the Labour Code necessary.

The housing of labourers employed under Government Departments was generally satisfactory and the standard of accommodation provided continued to show improvement.

(b) *Water Supply*.—Larger estates often have their own piped water supply conducted to stand-pipes at each set of lines, although a decreasing number still rely on a well supply. Smaller estates generally obtained their water supply from wells, and improvement in such supplies was continued throughout the year on recommendations from the Health Department. 7 orders under the Labour Code for the improvement of estate water supplies were issued during the year.

Government lines in the towns are generally served by the public water supply, other lines being provided with protected wells.

(c) *Sanitary Arrangements*.—Sanitary arrangements on estates are regulated by the Health Officers in accordance with Rules under the Labour Code. Latrines of bore-hole, pit, or bucket type are generally provided, although septic tanks have been installed on a small number of estates.

(d) *Prevention of Malaria*.—Regular anti-malarial work is maintained on almost all estates of any size under the directions of the resident or visiting medical practitioners, special anti-malarial inspectors, or dressers whose sole duty it is to supervise anti-malarial work, sometimes being employed.

Anti-malarial work in the towns and villages is controlled by the Anti-malarial Board, and on the Railways by the Health Officer, F. M. S. Railways.

(e) *Hospital Accommodation and Medical Attendance*.—There were 34 Estate Hospitals, including one detention ward and one sick line, and 5 Group Hospitals maintained on estates during the year. One of the Group Hospitals and 7 of the Estate Hospitals were in charge of resident medical practitioners, the remainder being in charge of visiting medical practitioners. Estates that do not maintain their own hospital or contribute to a Group Hospital make use of the Government Hospitals in each District. There are eleven such Government Hospitals in Johore.

All estates of any size employ a visiting medical practitioner who visits the estate regularly, generally at weekly, fortnightly, or monthly intervals. The majority of such estates employ qualified resident dresser, although some few smaller estates employ a visiting dresser from a neighbouring estate. The number of unqualified men employed as dressers is being gradually decreased.

All larger estates maintain their own dispensaries, while smaller estates keep a stock of medicines as required by the Health Department.

(f) *Maternity and Infant Welfare*.—All female Asiatic labourers are entitled under the Labour Code to abstain from work for a period of one month before and one month after confinement, and to receive from the employer a maternity allowance in respect of these periods, calculated on the average monthly wage earned prior to their so stopping work.

Maternity cases are treated free in Government Hospitals, and Indian women labourers and dependents from estates are almost without exception admitted to Government Hospital for confinement, their prejudice against, or fear of, going to hospital having apparently been almost entirely overcome. This however unfortunately is not the case with Javanese labourers, who can rarely and with difficulty be persuaded to send their wives to hospital for confinement. This, aggravated by Javanese theories of suitable feeding for infants, is reflected in the high infant mortality rate that appears to be general among Javanese labourers.

Specially to be noted is the practice on certain estates of sending maternity cases to hospital some months before confinement for routine pre-natal examination and any medical treatment that may be found necessary.

(g) *Nurseries*.—The construction and maintenance of properly equipped nurseries for infants under the age of three can be required under the Labour Code on any place of employment where more than fifty female labourers are employed. Such

nurseries are provided on almost all estates where any considerable number of women, whether fifty or less, are employed, with one or more ayahs in charge, and free milk or kanji are supplied to the infants or children accommodated in them.

On estates where a small number of women only are employed and there is no proper nursery, a temple, drama-shed, or enclosure under raised lines often serves the same purpose satisfactorily.

A special attention to children's health and welfare that deserves note is the provision on a number of estates of a regular supply of free milk, kanji, or other food to school-children or to all children on the estate.

EDUCATION.

70. There were 71 registered Indian Vernacular schools in Johore at the end of the year, an increase of 11 from the previous year, and of these 65 were estate schools.

In addition to the registered schools there were about 26 unregistered schools on estates at the end of the year. The reason for non-registration generally was that the number of children attending the school fell short of the 15 pupils required to constitute a school within the meaning of the Registration of Schools Enactment.

55 of the registered schools qualified for the Government Grant in 1937, the total amount of grant-in-aid earned being \$14,011.

The construction and maintenance of a school can be required under the Labour Code on any place of employment where there are ten or more labourers' children of any one race between the ages of seven and fourteen.

LABOURERS' ALLOTMENTS.

71. A provision under the Labour Code (Amendment) Enactment, 1936, requires the employer to set aside land (1/16 of an acre for each labourer who has dependents) suitable for use as allotments or grazing land.

On the majority of estates adequate land is available for this purpose and unplanted ravine areas can be made available for allotments subject to necessary anti-malarial control. Progress made with extending the allotment area and cultivation of existing allotments was in general fairly satisfactory, particularly on estates with an older and more settled labour force, but in a number of cases it was noted that labourers, for a variety of reasons, made little use of the land available.

Deserving of note is a large-scale settlement of Chinese labourers which has been effected on Sedenak Estate, where some hundreds of acres of ravine have been cleared and planted with vegetable by Chinese labourers working on the estate, a block of five acres being allotted to each family. This experiment appears to have been instrumental not only in settling a contented Chinese labour force on the estate but also in improving health by facilitating the control of malaria.

TRUCK.

(a) *Rice*.—Rice is supplied under permit from the Controller on all estates that employ any considerable number of Indian or Javanese labourers. There were some 124 such permits in force at the end of the year.

(b) *Estate shops*.—Almost all estates that are not immediately adjoining a town or village run one or more shops for the sale of provisions to their labourers. All such shops are required to be authorised by the Controller, and are under the control of the manager, who regulates the prices charged.

On two or three estates what are known as Co-operative Shops are run in the form of a Company in which the labourers and the other staff of the estate hold the shares, the running of the shop being under the supervision of the manager. Shops of this kind have been run successfully on some Estates, but on others the attempt has failed, from one cause or another.

On the majority of estates the shops are either rented out for a nominal rent or allowed free to private shop-keepers.

OFFENCES AND PROCEEDINGS.

No prosecutions for offences under the Labour Code were instituted during the year. 10 civil suits were instituted in the Magistrate Courts by labourers against employers during the year. Two suits were instituted by employers against labourers.

STRIKES AND DISTURBANCES.

Indian Labour.—There were no serious strikes, labour disputes, or disturbances affecting Indian labourers during the year, but a few minor stoppages of work, affecting a small number of labourers on an estate, were reported. In the majority of cases these stoppages affected only the labourers employed by one particular mandor or kangany. The system of paying "Head-money" to a Mandor or Kangany is decreasing.

There were no strikes regarding wage rates or general conditions of employment among Indian labourers in Johore.

Chinese Labour.—As in the rest of Malaya, there were a number of strikes in the first few months of the year. But compared with some other States and Settlements they were fewer in number, milder and shorter-lived. Further they were confined to Chinese estate labour. In no cases was there any violence. The reason for stoppage was the demand for increased wages. Increases were granted and daily wages to Chinese estate labourers varied between 70 and 85 cents. The most important strike was at Kluang in April involving 1,000 Chinese from neighbouring estates. A rise from 72 cents to 80 cents a day was quickly granted and the men were only out two days. Places of employment for Chinese have been inspected during the year by the Protector staff, including timber-cutting kongsis in the River Endau and its tributaries. In December the 700–800 Chinese labourers on the Sri-Medan Iron-stone mine stopped work. This is a Japanese-owned mine; the stoppage was the direct result of the Sino-Japanese conflict and there is no question at the moment of any Chinese being willing to work on the mine.

72. The Indian Labour Deputation to Malaya consisting of the Rt. Hon. Mr V. S. Srinivasa Sastri, P.C., C.H.L.L.D., and Mr G. S. Bozman, I.C.S. visited various estates in Johore in January.

73. In general, the labourer in Johore, whether Javanese, Chinese or South Indian, lives and works in steadily improving conditions. His capacity for appreciating this advance depends of course upon the individual and upon his nationality. In methods of hygiene the Javanese labourer has probably assimilated more from the West than the other races, though in common with most Tamil and Chinese labourers, he still prefers his own medicines and treatments of disease to those offered by Government and estate hospitals.

With regard to general conditions of life in his spare time, the labourer's bicycle, of which there are great numbers on every estate, render it easy for him to visit the local village, while the adequate pay he earns brings the younger man regularly, in hired cars crammed with his relations and friends, to the "talkies" (particularly if he is Chinese) or, in now rapidly diminishing numbers, to the drama or wayang.

CHINESE LABOUR.

Labour Cases.—There were 143 enquiries under section 93 of the Labour Code as compared with 172 in the previous year, and claims made by 1,008 labourers as against 1,109 totalled \$25,394.82 as against \$19,788.94. The average claim was therefore for a sum of about \$25.19 as compared with \$17.84. Orders were made totalling \$16,139.79 as against \$10,332.25 and the sums recovered through this office amounted to \$3,975.42 as against \$5,095.06. Orders for execution in Court were issued in respect of unpaid balances.

Repatriation of Destitute Chinese.—Twenty one Chinese were repatriated by the Protectorate during the year. Of these, 19 came from the Vagrant Ward, 5 from the General Hospital and 12 were direct applicants at the Protectorate.

Immigration Quota.—The Immigration Quota into Malaya rose from 4,000 to 6,000 per month during the year.

Mui-Tsai.—Of 106 Mui-tsai on the register at the end of 1936, 92 remained at the end of 1937, the difference being largely accounted for by the marriage of the older girls.

During the year there were 4 prosecutions of employers of mui-tsai, two being cases of possessing unregistered mui-tsai.

The usual half-yearly inspections of all registered mui-tsai at their dwelling-places were carried out by the Protector of Chinese and the Assistant Protector, Muar; and in addition the Lady Inspector of Mui-tsai, Singapore, inspected almost all the mui-tsai at the request of the Johore Government. Twenty-two girls have accounts in the Post Office Savings Bank and 14 attend school.

X.—EDUCATION.

74. *Organisation.*—Since March 1928 the Education Department has been under a European Superintendent, seconded from the large joint Education Department of the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States, Johore defraying his salary and its due proportion of his leave, pay and pension. In 1937 other officers seconded on the same terms from the same department were 6 European Masters. There is a Malay Committee which is responsible for the syllabus and teaching in religious (Quranic) schools.

75. *Government Schools.*—In the 69 Muslim Religious schools for boys and the 9 similar schools for girls there were 120 Malay teachers and an average enrolment of 8,781.

In the 121 Malay Vernacular Boys' schools there were 487 Malay teachers and an average enrolment of 14,366 pupils.

In the 18 Malay Vernacular Girls' schools there were 76 Malay teachers and an average enrolment of 1,799 pupils.

In the 6 English Boys' schools there were 11 European and 85 local teachers and an average enrolment of 1,946 pupils.

76. *Aided Schools.*—There are two English Schools for Girls in Johore which receive grants, the Convents at Johore Bahru and Muar. Average enrolments were 300 and 121 respectively. 3 girls from the Johore Bahru Convent took the Junior Cambridge and 2 candidates went up for the Trinity College of Music Examination, and all passed.

The number of Malay girls in the Special Class at the Johore Bahru Convent at the end of the year was 35. Both Convents are doing excellent work.

In the 70 Aided Tamil schools, there was an average enrolment of 2,427.

Private Schools.—In the 21 private English schools drawing no grant-in-aid there was an enrolment of 1,569. There were 224 registered Chinese schools with 552 teachers and an average daily attendance of 11,690 boys and 1,167 girls.

77. *Elementary Education.*—This is provided in vernacular schools, Malay, Tamil and Chinese. The aim is to provide for children from the age of 5 to 14 years. Special attention is paid to local crafts and industries and in rural areas to gardening. Girls study as special subjects needlework, cookery, domestic economy, nursing, hygiene, handwork and art.

Pupils at the Malay Government and Tamil Aided elementary schools enjoy free education including free books.

78. Four new permanent Malay schools were completed, and work was in progress on one at the end of the year. In addition 12 schools were enlarged.

79. The Tamil schools with 6 exceptions are Estate schools. They nearly all have separate and satisfactory buildings and there is a steady improvement in furniture and equipment. With experience the staffs are fairly satisfactory for the lower classes, but upper classes suffer from an absence of trained teachers.

80. Registration of Chinese vernacular schools is undertaken by the Protector of Chinese. None of these schools are maintained or supported by the Government. All but three of the schools were primary. In a few gardening and fretwork were taught. The monthly fees varied between 30 cents and \$3.

Twenty-nine new schools were registered during the year and 11 ceased to function, the total being 224.

81. *Secondary Education.*—All English education is in effect secondary as the curriculum, though starting with primary classes, extends to the Cambridge School Certificate.

1,321 of the 1,891 boys in the Johore English schools were Malays selected by the Superintendent of Education at an interview, consideration being paid to age, school record and the teachers reports.

In the 1936 Cambridge Local Examinations 40 out of 61 School Certificate candidates passed and 82 out of 105 Junior candidates. Of the 122 passes, 62 were Malays and 60 of other races. The number of Passes in the last five years have been 60, 88, 87, 102 and 122.

82. *Vocational Education and Manual Training.*—At the State Trade School are taught carpentry and tailoring, trades formerly the monopoly of immigrants. The course is for three years. A syllabus for practical English is in use. All apprentices learn drawing. A comprehensive training in Carpentry is aimed at. Orders were received both from Government Departments and from private individuals. The standard of tailoring improved. The profit on work, after deducting cost of material and overhead charges, was given to the apprentices, one quarter being paid in cash and three-quarters put to their credit to provide capital for them when they leave the school. No fees were charged.

Netmaking, basket-making or book-binding was taught in central classes. The usual handwork was taught in the English schools. All schools have flower gardens and some have vegetable gardens, inspected by officers of the Agricultural Department. The Standard of cleanliness of the schools and of their surroundings is high and in many cases provide an example to the neighbouring villagers, who take a great interest in the schools, especially the Sports.

Seven Agricultural Pupils concluded their course of training at the School of Agriculture, Serdang. Six of these were appointed as Junior Agricultural Assistants and the seventh being considered unsatisfactory for appointment. There were three Malay Agricultural Pupils studying at the School at the end of the year.

83. *Training of Teachers.*—At the end of the year there were 34 teachers for the Malay Vernacular Boys' schools were in training at the Sultan Idris Training College, Tanjong Malim, where teachers are trained for all the Malay States:—this large college with over 300 students can afford a specialised staff and adequate equipment, both of which it would be extravagant for Johore to provide for its few students. Locally there were special classes for pupil teachers and senior teachers for the Malay Boys' and Girls' schools.

84. During the year there was eight Johore Students at the College of Medicine, Singapore and ten Students at Raffles College. There were also Johore Students in training at the Technical School, Kuala Lumpur.

The annual contribution of \$12,000 was paid to Raffles College, and the Superintendent of Education represented Johore on the College Council and attended all meetings.

85. *Games, Music, Art and Drama.*—Nearly all schools have recreation grounds. Football is everywhere popular. The standard reached in team games and physical drill remained very high. In the English Boys' schools football, cricket, hockey, badminton, volley-ball and in four schools tennis are

played. They all held Athletic Sports for Inter-House Championship and competition was very keen. There is still a prejudice against games for Malay girls; though some badminton was played.

Scouts.—The number of scouts rose from 793 in 1936 to 938. Syed Esa bin Alwee, Assistant District Scout Commissioner for Johore won the rare distinction of a Deputy Camp Chief's Warrant at Gilwell and this was presented to him on 21st March by His Highness the Sultan at an assembly of Scouts from Singapore and districts. His Highness entertained the Scouts and made a speech emphasising his interest in and appreciation of the Scout movement which has been a great incentive to scouting in Johore.

The Girl Guides Association is independent of the Education Department. It received a Government grant for the first time. The guides and the Brownies are all school girls. The Association is doing excellent work and is much indebted to the kind interest shown by H. H. the Tungku Ampuan Besar of Pahang.

Singing was taught in all of the English schools.

Elementary art is taught in all schools.

All the English Schools had literary and debating societies, and two published magazines. The Camera Club at the English College Johore Bahru is flourishing and reaches a high standard.

86. In town schools all pupils were medically and ophthalmically examined. General health conditions were reported very satisfactory. Where there is a tuck shop, it is inspected by medical authorities, who give advice regarding cleanliness and cooking. All persons who cook or handle the food are examined to see that they are free from skin affections and non-typhoid carriers. Teachers in all schools are examined for signs of tuberculosis.

Dental treatment of Government schools was carried out and extended in the districts of Johore Bahru, Batu Pahat and Segamat. Tooth Brush drill is the rule and both boys and girls show great improvement.

The usual clerical examinations were held during the year. There were evening classes for clerks, with instruction in type-writing.

XI.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

87. On the west coast Johore is served by Muar, Batu Pahat and several smaller ports,—Kukup, Pontian, Benut, Senggarang. The only ocean-going steamers that call are Japanese which visit Batu Pahat for the transport of iron-ore. Local steamers from Singapore visit all the smaller ports but like the railway have suffered from the competition of road transport.

On the east coast the north-east monsoon has created bars that make the estuaries accessible only to small steamers and Mersing is the only port at which even these call.

There are steamships running from Singapore to Pengerang, Tanjong Surat and Kota Tinggi on the Johore River and also to Sungai Papan. Motor-boats ply for hire on most of the navigable rivers.

88. The total number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared at all the ports was as follows:—

	Entered		Cleared	
	Number	Tonnage	Number	Tonnage
Ocean-going Steamers -	77	286,810	77	286,810
Coasting .. -	2,771	133,527	3,465	136,092
Sailing vessels -	9,846	249,050	9,947	252,170

These figures show an increase of 38,833 tons entered and 728 cleared as compared with 1936. The number of passengers arriving and departing from the ports in the State was 24,350 and 19,565 respectively against 20,866 and 15,985 in 1936.

The total tonnage of the sea-borne trade for the last five years was—

Year	Ocean-going Vessels Tons	Sailing Vessels Tons	Coasting Steamers Tons	Total Tons
1933	236,790	224,093	100,050	560,933
1934	263,459	234,219	121,792	619,470
1935	296,754	240,549	103,651	640,954
1936	277,700	249,307	103,547	630,554
1937	286,810	252,170	136,092	675,072

89. The Johore State Railway is a corridor section of the main line that runs from Singapore to Bangkok. It was built at the expense of the Johore Government and runs from Johore Bahru in the south to Gemas in the north (120 miles 63 chains with 20 stations and 7 halts). It was leased to the Federated

Malay States Government for 21 years from 1st January, 1912 to be run in conjunction with their railway system. The lease has since been extended for a further period of 21 years from 1st January, 1933. A causeway built in 1923 links Johore with the island of Singapore by rail and road.

90. The state possesses 875 miles of metalled, gravelled and concrete roads, and 9 miles of earth roads as well as 69 miles of approach roads and back lanes.

91. Mails are conveyed by trains to stations and halts, also by motor cars and to places on the Johore River by steamship. Mails for the Colony and Federated Malay States are conveyed by railway, and mails for countries overseas are sent to Singapore or Kuala Lumpur, whence they may be despatched by steamship or air mail.

92. On the 31st December there were 25 post offices conducting all kind of postal and telegraph business, and 20 postal agencies affording a limited postal service as compared with 25 and 18 in 1936. Telegraph communication with all parts of the world is available through Singapore and Kuala Lumpur. Trunk telephone communication is available between all Johore exchanges and all exchanges throughout Malaya and between Johore and Netherlands Indies, Philippine Islands and Siam through Kuala Lumpur.

93. Johore participates in the various air mail services through the medium of Singapore, and regular service are now available to Australia, Hong Kong, Africa, North and South America, as well as to all European Countries. The use made of these air services continues to grow. From February onwards air mail correspondence was accepted for Honolulu and United States of America for conveyance by the Pan-American Airways from Manila.

94. *Savings Bank.*—The number of depositors in the Post Office Savings Bank at the end of the year was 7,592 as compared with 5,233 in 1936. The total amount standing the credit of depositors on the 31st December, inclusive of \$12,882 in respect of interest earned in 1937 was \$745,669 as compared with \$403,000 in 1936.

95. A comparison of postal business for the last three years is as follows:—

	1935	1936	1937
	\$	\$	\$
Letters, papers and parcels handed	4,596,300	4,716,700	5,647,200
Value of Money Orders issued	1,224,716	1,420,093	2,036,156
Value of Money Orders Paid	341,544	310,093	305,636

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

96. The principal buildings completed and put in hand during the year were as follows:—

BUILDINGS COMPLETED.

Johore Bahru District:—

New Mental Hospital; New Police Depot, Johore Bahru; One Male Ward with 12 beds, Pontian Kechil; Customs Office, Tanjong Kupang; One set of Barracks for two O. D. O's at 6½ mile, Scudai; New Malay School for 80 boys with Class VIII Quarters at Pulau Sa-batang; New Malay School for 75 boys with Quarters for Head Teacher, at Tanjong Kupang; Dispensary and Clinic with Class VI Quarters and Attendants' Quarters, Kulai; Sanitary Installation to Leper Camp; Dispensary, Class VI Quarters, Attendants' Quarters, Pengerang; Post Office, Quarters for Postmaster etc., Masai.

Muar District:—

New Health Office, Muar; Single Men's Barracks and Canteen for Malays at Muar; New Malay School, Parit Bunga; Cattle Slaughter House, Bandar Maharani; New Coolie Lines and Overseer's Quarters, Kepong Road; Second Class Female Wards, Muar; Quarters for Asst. Dental Surgeon, Muar.

Batu Pahat District:—

Malay School for 250 boys with Class VIII Quarters, Benut; extension to Malay Schools at Tanjong Sembrong, Rengit, Paserai and Sri Gading; Two Class VI Quarters for Dressers; New Mosque at J. M. F. Barracks; Two Double Storeyed Barracks each for 24 Married Men; Two Blocks of eight roomed Permanent Cooly Lines; New Fire Station and Quarters, Bandar Penggaram; Five Pig Slaughter Houses at Semerah, Rengit, Parit Sulong, Cha'ah and Senggarang.

Segamat District:—

New Police Office and Station; Women and Children Clinic; New Senior Officers' Rest House; Barracks for five Out-door Officers; Class V Quarters for Asst. Lady Medical Officer; New Customs Station; Three Quarters for Midwives.

Kluang District:—

New Offices for Agricultural and Other Departments; New Female Ward; New Police Station, Yong Peng; Food Market; Five Cattle Detention Sheds; Two Class VI Quarters; One Block of four C1. VII Flats; One Block of four C1. VIII Flats; One Class III Quarters; One Class IV Quarters; One Permanent Overseer's Quarters and 6 roomed Cooly Lines at 49th Mile, Johore Bahru—Yong Peng Road.

Johore East.

New Government Offices, Mersing; New Customs Quarters and Office, Panchor; New Malay School for 80 boys, with C1. VIII Quarters at Batu Empat; New Maternity Ward, Mersing Hospital; Quarters and Office, Electric Power Station, Kota Tinggi; One C1. VI and one C1. VII Quarters at Kota Tinggi. One C1. VII Quarters at Mersing.

BUILDINGS UNDER CONSTRUCTION.**Johore Bahru District:—**

Extensions to General Hospital, Johore Bahru; Residence for H. H. Tungku Mahkota, Johore; Permanent Mosque, Pontian Kechil; New Dining Hall, Sultan Abu Bakar Mosque, Johore Bahru; Removal of P. W. D. Workshops; Improvements and extensions to the Zoo at Johore Bahru; New Malay School with Class VIII Quarters, Tambatan.

Muar District:—

Bachelors' Barracks; Four Blocks of Semi-detached Class VIII Quarters.

Batu Pahat District:—

Women and Children Clinic; Two Doubled Storeyed Barracks for 24 Married Men, Police; One eight roomed Cooly Lines, Lorry Sheds etc., at Sungei Simpang Kanan.

Segamat District:—

New Market, Segamat; Five Cattle Detention Sheds; A 2nd Class "B" Ward.

Johore East.

One set of Barracks etc., for four Married O. D. O's Padang Endau; One Class VI Quarters with Dispensary attached and Attendant's Quarters at Jemaluang; J. V. F. Headquarters at Kota Tinggi; One 26 bed Ward for Hospital, Kota Tinggi.

WATER SUPPLY.

97. The principal construction works undertaken were:—

Johore Bahru District:—

Two reinforced concrete water towers, each of 140,000 gallons capacity, were in course of construction at Bukit Serene and the "Northern Area".

Muar District:—

Work on the extensions to the water supply from Mount Ophir was continued, and four reinforced concrete water towers, each of 140,000 gallons capacity, were completed and put into service at Parit Bunga, Parit Bakri, Parit Bakar and Parit Jawa. Construction of an impounding dam on Mount Ophir was almost completed, but progress on the construction of the rapid gravity filtration plant nearby was slowed up considerably by unforeseen delay in the delivery of the plant from England.

Batu Pahat District:—

A service reservoir on Bukit Banang was converted into a settling tank with good results. A waste survey was made in Batu Pahat town, as a result of which measures were taken to check the considerable waste which resulted from faulty house connections, and a reduction of twenty-five per cent in the average daily consumption of water was effected.

Kluang.

Construction work proceeded for an entirely new water supply for this town, to replace the existing inadequate supply, and the river intake, pumping station, rising main and filter house were completed. Here again delay in the delivery of the filtration plant from England materially hindered the progress of the work.

Rengam.

A 40,000 gallons service reservoir was constructed and the reticulation was improved by the laying of 1,900 feet of 4" main.

Kota Tinggi.

Construction work on the new gravity water supply reached a stage that enabled the new water to be turned on the town. The supply is drawn from the Sungei Pelepah at a point above which the catchment is in jungle normally free from human pollution.

Batu Anam.

A small filter plant was installed for Batu Anam water supply.

ROADS.

98. Details of the mileages of all classes of roads at the close of the year are given below:—

	Miles.	Chains.
(a) Granite metalled and Asphalt surfaces	537	62
(b) Granite metalled and water bound surfaces	264	26
(c) Laterite surface	59	19
(d) Concrete	13	61
Total length of metalled, gravelled and concrete roads ..	875	08
(e) Earth Roads	8	57
Total mileage of roads ..	883	65
(f) Approach roads and back lanes	68	53
Grand Total ..	952	38

43 miles 37 chains of roads were re-metalled and asphalted at an average cost of \$6,098 per mile, while 34 miles 69 chains were re-metalled only at a cost of \$2,538 per mile, and asphalt-ing was carried out on a length of 14 miles 53 chains of roads at a cost of \$1,625 per mile.

The average cost of general maintenance per mile of road was \$501, while the all-in cost of maintaining the road system was \$928 per mile, including the cost of the major re-metalling and asphaltting programmes carried out during the year.

A length of 1 mile 49 chains of the Bye-Pass road connecting Scudai Road at the 4th mile to Jalan Ah Fook was completed. This road will divert through traffic between the Causeway and the main North Road from the centre of Johore Bahru, thus relieving traffic congestion which is becoming more acute yearly.

1 mile 55 chains of concrete road slab were laid in the Johore Bahru-Pontian Road, and 5 miles 62 chains were constructed over the mud flats traversed by the Batu Pahat-Muar and Batu Pahat-Pontian Roads.

Construction of the remaining 17 miles of the Mersing-Endau Road was completed. The work necessitated the erection of several temporary coolie lines and the opening up of new quarries to provide the necessary supplies of metal for the construction of the road.

Other new road construction programmes in addition to those outlined above were carried out in the various Districts during the year.

MISCELLANEOUS.

99. An extensive programme of new river clearing work was put in hand by the Drainage and Irrigation Branch and some 145 miles of rivers and drains were cleared and an estimated 14,000 tons of snags removed. Various surveys were also carried out with a view to the preparation of schemes for flood prevention and irrigation. The most important scheme prepared during the year provides for the drainage of an aggregate area of 130,000 acres in Batu Pahat District. This area extends from Koris to Rengit on the West Coast and thence in a North Easterly direction along the plains of the Sungei Senggarang and Sungei Sembrong to the head waters of the latter river. The project involves the construction of a coastal bund twenty five miles long with gated outlets where river and drainage channels intersect the main road. These gates will eliminate tidal water from the lower levels of the area.

100. Maintenance and general repairs were carried out at the P. W. D. Workshops on lorries, road rollers, stone crushers, locomotives and other mechanical plant. 741 repair jobs were executed by the staff.

101. The total horse power of plant installed and registered under the Machinery Enactment amounted to 22,614 H. P., as compared with a corresponding figure of 19,923 H. P. for the previous year. The condition of privately owned machinery and standards of safety were well maintained, and the administration of the Enactment proceeded smoothly.

102. The total output of quarries during 1937 amounted to 242,500 cubic yards of granite or other igneous or metamorphic stone, and 23,000 cubic yards of laterite.

103. The Batu Pahat aerodrome and the emergency landing ground five miles from Johore Bahru were maintained in good condition throughout the year and 109 landings were made in the former.

104. A tragic aeroplane accident occurred in Muar District on the 30th September, when a Kuala Lumpur Flying Club plane, carrying a pilot and one passenger, crashed into the side of Mount Ophir which was obscured by low clouds at the time. Both occupants of the plane were killed instantly and the machine was completely destroyed by fire.

FINANCIAL.

105. The total expenditure of the Department during 1937 amounted to \$7,243,458. This expenditure may be sub-divided under the following headings:—

	\$
Special Services ..	5,094,423
Annually Recurrent ..	1,505,889
Other Charges ..	141,112
Personal Emoluments ..	502,034

The Annually Recurrent expenditure on Works and Buildings was \$278,906; on Roads, Streets and Bridges \$894,495; and on Miscellaneous Services \$332,488.

Of the total expenditure on Special Services, the sum of \$2,433,621 was spent on Works and Buildings; \$1,531,187 on Roads, Streets and Bridges; \$149,030 on Drainage and Irrigation Works; \$110,852 on Anti-Malaria Works; \$695,242 on Waterworks and \$174,491 on Miscellaneous works.

ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT.

106. This was the first year in which the Electrical Department was separate from the Public Works. The Head of the Department is the Chief Electrical Engineer, matters of policy and finance being dealt with by an Electrical Board.

107. The Kota Tinggi Power Station was completed and began operation in September.

108. The total installed capacity of the six electric generating stations controlled by Government at the end of 1936 aggregated 2,686 K. W., which by the end of 1937 had increased to 3,456 K. W. The consumption of electricity in the State showed an increase of 21 per cent to a total of 4,659,348 units, the chief increase being in the township of Batu Pahat where the number of units sold rose by 36.2 per cent.

109. Corresponding with the increase in plant, the working cost of maintaining and operating was \$299,209, as compared with \$248,719 in 1936, during which year Kluang was only working for two months and Kota Tinggi had not yet been constructed.

110. Revenue for 1937 was \$562,322, an increase of \$78,277. This is largely due to the rise of 680 in the number of consumers, which by the end of the year totalled 4,428.

XIII.—JUSTICE AND POLICE.

CRIMES.

111. The total number of offences reported to the Police during the year numbered 29,970; the figures were 30,823 in 1936, 27,019 in 1935, 23,019 in 1934, and 21,350 in 1933. They comprised 2,047 seizeable offences and 22,633 non-seizeable offences. The remaining 5,290 were cases, which upon enquiry, disclosed no offence or were found either to relate to a civil affair or in a number of instances to false information. Of the seizeable offences arrests were made in 1,231 cases and convictions obtained in 795 cases.

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

	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Murder and Homicide -	28	18	11	17	19
Rape -	7	5	4	4	10
Gang-robbery -	9	1	2	2	—
Robbery -	25	7	14	19	5
House-breaking -	328	201	293	301	232
Thefts (over \$100) -	49	31	48	34	42
Thefts (under \$100) -	1,167	840	998	1,051	950
Counterfeit Coin & Counterfeit Notes -	2	3	1	—	3
Mischief by Fire -	28	11	22	24	5
Unlawful Societies -	—	4	1	—	—
Communism and Sedition -	27	15	11	8	3

112. 78 persons were banished from the State in 1937.

113. Admissions to the two State prisons totalled 2,997 against 2,341 in 1935 and 4,503 in 1936. Of these 78.72 per cent were Chinese, 10.00 Indians, 9.54 Malays and 1.74 other nationalities. 251 had previous convictions.

At the end of the year 268 prisoners remained.

There were 10 deaths in the prison hospitals as against 9 in 1936.

There were 3 executions.

13 floggings were inflicted, 2 of them by order of the Court.

114. Total number of Aliens registered at the end of the year was 1,247 compared with 1,022 in 1936 and 821 in 1935. Of the remaining 917 persons at the end of the year, 822 were Japanese, 51 Formosans and 44 other nationalities.

POLICE.

115. The strength of the Police Force at the end of the year was 1,344, all ranks, against an approved establishment of 1,373.

116. As in the past only Johore born Malays were recruited. 107 out of a total of 172 applicants were accepted. No other nationalities were enlisted during the year.

Discipline was again very satisfactory and it is gratifying to record a considerable reduction in the total of offences for absence from duty and leave breaking.

117. The approved establishment of the Police Force consists:—

(a) of a British Commissioner and 6 British Assistant Commissioners—one in charge of each of the five police circles and the sixth, Officer-in-charge of the Depot and Adjutant to the Commissioner;

(b) of a Malay Deputy Commissioner (in charge of the detective personnel and criminal record office) and five Malay Assistant Commissioners;

(c) 37 Malay Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors, the former appointed as Cadets, the latter ordinarily recruited from the ranks;

(d) 1,021 Malay N.C.Os. and men;

(e) 197 Sikh N.C.Os. and men stationed at Johore Bahru, for guard and emergency duty;

(f) 1 Detective Inspector, 18 Detective Sub-Inspectors and 57 detectives; and

(g) armourers and clerical staff.

118. There is a Depot which is responsible for the recruitment and training of all recruits and the instruction of trained men at 'refresher' classes; a Headquarters Store and Armoury, a Pay Office and a Record Office, all at Johore Bahru. The new Depot under construction last year has been completed and occupied during the year.

119. The total cost of the Force (excluding of cost of new buildings) was \$975,968. Revenue collected amounted to \$544,483, an increase of \$113,000 over the 1936 revenue. This is accounted for by increased registration fees and import duties on motor vehicles.

120. Efforts made to free the force from the incubus of debt have met with a degree of success that is encouraging and creditable to the officers concerned.

COURTS.

121. The *Courts Enactment*, 1920, provides for the following courts for the administration of civil and criminal law:—

(a) The Supreme Court, comprising the Court of Appeal and the Court of a Judge;

(b) Courts of Magistrates of the First Class;

(c) Courts of Magistrates of the Second Class;

(d) Courts of (Muslim) Kathis and Courts of Naib Kathis;

(e) Courts of Malay Headmen (Penghulus).

The Court of Appeal and the Courts of a Judge are courts of record, and possess the same power and authority to punish for contempt of court as are possessed by the Court of Appeal, and the High Court of Justice in England.

122. There were one (British) Judge, first and second class Magistrates. Magistrates are both British and Malay.

123. In the Court of the Judge 43 Criminal Cases and 26 Criminal Appeals were registered. 100 civil suits, 22 civil appeals from Magistrates' Courts, 210 probate and administration petitions, 343 applications by way of originating summons, motion or petition and 134 bankruptcy petitions were registered. There were also 2 Land Acquisition References to Court.

124. The Court of Appeal sat on six occasions. There were 15 Criminal Appeals from Assizes and 8 Civil Appeals from the Court of the Judge.

125. The following is a return of cases and suits heard by Magistrates:—

	1936		1937	
	<i>Criminal</i>	<i>Civil</i>	<i>Criminal</i>	<i>Civil</i>
Johore Bahru ..	5,364	630	4,650	693
Kota Tinggi ..	336	118	757	50
Pontian ..	1,166	83	1,182	43
Muar ..	4,854	765	4,529	423
Batu Pahat ..	6,282	400	4,119	250
Endau ..	431	73	414	81
Segamat ..	2,749	466	2,650	296
Kluang ..	1,926	130	2,019	175

PRISONS.

126. There are two State Prisons, one at Johore Bahru and the other at Bandar Maharani. The British Inspector of Prisons is stationed at Johore Bahru and there is a British District Superintendent stationed at Bandar Maharani. There are ten seconded European Warders.

127. The Prison buildings at Johore Bahru consist of two large halls, one comprising 80 single cells and the other 36 association cells. There are 10 single punishment cells and the buildings include remand ward, female ward, sick ward, kitchen and washhouses.

128. The Muar Prison buildings consist of 2 main halls (48 cells each), one association ward (15 prisoners), 1 remand ward, 1 hospital ward and 1 female ward (4 prisoners) together with kitchens and washhouses. There are extramural quarters for European and native staff at both prisons.

129. The Johore Bahru prison was used for the custody of prisoners undergoing sentences for criminal offences, of persons committed for trial or remanded for further examination and of persons confined on civil process.

130. The Bandar Maharani gaol was used for the custody of prisoners undergoing sentences of law not exceeding two years for criminal offences, of persons committed for trial or remanded for further examination and of persons confined on civil process.

131. At Johore Bahru an average of 48.46 prisoners were daily engaged by the Public Works Department on extramural labour: earth work, drainage, tree-felling, the preparation of building sites and reclamation of land. Prisoners were employed inside the prison on baking, carpentry, chick-making, tailoring, husk-beating, basket-working, rattan and wood furniture-making, coir-matting, printing, motor-repairing, laundry work and cooking. The Laundry, Bakery and Workshops produce a revenue which showed an increase on the previous year. Small scavenging parties daily attend the Military and Police Barracks.

At Muar the average daily number of prisoners engaged on extramural work was 24.78.

132. Juvenile offenders are segregated separately in both prisons and are engaged on separate prison labour apart from adult prisoners.

133. There is no time limit for fines and payment at any time before the completion of the sentence imposed as an alternative secures a prisoner's release. The amount of a fine is reduced in proportion to the period of imprisonment served.

134. Apart from the Police system of probation there is no system of probation in the State Prisons.

135. The prisons have Vagrant Wards. The daily average number of vagrants at Johore Bahru was 7.81 and at Muar .66, 75.61 per cent of the vagrants were Chinese.

136. The prisons were visited regularly by Visiting Justices throughout the year. No serious complaints were recorded. The general health of the prisoners was good.

137. The two prisons cost \$137,087 to maintain.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

138. Fifteen Enactments were passed in 1937, of which eleven were Enactments amending existing laws, and the remaining four either re-enacted existing legislation in an amended form or placed new matter on the Statute-book;

They were as follows:—

1. The Rubber Regulation Enactment, 1937, which consolidated and amended the law relating to the regulation of the production, export and import of rubber.
2. The Divorce Enactment, 1937. This Enactment conferred jurisdiction on the Supreme Court in Matrimonial Causes, where one or each of the parties is a Christian. The Enactment confers no jurisdiction in respect of any marriage celebrated according to the Muhammadan Religion.

3. The Debtors Protection and Moneylenders Enactment, 1937, which was designed for the protection of debtors and the control of Moneylenders. This Enactment, and Enactment No. 4 of 1937, were the outcome of prolonged consideration by a sub-committee of the Council of State of the question of moneylending.
4. The Usurious Loans (Amendment) Enactment, 1937. This Enactment implemented various recommendations of the Council of State Sub-Committee on moneylending.
Inter alia, it requires particulars of the loan to be given in the documents filed in any proceeding to which the Principal Enactment applies, and also lays down certain circumstances in which interest is to be *presumed* to be substantially unfair.
5. The Burial (Amendment) Enactment, 1937. This Enactment amended the Principal Enactment by enabling the remission of fees in the cases of estate burial grounds.
6. The Traction Engines and Motor Cars (Amendment) Enactment, 1937. This amendment is designed principally to enable reciprocal recognition to be accorded in regard to the licences of drivers and vehicles coming for a short stay in the State from Countries participating in the Conventions for facilitating International Circulation of Motor Vehicles.

Other minor matters were dealt with.

7. The Registration of United Kingdom Patents, 1937. This Enactment is similar in most respects to the corresponding laws passed in the Colony and the Federated Malay States. The object is to provide that, in future, only those Patents which have been registered in the United Kingdom shall be capable of registration in Johore.
8. The Court Fees (Amendment) Enactment, 1937. This Enactment was passed in order to adopt in Johore various amendments which had been made in the Corresponding Enactment in the Federated Malay States. It relates mainly to valuations for the purpose of determining fees chargeable under the Principal Enactment.

9. The Excise (Amendment) Enactment, 1937. This Enactment was passed in order to bring Johore law into closer conformity with the corresponding law in the Federated Malay States. Important matters dealt with were the provisions that actions should not be maintainable for the price of liquor sold on credit, the incidence of reductions or increases in duties in respect of existing contracts, and provisions as to drawback.
10. Interpretation and General Clauses (Amendment) Enactment, 1937. This Enactment introduced a number of definitions and explanations which already existed in the Corresponding laws of the Colony and Federated Malay States.
11. The Labour Code (Amendment) Enactment, 1937. This Enactment established a system of recruitment of Netherlands Indian labourers on the same lines as those which already existed in the Federated Malay States.
12. The Trade and Customs (Amendment) Enactment, 1937. This Enactment has provided means by which customs duties imposed under the Principal Enactment may be collected in the Colony or the Federated Malay States by arrangement with the Collecting Government.
13. The Opium and Chandu (Amendment) Enactment, 1937. This Enactment amended the Principal Enactment firstly, by providing power to return forfeited property in cases where the law requires forfeiture but it would be inequitable not to give relief; secondly, by removing some of the difficulties encountered in the question of "possession"; and lastly by increasing the maximum penalty in the case of certain offences.
14. The Electricity (Amendment) Enactment, 1937. This provided for certain alterations in titles following the creation of a separate Electrical Department.
15. The Revised Edition of the Laws (Annual Supplement) (Amendment) Enactment, 1937. This Enactment permits His Highness the Sultan to direct that no supplement shall be prepared in any particular year, provided that in not more than two consecutive years shall there be no issue of a supplement.

XV.—BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

139. The Currency and Weights and Measures, as in all Malay States, are those of the Colony of the Straits Settlements. The dollar is fixed at 2s. 4d. The principal local measures are:—

1 chupak = 1 quart, *1 gantang* = 1 gallon, *1 tahil* = $1\frac{1}{3}$ ozs.
1 kati (16 *tahils*) = $1\frac{1}{3}$ lbs., *1 pikul* (100 *katis*) = $133\frac{1}{3}$ lbs.
1 koyan (40 *pikuls*) = $533\frac{1}{3}$ lbs., *1 bahara* = 400 lbs.
1 hoon = .0133 ozs.

There are no Agricultural or Co-operative Banks.

XVI.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

140. **Revenue.**—The total revenue of the State in 1937 amounted to \$20,196,688 compared with the estimate of \$16,364,130 and actual revenue of 1936 amounting to \$17,388,691. Appendix A shows the revenue under the main heads for the years 1935, 1936 and 1937.

Interest on the investments in the Opium Revenue Replacement Fund continued to be credited to the general revenue of the State.

As the Federated Malay States Railways earned a profit in 1936 the State received a payment of \$86,700 under the Railway lease in 1937.

141. **Expenditure.**—The total expenditure of the State amounted to \$18,397,752 compared with an estimate of \$21,312,837 and actual expenditure in 1936 of \$17,911,794.

There was thus a surplus on the year's working in 1937 of \$1,798,936. Appendix B shows the expenditure under the main heads for the years 1935, 1936 and 1937.

142. **Debt.**—There is no Public Debt.

143. **Assets.**—Appendix C shows the State balance sheet at 31st December, 1937. The Surplus of assets over liabilities amounted to \$42,532,812 including the Opium Revenue Replacement Fund of \$15,406,057. Investments amounted to \$38,595,503 (including the \$15,406,057 forming the Opium Revenue Replacement Fund). These figures represent the cost price of investments in securities and also fixed deposits. The market value of the investments on 31st December, 1937 exceeded the cost price in the case of ordinary investments by \$1,082,989 and in the case of the Opium Revenue Replacement Fund investments by \$1,157,317.

TAXATION.

144. **Land.**—The chief charges are a premium on alienation of land varying from \$1 to \$100 an acre for agricultural or mining purposes, and from 10 cents to 50 cents a square foot for residential or commercial purposes, (unless the land is auctioned) and an annual quit-rent varying from 60 cents to \$4 an acre on all land except in the case of a very few rent free titles. There was, however, a waiver of part rent on the majority of lands planted with coconuts and arecanuts, the general effect of which was to reduce the rents from \$2 to \$1 per acre.

145. **Customs.**—Import duties are imposed at the following rates:—

Intoxicating Liquors	..	From \$1.20 to \$14 a proof gallon.
Tobacco	..	From 70 cents to \$1.60 a lb.
Matches	..	\$1 per 10,000 matches in boxes of 80.
Kerosene	..	5 cents a gallon.
Petrol	..	35 cents a gallon.

There are also import duties on cotton piece goods, motor tyres and several miscellaneous articles, but articles of these classes are admitted free when of British Empire origin.

The position as regards export duties is as follows:—

Rubber.—An *ad valorem* export duty on rubber was re-imposed from the 1st October, 1936. It is on a sliding scale rising from a minimum of 1% *ad valorem* when the local price is under 20 cents a pound to $3\frac{1}{4}$ % when it is over 35 cents. Previously (from the 31st May, 1934) there was no actual export duty but a cess was collected from which the equivalent of a $2\frac{1}{2}$ % *ad valorem* export duty was allocated to revenue, the remainder being credited to a Fund to meet the cost of Rubber Regulation and other measures for the particular benefit of the industry.

Oil palm products	..	Free.
Other agricultural produce	..	Chiefly at 5% <i>ad valorem</i> with exceptions at fixed rates. An export duty on copra was re-imposed from June, 1936 in the form of a flat rate duty of 15 cents a pikul whenever the local price is over \$5 a pikul.
Tin	..	\$10 a bahara when the market price of tin does not exceed \$41 a pikul and an additional 50 cents for every \$1 increase in the price of tin; tin being calculated at 72% of the ore.
Other metals (of which iron is the principal)	..	10% <i>ad valorem</i> .

The following table shows the main items of customs revenue:—

	1935	1936	1937
	\$	\$	\$
Arecanuts	82,284	78,913	109,400
Pineapples	99,426	103,221	107,830
Rubber	981,143	1,230,517	2,396,186
Tin Ore	146,937	158,831	219,339
Iron Ore	302,536	295,960	278,023
Tobacco	1,422,290	1,474,003	1,847,336
Spirits	451,605	451,401	704,401
Petroleum	1,210,398	1,234,359	1,517,661
Matches	30,270	35,007	66,293

146. **Chandu:** or specially prepared opium, is bought from the Government of the Straits Settlements and is retailed at the rate of 26 cents a tube of 2 hoon.

225,211 tahils were sold in 1937, as against 205,216 in 1936, an increase of 19,995 tahils; the increase is due partly to the fact that 4,933 addicts (previous unregistered) were admitted to the Register on medical certificate. Revenue brought in \$2,380,789, as compared with \$2,123,444 in 1936. The total quantity of Dross recovered was 1,078 tahils as compared with 801 tahils in 1936. 354.47 tahils of illicit chandu and 27,003 tahils of chandu dross were seized. 839 convictions under the Opium and Chandu Enactment were obtained.

147. **Excise:** duties are collected on the manufacture of intoxicating liquors at 70% of the import duty on imported liquors of similar strength, and on the manufacture of matches at 20 to 50 cents a standard gross of 10,000 matches according to the origin of the timber.

Excise Revenue for 1937 exceeded that for 1936 as follows:—

	1936	1937
	\$	\$
Excise Duty	92,179	142,657
Sales of Toddy	132,625	162,292
Licences	23,591	23,576
Miscellaneous	410	404
	<u>248,805</u>	<u>328,929</u>

Toddy was supplied to 47 Estates and sold to the public, from Government Shops. The Excise duty under Liquor amounted to \$103,429 as against \$65,404 in 1936. Excise duty on matches locally manufactured amounted to \$39,228 as compared with \$26,715 in 1936. The expenditure for maintaining Toddy Shops amounted to \$78,614. 698 convictions under the Excise Enactment were obtained. 181 stills were seized as compared with 290 in 1936.

148. **Forests:** royalty is collected on timber of all classes varying from \$1 to \$10 a ton on converted timber, and from 50 cents to \$5 a ton on unconverted timber.

Duty is collected at various rates on firewood, charcoal, rattans, damar, wild rubber and miscellaneous forest produce.

149. **Posts and Telegraphs:** Revenue is derived from sale of stamps, telegrams, telephone, wireless, commission on money orders and British Postal Orders, bearing letters, and C. O. D. parcels.

150. **Municipal Revenue** consists mainly of the following items:—

House Assessment	6% to 12% on annual valuation based on rental.
Water Rate	Metered supplies from 30 cents to \$1 per 1,000 gallons, to private houses; 50 cents per 1,000 gallons for trade purposes.
Electricity	25 cents a unit, or 6 cents a unit plus flat rate.

The following table gives the main heads of municipal revenue in 1935, 1936 and 1937:—

	1935	1936	1937
	\$	\$	\$
Electric Lighting	377,167	443,739	541,759
General Assessment	203,365	212,640	212,801
Market Fees	83,943	86,167	87,206
Water Supply	137,003	154,888	183,803
Conservancy	117,600	124,799	131,331

151. **Stamp Duties.** Of numerous stamp duties the following are the more important:—

Death Duties: Graduated rates from 1% to 20% according to the values of the estate, with total exemption for estates not exceeding \$1,000.

Bills of exchange payable on demand or at sight, cheques and receipts for sums exceeding \$20, 4 cents.

Promissory Notes, 10 cents for every \$100 or part thereof;

Contracts, 25 cents.

Conveyances or Transfers of property, \$1.50 for every \$250 or part thereof; of shares, 30 cents for every \$100 or part thereof in the case of blank transfers; otherwise 10 cents.

Mortgages (charges), \$1 for every \$500 or part thereof.

Powers or Letters of Attorney, \$3.

Copies or duplicates of original documents, 50 cents.

152. There is no Hut Tax, Poll Tax or Income Tax.

XVII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

LAND AND SURVEYS.

153. Registration work in the office of the Commissioner of Lands and Mines is shown, in comparison with the years 1935 and 1936 in the following table:—

	1935	1936	1937
Number of Grants registered ..	472	440	443
Number of Transfers registered ..	1,365	1,520	1,583
Number of Charges registered ..	703	697	711
Other transactions ..	1,581	1,649	1,858

MINING ENACTMENT.

	1935	1936	1937
Mining Leases issued ..	9	15	18
Mining Certificates issued ..	3	5	11
Prospecting Licences issued ..	—	1	1
Prospecting Permits issued ..	11	27	17
Other transactions ..	19	38	37

Value of stamps affixed to instruments

	1935	1936	1937
	\$68,179	\$61,673	\$129,261

154. In connection with the Mukim Registers and Surat Sementara (a temporary document issued as evidence of alienation of land pending the issue of a title) the following are the transactions registered in the last three years:—

	1935	1936	1937
Mukim Registers ..	7,217	9,122	10,950
Surat Sementara ..	4,877	5,128	4,152
Miscellaneous ..	1,269	1,318	1,892

Value of stamps affixed to instruments

	1935	1936	1937
	\$27,901	\$43,737	\$66,007

155. The total area under the Malay Reservation Enactment was estimated at 13,451 acres mostly in the Northern Districts of the State. Proposals for other Malay Reservations were under consideration at the end of the year.

156. The area of alienated land stood at 1,303,437 acres compared with 1,282,315 acres in 1936.

157. Land Revenue not including premia on alienation of land decreased from \$3,917,396 to \$3,786,691. Land Rents recurrent brought in \$3,520,061—\$138,201 less than in 1936. The collections in all Districts were very satisfactory, Batu Pahat again heading the list with \$976,725.

158. Survey and Settlement.—Considerable progress with arrears have been made in the last three years, the number of lots in respect of which final survey and settlement has been completed each year being as follows:—

1935	17,003 lots
1936	17,036 lots
1937	18,257 lots.

But there still remains a balance of over 30,274 occupied holdings for which the Survey Office is not yet in a position to prepare Titles or Extracts.

Good progress was made with the detail and contour surveys of the towns of Johore Bahru and Batu Pahat.

159. The Survey Staff numbered 119 against 134 in 1935. The expenditure of the Department increased from \$297,492 to \$332,331 and revenue showed a small increase of over \$500 from last year's figure of \$109,230.

FOREIGN COMPANIES.

160. 197 Foreign Companies remained on the register at the end of the year.

MILITARY.

Johore Military Forces.

161. The actual strength of the Johore Military Forces at the end of the year was 929 against an authorised strength of 944.

Health and discipline were good.

The Forces took part in the Manoeuvres held in Singapore, as well as in the Parades on the King's Birthday and Coronation Day. The Band maintained its high standard.

During the absence of H. H. the Sultan Colonel Commandant in England to attend the Coronation of Their Majesties the King and Queen, Lt.-Col. the Hon'ble Dato' Yahya, D.P.M.J. acted as Commandant.

Johore Volunteer Forces.

162. The strength of the Johore Volunteer Forces on 31st December was 32 Officers and 719 other ranks. Members attended drills on Monday afternoons. Some of them were trained to use Lewis and Vicker guns. Discipline and attendance were satisfactory.

Johore Volunteer Engineers.

163. The total strength including auxiliaries rose from 203 to 220. Camps were held at Changi and Malacca.

The Camp programmes included in addition to Engineering tasks, Gas drill, wiring drill, revolver tests and lectures.

A new training centre has been established at Batu Pahat and two new medical sections have been formed.

The percentage of efficiency was 99.5% and the keenness of all ranks was well maintained.

TOWN BOARDS.

164. The revenue from Town Board was:—

	Johore Bahru	Kota Tinggi	Segamat	Endau	Muar	Batu Pahat	Kluang
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1932	407,560	21,670	104,311	16,987	290,346	161,969	41,717
1933	410,833	19,782	108,824	19,570	280,357	154,972	43,462
1934	444,235	20,432	131,243	22,619	292,842	159,996	46,365
1935	486,849	22,455	152,641	26,616	334,988	222,704	44,470
1936	539,027	22,703	158,831	29,048	284,978	285,114	54,770
1937	633,106	30,720	145,969	32,514	327,356	271,842	95,403

NOXIOUS ANIMALS.

165. 39 tigers and 8 leopards and panthers were destroyed during the year. 3 persons were killed by tigers and 1 by crocodile. \$1,500 were paid in rewards for the destruction of tigers. 5 persons were killed by tigers in 1936, 6 in 1935, 9 in 1934, 10 in 1933 and 45 in 1932.

GENERAL.

166. Their Highnesses the Sultan and Sultanah attended the Coronation of Their Majesties the King and Queen. His Highness was absent from the State from 9th April to 12th November, 1937. In his absence Tungku Mahkota Sir Ismail, D.K., P.I.S., K.B.E., C.M.G., acted as Regent.

167. On the occasion of the Coronation of His Majesty the King, His Highness Tunku Mahkota Ismail was made an Honorary Knight Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (K.B.E.) Civil Division.

168. The following were elected Members of the Executive Council during the year:—

H. H. Tungku Aris Bendahara (3rd January)
Dato Sir David Galloway, Kt. Bach. (3rd January)
Inche Onn bin Jaafar (3rd January)

The following were elected Members of the Council of State during the year:—

Mr H. S. Paterson M.C.S. (11th August)
Mr A. Williams M.C.S. (19th November)
Mr Cheok Huan Cheong (in place of Mr D. M. Tibbs on leave)

The following had their terms of office prolonged for two years:—

Mr B. J. R. Barton (17th January)
Mr D. M. Tibbs (27th August)
Dr N. Mootatamby (22nd October)

169. Dato Mohamed Salleh bin Ali, State Secretary, was in attendance on His Highness the Sultan in England during the Coronation. During his absence H. H. Tungku Temenggong Ahmad acted for him.

170. Members of the Council of State and also two Military Officers of the Johore Military Forces were the recipients of the Coronation Medals.

171. The (64th) birthday of His Highness the Sultan on 17th September was celebrated as usual, but not on a large scale owing to His Highness' absence from the State.

172. As elsewhere the Coronation of Their Majesties the King and Queen was celebrated enthusiastically throughout the State.

173. Two more awards were granted under the Sultan Ibrahim Studentships Fund during the year under review. Dr Awang bin Hassan, Assistant Medical Officer Muar and Inche Abdullah bin Mohamed, Assistant Registrar, Supreme Court, sailed for England on 30th July to pursue medical and legal studies respectively. The Board's principal concern during the year was the making of suitable arrangements for the guardianship and home life of students in Great Britain.

174. Mr L. A. Allen, O.B.E., M.C.S., acted as General Adviser from 16th July until the end of the year.

175. Valuable work has been done, both within and without the State, on Boards and Committees by Members of the Unofficial community, and this opportunity is gladly taken of thanking those gentlemen for their services.

W. E. PEPYS,
General Adviser, Johore.

JOHORE BAHRU,
5th June, 1938.

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APPENDIX A.

Revenue in the years 1935, 1936 and 1937.

Head of Revenue	1935	1936	1937
	\$	\$	\$
Lands	3,359,529	3,923,125	3,789,874
Forests	289,747	292,615	342,879
Customs	4,916,743	5,300,310	7,580,108
Licences etc.	3,898,298	3,391,644	3,951,851
Fees of Courts	319,584	341,499	363,278
Posts and Telegraphs	329,379	354,125	444,276
Railway	—	—	86,760
Port and Harbour dues	34,872	34,866	37,853
Interest	1,693,250	1,630,216	1,593,419
Miscellaneous Receipts	161,082	153,919	211,692
Municipal	1,287,240	1,118,964	1,351,456
Land Sales	872,403	847,408	443,302
Total	17,162,127	17,388,691	20,196,688

APPENDIX B.

Expenditure in the years 1935, 1936 and 1937.

Head of Expenditure	1935	1936	1937
	\$	\$	\$
Pensions	590,173	628,588	629,935
Personal Emoluments	5,713,722	6,113,361	6,448,393
Other Charges	7,101,803	3,577,041	4,342,219
Purchase of Land	160,737	217,905	165,905
Electric, S. S.	—	—	210,968
P.W.D., A. R.	1,431,582	1,548,235	1,505,889
P.W.D., S. S.	3,431,781	5,826,664	5,094,443
Total	18,429,798	17,911,794	18,397,752

APPENDIX C.

Balance Sheet at 31st December, 1937.

		\$	
Liabilities	Deposits	1,080,657	4,361,494
	Rubber Fund	49,035	70,899
	SURPLUS:—		
	Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve Fund	15,406,057	20,977,502
	General Surplus	27,126,755	1,411,944
			800,000
			15,325,537
			80,520
			177,174
			25,700
		88,565	
		218,187	
		124,982	
		43,662,504	
	Total	43,662,504	43,662,504
Assets	Cash in hand at Treasuries, Banks, Crown Agents and Customs Department	...	...
	Cash-in-transit	...	...
	INVESTMENTS (at cost):—		
	Sterling Securities	...	...
	Local Securities	...	...
	Fixed Deposits	...	...
	Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve Fund	...	...
	Do.	...	...
	Cash	...	...
	Due by other Governments	...	...
Stock of Chandu	...	...
Advances	...	...
Loans	...	...
Suspense	...	...
	Total	43,662,504	43,662,504

APPENDIX F.

Return of Motor Vehicles licensed in 1937.

Place of Registration	Private Cars	Hire Cars	Bus	Lorry	Motor Cycle
Johore Bahru	1,171	354	34	684	133
Muar	443	329	11	241	63
Batu Pahat	410	173	120	186	84
Segamat	249	65	35	195	61
Mersing	43	42	--	53	1
Total	2,316	963	200	1,359	342

APPENDIX G.

BIBLIOGRAPHY.

References to Johore will be found in most of the standard works on Malaya and in the publications of the Malayan Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society. In 1933 there appeared as Vol. X Part III of the Journal of the said Branch.

A History of Johore (1365-1895) by Dr (now Sir Richard) Windstedt, K.B.E., C.M.G., D. Litt. (Oxon).

The same author has devoted chapters to Johore in his *History of Malaya*.



