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JOHORE
ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR

1927

BY

G. E. SHAW
Acting General Adviser

SINGAPORE:

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

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**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STATE OF JOHORE
FOR THE YEAR 1927**

I.—FINANCIAL

The Revenue for 1927 amounted to \$18,239,023 as compared with \$18,781,565 for 1926 and \$15,884,592 for 1925. The estimated revenue for the year was exceeded by \$3,708,323.

2. As compared with 1926 there was a net decrease of \$542,542. There were increases under all the main Heads of Revenue except under Customs and Licences which showed decreases of \$1,285,521 and \$346,539 respectively. The comparative receipts as shewn by the Treasury Books for 1926 and 1927 under the larger items were as follows:—

	1926	1927	Increase	Decrease
	\$	\$	\$	\$
<i>Land Revenue</i> ...	2,173,477	2,380,293	206,816	—
<i>Customs—</i>				
Copra, etc. ...	269,275	224,025	—	45,250
Rubber ...	3,363,680	2,090,245	—	1,273,435
Tobacco ...	1,424,835	1,453,120	28,285	—
Spirits ...	1,012,044	962,009	—	50,035
Petroleum ...	322,130	372,553	50,423	—
Iron Ore ...	125,050	181,431	55,381	—
<i>Licences—</i>				
Chandu Revenue ...	5,735,760	5,388,749	—	347,011
<i>Posts and Telegraphs</i> ...	192,218	238,299	46,081	—
<i>Interest</i> ...	604,323	719,292	114,969	—
<i>Municipal</i> ...	705,535	838,516	132,981	—
<i>Land Sales</i> ...	696,775	1,136,899	440,124	—

The increase under Land Revenue was principally under Land Rents (Recurrent) which amounted to \$2,164,835 against \$1,971,558 in the previous year.

The decrease in rubber duty was due to the lower price of the commodity combined with a lower percentage of release.

Chandu Revenue shows a diminution of \$347,011. Under Posts and Telegraphs the increase was practically all due to increased Telephone receipts which rose from \$50,523 in 1926 to \$81,389.

Interest on Investments accounted for the increase under Interest.

The largest increase under Municipal was in receipts from Electric Lighting Charges, *viz.*, from \$74,013 to \$131,646, the reason being that Charges were made for Street Lighting and other supplies to Government Departments formerly supplied free.

The increase under Land Sales was entirely under Premia on Grants.

3. The percentage contributions of the principal Heads of Revenue to the total revenue (exclusive of Land Sales) for the years 1923—27 were as follows:—

	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927
Lands and Forests ...	14.9	16.4	14.5	12.8	14.8
Customs ...	35.8	33.0	37.2	39.8	34.5
Licences ...	37.5	36.4	33.3	35.7	35.7
Other Revenue ...	11.8	14.2	15.0	11.7	15.0
	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

EXPENDITURE

4. The total expenditure in 1927 was \$15,348,473 as compared with \$18,099,232 for 1926 and an estimate of \$15,828,240.

5. In comparing the expenditure for 1926 and 1927 the contributions to the Opium Reserve Replacement Fund in these years should be deducted. When this is done the real net expenditure for 1927 was \$14,098,475 as compared with \$12,200,734 for 1926.

Expenditure under Pensions was \$344,097, an increase of \$113,274 over 1926 and \$90,330 over the estimate; this was due to the operation of the Pensions (Gratuities) Enactment which only came into force towards the end of 1926. Personal Emoluments increased by \$523,627 to \$3,836,077 but were \$146,378 under the estimate. Expenditure under Other Charges was \$2,727,270 an increase of \$629,045 over 1926 and \$162,496 over the estimate: the excess over the

estimate was due to an additional charge of \$175,874 for the supply of Chandu received in 1926.

Under Miscellaneous Services there was an increased expenditure of \$103,443 over 1926 and an excess of \$92,321 over the estimate. A contribution of \$100,000 to the Malayan Flood Relief Fund is however included in the expenditure under this head as also a loss of \$32,430 on Remittances to the Crown Agents and Sale of Investments. Under Public Works Annually Recurrent, expenditure increased by \$100,742 and exceeded the estimates by \$24,858 due to repairing Flood damages.

Expenditure on Public Works Special Services was \$1,451,170 more than in 1926 but \$770,448 under the estimate. Purchase of Land expenditure exceeded the estimate by \$61,839 but was \$1,014,385 less than in 1926.

INVESTMENTS

6. During the year £466,666.13.4 (\$4,000,000) was remitted to the Crown Agents for investment. A low rate of exchange ruled for the most part of the year and a loss of \$18,973.21 was incurred on one remittance made in August. Investments on account of Surplus Funds in Sterling Securities on 31st December, 1927 amounted to \$10,337,396 as compared with \$10,844,054 on 1st January, 1927. During the year Sterling Investments to the value of \$1,249,998 were transferred from Surplus Funds Investments to the Opium Reserve Replacement Fund. Investments in Straits Settlements Government Securities remained at the same figure, *viz.*, \$1,486,532 and local Fixed Deposits amounted to \$7,500,000 at the end of the year.

The Opium Reserve Replacement Fund Investments increased from \$6,119,922 on 1st January, 1927 to \$7,704,199 on 31st December, 1927: all in Sterling Securities.

The total investments held by the Government on 31st December, 1927 amounted to \$27,028,127.

7. The Surplus at the end of the year amounted to \$20,826,058 as compared with \$17,935,508 at the end of 1926. On the assets side of the Balance Sheet Cash including Cash in transit amounted to \$6,156,997 of which \$3,099,910.74 was held by the Crown Agents. Also on the Assets Side under Suspense a sum of \$593,475 is shown representing a Temporary Investment made by the Crown Agents. The amounts outstanding under Advances and Loans were \$154,672 and \$107,652 respectively.

8. The following are shown in appendices:—

Appendix A.—Statement of Assets and Liabilities 1926 and 1927.

Appendix B.—Statement of Actual Revenue 1926 and 1927.

Appendix C.—Statement of Actual Expenditure 1926 and 1927.

Appendix D.—Statistical Return of Progress 1923 to 1927.

II.—TRADE

9. The total trade for the year 1927 shows a value of \$126,828,445 (compared with \$173,266,820 in 1926) constituted as follows:—

	1926	1927
	\$	\$
Imports ...	35,782,758	39,422,852
Exports ...	139,261,451	88,317,154
	175,044,209	127,740,006
Less Re-Exports ...	1,777,389	911,561
	173,266,820	126,828,445

IMPORTS

10. The following table shows, under the main heads, the value for 1926 and 1927:—

	1926	1927
	\$	\$
Class I. Animals, Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	18,870,490	23,809,484
II. Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured ...	2,597,532	2,411,915
III. Articles wholly or mainly manufactured ...	14,181,341	13,176,390
IV. Coin and Bullion ...	133,395	25,063
	35,782,758	39,422,852

EXPORTS

11. The following table shows a falling-off in the more important exports excepting iron-ore, timber and preserved pineapples:—

Articles	1926 Quantity	1927 Quantity	How Counted	1926 Value	1927 Value
				\$	
Arecanuts ...	216,471.70	171,966.66½	Pkls.	2,151,035	1,247,676
Copra ...	576,412.71	532,068.60½	„	6,343,918	5,499,841
Pepper ...	171.53	202.28	„	10,140	13,153
Gambier ...	18,606.84	19,138.07	„	315,526	233,800
Coffee ...	201.68	560.19	„	10,611	33,536
Rubber ...	1,010,685.90½	825,258.31	„	119,580,069	69,084,686
Sweet Potatoes ...	21,466.12	17,870.30	„	42,930	49,173
Tapioca ...	154,287.36	130,275.98	„	796,203	534,700
Pineapples ...	26,930,686.—	24,455,378.—	Nos.	485,017	482,647
Preserved Pineapples	643,534.—	630,943.—	c/s.	3,372,251	4,480,605
Agricultural Produce ...				631,405	260,047
Timber ...	20,836.43	23,061.30½	Tons	1,089,742	1,291,420
Other Forest Produce ...				262,898	311,434
Tin ...	17,452.71	16,373.28½	Pkls.	2,518,656	2,356,405
Iron-ore ...	250,099.95	409,241.8	Tons	1,250,498	2,046,205
China Clay ...	337.25	824.04	„	7,747	16,481
Wolfram ...			Pkls.		
Marine Produce ...				144,317	83,221
Swine ...	1,518.—	4,029.—	Nos.	38,109	87,894
Cattle ...	14.—	4.—	„	1,742	310
Poultry ...	1,714½	3,189½	Dozs.	17,604	31,970
Goats and Sheep ...	13	1	Nos.	230	5
Eggs ...	3,376,220.—	3,181,360.—	„	123,519	121,457
Miscellaneous				67,284	50,398
TOTAL ...				139,261,451	88,317,154

III.—AGRICULTURE

12. The field staff of the Department consisted, at the end of the year, of the Inspector of Agriculture, six junior agricultural assistants, one probationer and eight sub-inspectors. Three agricultural apprentices were undergoing training at the Department of Agriculture, Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States, Kuala Lumpur.

RUBBER

13. Continued interest is being taken in the matter of soil conservation and improvement of poorer areas. Experiments with artificial fertilisers have continued on many

estates and give good promise. Ammonium Sulphate is at present receiving greatest attention. There is increasing demand for improved planting material by way both of seed selection and bud-grafting.

14. The export of rubber was 825,258 pikuls valued at \$69,084,686. Percentage release for the year was 67½% of Standard Production.

COCONUTS

15. Interest in this crop was well maintained. Production was somewhat below that of 1926. This, however, was to be expected as 1926 was an unusually good coconut year throughout the Peninsula. The export of copra (532,000 pikuls as compared with 576,000 pikuls in the previous year) was valued at \$5,500,000 approximately. The highly productive coconut areas of the West Coast would benefit considerably from improved drainage. Action is being taken towards this end, natural drainage outlets being cleared of snags, but the process is necessarily slow.

PADI

16. The area recorded as planted with wet padi was 3,757 acres, and a yield of 167,840 gantangs was obtained. There were also 1,393 acres of hill padi, which produced 172,990 gantangs. Padi planting is on the decline. Suitable areas exist, but it is improbable that there will be any extension while other crops such as rubber and coconuts offer so much greater attraction. An attempt is being made to attract settlers to an area in the Endau District which has been proved suitable for wet rice cultivation.

PINEAPPLES

17. The export of preserved and fresh fruits for the year was valued at somewhat more than \$5,000,000. A new and well equipped factory has been opened in the centre of the most important producing area near the 11th mile, Kota Tinggi Road. One of the larger factories was damaged by abnormal floods and was put out of operation for some months. Cases of pines exported were 630,943 as compared with 643,534 in 1926. The decrease was doubtless due to flood effects.

AFRICAN OIL PALM

18. There was a considerable increase effected during the year in the planted area. Large scale plantings now

extend to 5,100 acres, more than double the area under cultivation at the end of 1926. There are many projects for extension of this cultivation in Johore where suitable areas are available for alienation.

OTHER CROPS

19. *Betel Nuts*.—The planted area is estimated at from 7,500 to 8,000 acres, and the export was 171,966 pikuls, valued at \$1,247,677.

Tapioca.—The year's export (130,000 pikuls) was slightly less than that of 1926. About half of the total export comes from the Segamat District. Sixteen factories operated during the year.

Coffee.—The cultivation of coffee is attracting a little increased attention, especially on the West Coast. Tuba is another form of cultivation which is becoming more popular. Gambier does not now attract as it did. There are only about 4,000 acres under gambier now in the State. Nearly half of the export of gambier comes from the Kota Tinggi District.

Fruit.—Fruit cultivation, other than pineapples, is being extended slowly by small holders who find a ready market for their produce. The expansion of this industry is being encouraged.

DISEASES AND PESTS

20. *Rubber*.—Mouldy Rot remains localised. Outbreaks were reported from ten estates. There were however no new centres of infection.

Pink disease has shown no signs of increase.

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

Literature, in Malay and Chinese, dealing with plant disease was widely distributed during the year by the Inspector of Agriculture.

Coconuts.—There has been no marked increase in the mortality of palms round Benut. No serious outbreaks of Bud Rot have been recorded. The caterpillar *Setora Nitens* did damage in a few localities.

Oil Palm.—The chief pests of oil palm have been rats and porcupines. There is no doubt that cover crops such as *Calopogonium* make it extremely difficult to deal with the rat pest on oil palm estates.

IV.—CHINESE PROTECTORATE AND LABOUR DEPARTMENT

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

22. Six societies were exempted from registration, and 24 were registered. There are now 65 exempted and 152 registered societies in Johore.

Twenty-four Chinese schools were registered (twelve boys' and twelve girls' schools). At the end of the year there were 108 registered schools.

Considerable and increasing activity was displayed during the year by Chinese secret societies.

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

	1926	1927
Indians	31,272	35,925
Chinese	19,006	16,055
Javanese	6,248	5,486
Others	1,121	801

At the end of the year the supply of labourers appeared to be adequate. There was no excess. Labourers discharged from Estates had little difficulty in finding work elsewhere.

24. Over fifty Indian vernacular schools were maintained on Estates at the end of the year. Thirty of these were registered. The health on Estates was fair, the death rate was very slightly higher than in 1926. Forty-nine Estate Hospitals were maintained. The Government District Hospitals are also largely used for treatment of Estate labourers. Housing and Sanitary conditions on the large estates are generally good.

On the 1st July Mr. H. T. W. OSWELL, Malayan Civil Service, took over charge of the Labour Department from Mr. G. S. HELLINGS, Malayan Civil Service, who, until that date, had combined the functions of Protector of Chinese and Controller of Labour.

V.—COUNCIL OF STATE AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

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

1. The Expropriation of Malay Grant 226 Enactment, 1927.
2. The Johore Military Forces Enactment, 1915, Amendment Enactment, 1927.
3. The Export of Rubber (Restriction) Enactment, 1923, Amendment Enactment, 1927.
4. The Johore European Volunteer Enactment, 1925, Amendment Enactment, 1927.
5. The Colonial Secretary, Straits Settlements, Incorporation Enactment, 1927.
6. The Lady Superior in Penang of the Society of Saint Maur Incorporation Enactment, 1927.
7. The Expropriation of Malay Grants 249 and 250 Enactment, 1927.
8. The Methodist Episcopal Location Board Incorporation Enactment, 1927.
9. The Town Boards Enactment, 1921, Amendment Enactment, 1927.
10. The Court Enactment, 1920, Amendment Enactment, 1927.
11. The Small Offences Enactment, 1913, Amendment Enactment, 1927.
12. The Excise Enactment, 1915, Amendment Enactment, 1927.
13. The Trade and Customs Enactment, 1924, Amendment Enactment, 1927.
14. The Rubber Dealers Enactment, 1921, Amendment Enactment, 1927.
15. The Agricultural Drains Enactment, 1927.
16. The Midwives Enactment, 1927.
17. The Vaccination Enactment, 1914, Amendment Enactment, 1927.
18. The Co-operative Societies Enactment, 1927.
19. The Ports and Shipping Enactment, 1917, Amendment Enactment, 1927.

The Executive Council met on 49 occasions during the year.

VI.—CUSTOMS

26. The total gross revenue collected by the Department was \$7,183,854.

REVENUE BY DISTRICTS, 1923 - 1927

	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927
Districts	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Muar ...	740,883	711,486	1,759,027	2,034,360	1,182,827
Batu Pahat ...	548,541	560,800	871,718	904,692	855,090
Kukub ...	229,424	203,357	227,663	270,080	297,700
Johore Bahru	1,658,743	1,561,560	2,282,788	2,604,679	3,610,681
Kota Tinggi ...	346,338	437,600	461,924	606,132	677,641
Endau ...	136,727	145,302	152,599	139,658	139,398
Segamat ...	188,377	210,888	261,514	329,109	420,517
	3,849,033	3,830,993	6,018,133	6,978,710	7,183,854

REVENUE BY PRODUCTIVE GROUPS, 1923 - 1927

	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Arecanuts ...	107,539	81,156	82,054	86,187	79,098
Copra ...	220,997	237,523	258,198	269,273	223,398
Gambier ...	31,497	51,990	41,509	17,806	13,067
Pepper ...	808	841	616	—	494
Pineapples ...	—	—	—	42,824	46,357
Rubber ...	1,306,123	1,473,613	3,038,328	3,363,680	3,371,285
Tapioca ...	72,774	79,766	64,503	39,248	22,328
Other Agricultural Produce	82,367	73,782	70,847	30,894	15,986
Forest Produce	83,294	77,281	71,059	79,276	93,055
Minerals ...	324,522	432,618	427,311	372,075	403,116
Marine Produce	16,844	17,331	13,996	15,290	8,222
Miscellaneous Produce ...	1,744	2,653	5,457	7,645	5,030
Alcoholic Liquor ...	435,694	443,112	707,069	909,007	964,326
Tobacco ...	615,885	655,255	972,619	1,313,098	1,456,233
Petroleum ...	97,145	113,000	169,938	322,130	365,529
Matches ...	61,383	59,454	92,632	107,793	114,989
Live Animals	1,847	1,651	44	—	—
Weighing fees	387,397	28,519	83	—	—
Tobacco Licences ...	1,263	1,448	1,870	2,484	1,341
	3,849,033	3,830,993	6,018,133	6,978,710	7,183,854

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

	PERCENTAGE				
	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927
Arecanuts ...	3.11	2.14	1.07	1.24	1.10
Copra ...	6.39	6.25	4.17	3.86	3.11
Pepper ...	0.02	0.02	0.71	—	0.01
Gambier ...	0.91	1.37	0.01	0.26	0.18
Pineapples ...	—	—	—	0.61	0.65
Rubber ...	37.74	38.77	50.55	48.22	46.94
Tapioca ...	2.10	2.10	1.11	0.56	0.31
Other Agricultural Produce ...	2.38	1.94	1.21	0.44	0.22
Minerals ...	9.38	11.38	7.16	5.33	5.61
Forest Produce ...	2.41	2.03	1.22	1.14	1.30
Marine Produce ...	0.49	0.46	0.25	0.22	0.11
Miscellaneous Produce ...	0.05	0.07	0.10	0.11	0.06
Spirits Imports ...	12.59	11.66	11.79	13.03	13.43
Tobacco ...	17.80	17.24	16.22	18.82	20.27
Live Animals ...	0.05	0.04	0.01	—	—
Petroleum ...	2.81	2.97	2.85	4.62	5.09
Matches ...	1.77	1.56	1.57	1.54	1.61
	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

EXPENDITURE

28. Total expenditure amounted to \$204,948.51 of which Personal Emoluments accounted for \$152,784.78 and Other Charges for \$52,163.73. The increase over the 1926 figures of \$170,355.39 is largely accounted for by additional expenditure incurred in strengthening the Preventive Branch.

PREVENTIVE BRANCH

29. In August attention was drawn somewhat urgently to the smuggling of rubber from Johore and it was decided by the Government to strengthen the Customs Department by borrowing four European Officers from the Federated Malay States Customs staff. Drastic reduction was made in the number of licensed Rubber Dealers (who in many localities provided cover for smugglers). A public proclamation was issued by His Highness the Sultan and was read at mosques and public places throughout the State, public meetings having been called for that purpose. A new and more facile system of rewards for information was introduced. An Advisory Committee was appointed to help in dealing

with smuggling and three new launches for inshore preventive work were purchased. By new legislation the maximum term of imprisonment for smuggling offences was raised from six months to two years; the powers of officers of the Preventive Branch were strengthened and the system of licensing boats was revised. The intensive campaign had good results and by the end of the year the Preventive Branch had established control. Six motor boats were captured and the best of them are now used for preventive purposes.

There has been, in the past, extensive smuggling into Johore of chandu, matches and other dutiable goods. Rubber Restriction has shown the way to the smuggling industry and its abrogation, when it comes, will by no means mean that the Preventive Branch may cease from, or even diminish, its activities. For offences not connected with rubber the Preventive Branch prosecuted 591 cases during the year and took 654 prisoners.

VII.—CHANDU DEPARTMENT

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

31. The amount of chandu sold in 1927 was 500,500 tahils, of which 500,299 tahils were sold direct to the public from Government shops, and 201 tahils to Licensees. The total sales in 1925 were 423,659 tahils and in 1926 576,213 tahils. The nett revenue from the sale of chandu was \$5,058,798 and from licences \$12.

32. There are 39 shops for retail sale "off" and 18 "on" shops owned by the Government.

Two temporary licences were issued for shops at Segamat where no suitable premises for "on" shops were available during 1927. No other licences were issued.

The Preventive Branch prosecuted 306 cases of offences under the Opium and Chandu Enactment. In 267 cases convictions were obtained.

VIII—EDUCATION

VERNACULAR SCHOOLS

33. Eighty-one Boys' Schools, 10 Girls' Schools and 31 Religious Schools were maintained with a total enrolment of 9,707 and 285 teachers. The average attendance was 80.3

per cent of enrolment. Twenty-five of the school buildings are still temporary structures.

The Malay Training College had an enrolment of 40 with 3 teachers.

34. ENGLISH SCHOOLS				
Schools	Enrolment	Learning English	Masters	Percentage of attendance
English College ...	57	57	6	96.1
Bukit Zaharah ...	375	375	23	94.77
Muar ..	347	347	14	93.6
Batu Pahat ...	192	192	12	95.33
Segamat ...	54	54	3	93.6
	1,025	1,025	58	—

The corresponding totals for 1926 were:—

Enrolment 1,617; Learning English 1,294; Masters 70.

During the year the vernacular sides of the schools at Bukit Zaharah and Batu Pahat were definitely separated therefrom. This change accounts for the difference in total enrolment.

35. Owing to the small number of Cambridge candidates in the out-station schools, all candidates were concentrated at Bukit Zaharah. The results of the 1926 Cambridge examination (received in March) were as follows:—

School Certificate ...	3	passed out of	7
Malayan Certificate ...	2	"	7
Junior under 16 ...	2	"	5
Junior over 16 ...	2	"	5

For the 1927 examinations there were only four candidates in the Senior and seven in the Junior Division.

36. The Arab Football Cup, for which the Johore English Schools compete annually, was won by the English College.

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

38. The Board of Education met on 15 occasions.

39. Under the new scheme for grants-in-aid to Tamil schools Mr. VANKATA RAMAN was appointed Inspector. Twenty-six schools have been registered with a total enrolment of 446 pupils. There are thirty masters.

By the courtesy of the Director of Education, Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States, five Johore students have been attached to Singapore schools for Normal Training. A Hostel has been obtained and furnished in Singapore for the accommodation of these students.

IX.—FORESTS

EXPLORATION

40. A short examination of the land lying behind Labis was made and this area will be included in the Ma'okil reserve if it materialises. The forest here has contained very fine Chengal mixed with a large amount of Keruing and a moderate amount of Seraya and Meranti, but most of the large Chengal has been worked out.

A further inspection of the above area was undertaken from the Muar-Yong Peng Road, for a distance of from 5 to 7 miles from the road.

General inspection was also undertaken behind Sengkang of the Muar-Labis Road where the remains of some very fine Resak forest was found.

RESERVES

41. The Banang Reserve of 2,100 acres in Batu Pahat District was finally notified in January, 1927.

An area of 77,440 acres lying between Rengam Reserve, Gunong Belumut and the Kluang-Mersing Road was preliminarily notified during November. This area contains fine Chengal and Kapur forest.

EXPLOITATION

42.—(a) *Timber*.—The market price of timber remained high until towards the end of the year when a slight reduction took place, due, it is said, to the increasing use of reinforced concrete in Singapore.

The total amount of timber extracted during the year was 55,825 tons compared to 41,962 tons in 1926, an increase of 13,863 tons.

(b) *Firewood and Charcoal*.—The outturn of firewood for the year was 70,186 tons as compared with 42,732 tons in 1926, an increase of 27,454 tons.

The outturn of charcoal was 2,221 tons as compared with 1,503 in 1926, an increase of 718 tons.

(c) *Minor produce*.—No damar was collected departmentally during the year.

The quantity collected under licence showed a considerable increase. The total output was 376 tons as compared with 103 tons in 1926.

There was a trifling decrease in the outturn of rotans.

The revenue for the year amounted to \$152,996 compared with \$132,740 in 1926.

X.—GAME WARDEN

43. This department, which was instituted in 1925, consisted of a Game Warden and six Rangers, stationed at Kluang. The expenditure amounted to \$10,275. Seventeen elephants found destroying crops and plantations were shot, and eighteen cases were brought under the "Wild Animals and Birds Protection Enactment". One man-eating tiger was shot by the Warden.

Fifty-five passes to destroy big game infesting estates were issued during the year.

XI.—JUDICIAL

SUPREME COURT

44. Ninety-five criminal cases and 50 criminal appeals were registered. Four Criminal Assizes were held at Johore Bahru, four at Muar and three at Batu Pahat.

One hundred and seventy-eight civil suits, 14 civil appeals, 174 administration suits and 129 miscellaneous were registered.

45. The Court of Appeal sat on five occasions.

MAGISTRATES' COURT

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

		<i>Criminal</i>	<i>Civil</i>
Johore	...	3,320	403
Kota Tinggi	...	720	114
Kukub (including Benut)	...	592	66
Muar	...	3,157	499
Batu Pahat	...	1,800	408
Endau	...	345	40
Segamat	...	903	191
Kluang	...	876	82
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		11,713	1,803

The Assistant Adviser, Kota Tinggi, visited Pengerang once a fortnight and held Court there.

The Kluang Court was conducted by the Second Assistant Adviser, Batu Pahat.

47. Progress has been made in construction of the new Law Courts at Johore Bahru and Muar. These buildings which will be completed in 1928 will supply a long felt want. The buildings now in use are by no means suitable.

48. Mr. JUSTICE REAY, Puisne Judge, Straits Settlements, continued to act as Judge during the year.

49. The new appointment of Registrar and Deputy Public Prosecutor was filled by Mr. R. MOOR, Malayan Civil Service. The duties of Assistant Registrar in each District were performed by the Assistant Advisers and in Mersing by Inche AWANG BIN OMAR.

XII.—LAND

50. The revenue for 1926 and 1927 was as follows:—

	1926	1927
	\$	\$
<i>Rents—</i>		
Land Rents, Recurrent ...	1,966,027	2,170,588
Land Rents, Annual Licences ...	24,588	36,292
Mining Rents ...	12,179	11,306
Rents of Government Plantation	363	239
<i>Licences—</i>		
Gravel, Stone, etc. ...	2,968	2,127
Mining ...	Nil	50
Prospecting ...	7,337	5,621
<i>Fees—</i>		
Miscellaneous ...	6,015	8,304
Notices, Warrants, etc. ...	8,996	11,585
Registration of Titles, etc. ...	21,490	20,104
Survey and Demarcation ...	114,452	120,304
Total ...	2,164,415	2,386,520

	1926	1927
	\$	\$
<i>Land Sales—</i>		
Premium on Agricultural Land	689,608	1,125,309
Premium on Mining Land ...	9,470	7,910
Total ...	699,078	1,133,219

Other sums collected in 1926 and 1927 but not credited as land revenue were—

	\$	\$
<i>Fees—</i>		
Rubber Dealers Enactment ...	124,966	124,681
Burials Enactment ...	600	500
Mineral Ores Enactment ...	—	600
Sale of Boundary Marks ...	8,139	9,950
Sale of Plans ...	2,684	2,365
Miscellaneous ...	9,592	832
Total ...	145,981	138,928
Grand total ...	3,009,474	3,658,667

51. Owing to short Survey Staff it was found necessary to close application books for land in March.

REGISTRATION

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

	1926	1927
<i>LAND ENACTMENT</i>		
	—	—
Number of Grants registered ...	982	983
Number of transfers registered ...	1,732	1,297
Number of charges registered ...	531	737
Other transactions ...	1,304	1,179

MINING ENACTMENT

	1926	1927
Mining Leases issued ...	10	2
Mining Certificates issued ...	25	28
Prospecting Licences ...	51	62
Other transactions ...	24	18
Value of stamps affixed on instruments ...	\$119,280	\$92,344

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

	1926	1927
Mukim Registers ...	2,683	2,126
Surat Sementara ...	8,079	6,915
Miscellaneous transactions ...	1,062	2,415
Total ...	11,824	11,456

MUKIM REGISTERS

54. Except in the Segamat and Batu Pahat Districts little progress was made towards completion of Mukim Registers. For the very large arrears of work which have to be tackled in Johore the Survey Staff is short, competent Malay Subordinate Surveyors being notably lacking.

GENERAL

55. The application books for State Land were closed early in the year for all Districts except Endau. There is much confusion relative to unsatisfied applications for land and a great deal of hard work is before the Land Office. During the past five years the urgency of Rubber Restriction has prevented systematic work by Land Offices in the direction of alienation under permanent title.

56. At the close of the year the Register of Foreign Companies showed that 135 such companies were in operation in the State.

57. The total area of land alienated on the 1st January, 1928 was 1,044,444 acres. This includes a total area of 337,000 acres occupied under approved applications.

XIII.—MARINE

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

	VESSELS ENTERED		VESSELS CLEARED	
	Number	Tonnage	Number	Tonnage
Ocean-going steamers ...	71	216,231	71	216,231
Coasting steamers ...	3,973	199,489	3,973	199,487
Sailing vessels ...	8,052	160,392	8,118	158,993

These figures show a total increase of 66,667 tons entered and cleared as compared with 1926.

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

59. The growth of the maritime trade of the State during the last five years is shown as follows:—

	Total tonnage entered	Total tonnage cleared
1923 ...	356,393 gross tons	355,692 gross tons
1924 ...	401,878½ " "	403,245½ " "
1925 ...	510,835 " "	511,928 " "
1926 ...	544,670¼ " "	539,487¼ " "
1927 ...	576,111½ " "	574,712½ " "

REVENUE

60. The total Revenue received by the Marine Department from all sources during 1927 was \$50,570.41 as compared with \$46,339.52 in 1926, an increase of \$4,230.89.

Boat and fishing licences show a substantial increase over the previous year.

LIGHTS AND BUOYS

61. All lights and buoys were maintained in good condition.

The steel structure of the outer light at Kuala Benut was renewed. A new A. G. A. flashing light similar to those at Benut and Pontian was erected at Kuala Senggarang. The Kuala Muar lightbuoy was thoroughly overhauled and replaced in position, and the buoys marking shoals in Muar River were renewed. The erection of the proposed lighthouse on Tanjong Tenggara, which has been under consideration, was approved and the work will be put in hand during the present year. This lighthouse has long been needed.

GOVERNMENT WHARVES

62. The Government wharf at Kukub was re-constructed, and extensions and improvements to the Muar wharves and Godowns were made with resulting improvements in berthing vessels and dealing with cargo. Work was also started on the extension to the Government wharf at Batu Pahat.

BOAT LICENCES

63. In order to tighten up the Law regarding licensing of boats, with a view to the prevention of smuggling, the Ports and Shipping Enactment was amended in 1927. Formerly only such boats as plied for hire were required to be licensed. The amendment provides for the licensing of all boats over 15 feet in length, gives additional powers to the Port Officer to confiscate unlicensed boats, and makes it unlawful to construct boats with double bottoms or to remove or alter any number or mark placed upon a boat for identification purposes. The Harbour Masters at Johore Bahru, Batu Pahat and Muar made extensive searches in all rivers and parits along the coast with a result that a large number of unlicensed boats were found and dealt with.

GENERAL

64. Work was commenced in November, 1927, on dredging the entrance to Sungei Seggét, Johore Bahru which had silted up badly since the completion of the Causeway in 1923. A long "bar" of mud had formed, completely blocking the channel leading to the Lock. The Singapore Harbour Board dredging plant was hired and the greater part of the work was completed before the end of the year. The cost of this work is being shared by the Federated Malay States, Straits Settlements and Johore.

XIV.—MEDICAL

VITAL STATISTICS

65. The number of births registered was 16,324 compared with 14,883 in 1926. The number of deaths registered was 15,142 against 12,740 in 1926. On an estimated population

of 332,337 the birth-rate was 50.35 per mille, and the death-rate 46.71 per mille, the corresponding rates for 1926 being 46.07 and 39.44. The highest birth-rate was in the Batu Pahat District (69.41). The lowest in the Endau District (29.04). The population of the Batu Pahat District is largely composed of immigrant Malays. Endau District contains most of the Chinese tin mining population.

66. The infantile mortality was 255.76 per mille as against 213.26 per mille in 1926. Deaths from convulsions amounted to 3,096.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES

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

Disease	Cases	Deaths
Plague	—	—
Cholera	5	4
Small-pox	26	8
Chicken-pox	62	—
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	3	2
Measles (including German Measles)	168	1
Enteric Fever	68	21
Erysipelas	20	4
Acute Encephalitis Lethargica	2	2

SPECIAL DISEASES

68. *Ankylostomiasis*.—Nine thousand seven hundred and twenty-four cases with 163 deaths. In 1926 there were 6,050 cases with 93 deaths.

Beri-beri.—Two thousand one hundred and fifty-nine cases with 272 deaths. In 1926 there were 1,508 cases with 215 deaths.

Dysentery.—Four thousand two hundred and fifty-seven cases with 243 deaths. In 1926 there were 3,203 cases with 291 deaths.

Diarrhoea.—Three thousand and seventy-one cases with 174 deaths. In 1926 there were 2,715 cases with 117 deaths.

Malarial Fever.—Forty-seven thousand seven hundred and thirty-seven cases with 1,314 deaths. In 1926 there were 39,839 cases with 800 deaths.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.—Eight hundred cases with 286 deaths. In 1926 there were 848 cases with 251 deaths.

Pneumonia.—Six hundred and thirty-nine cases with 304 deaths.

Yaws.—The total number of injections given in Government Hospitals was 3,010, of which 2,048 were for new, and 962 for old cases. The number of injections in 1926 was 3,579.

HOSPITALS

69. The existing Government Hospitals were maintained. Admissions were 32,147 compared with 27,489 in 1926. On the 31st December, 1926 there were 1,243 patients remaining, and of the total 27,596 were discharged, 32 were transferred, 308 absconded, 2,742 died, and 1,469 remained at the end of the year. The percentage of deaths to the total treated was 8.53.

OUT-PATIENTS

The number of out-patients treated at the various stations was 39,362, the attendances being 80,077. The figures for the previous year were 31,586 and 46,395.

MATERNITY WARDS

70. Maternity cases admitted to Government Hospitals were 294 as against 284 in 1926 while 613 cases were treated in their own homes, compared with 311 in 1926. During the year 37 certified midwives were practising in the State, and 10 Probationers were undergoing training.

MENTAL HOSPITAL

71. The number of patients remaining on the 31st December, 1926, was 221, and there were 124 admissions in 1927, making a total of 345. Of these 52 were discharged, 2 were transferred, 3 absconded, 48 died, and 240 (194 males and 46 females) remained at the close of the year.

LEPER ASYLUM

72. There were 73 lepers in the Asylum at the end of the year, and 9 females in the camp at Singapore. Forty-two were receiving the Tai Fong Chee treatment, and it is stated that 20 of them showed signs of slight improvement.

VACCINATIONS

73. The number of vaccinations performed during the year was 22,812, compared with 12,021 in 1926.

METEOROLOGICAL

74. *Rainfall*.—The highest rainfall for the year was recorded at Sungei Burong Estate, Kukub District, 160.94 inches and the lowest at Tambang Estate, Segamat District 80.02 inches.

The following observations were made at Government Hospitals:—

Johore Bahru (South)	...	...	104.67 inches
Kota Tinggi (South-east)	...	...	129.10 "
Kukub (South-west)	...	...	107.18 "
Batu Pahat (West)	...	...	97.26 "
Kluang (Central)	...	...	133.42 "
Mersing (East)	...	...	151.22 "
Muar (North-west)	...	...	105.94 "
Segamat (North-east)	...	...	119.84 "

Temperature.—The highest maximum temperature recorded was 98° F. at Kukub on the 5th June, and the lowest minimum 68° F. at Kota Tinggi Hospital on the 21st April.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

75. The general health of the State has been satisfactory. There were six outbreaks of small-pox which yielded at once to control and served to insure a very complete vaccination of the whole population.

There was a serious outbreak of beri-beri in the Segamat District in November. There were less serious outbreaks of the same disease in the Endau District in September and October. Parboiled rice was distributed free and instruction was given to the population by a Malay Apothecary with the result that conditions rapidly improved. At the end of the year there were no new cases.

Five deaths occurred from cholera early in the year. These were the result of an epidemic mentioned in last year's report.

During the year a sum of \$52,840 was spent by the Anti-Malarial Board on oiling, draining and other such measures. Doubtless as a result of the floods of December and January there was a considerable increase in the incidence of Malaria.

ESTATES

76. There are 26 qualified medical practitioners resident in the State and 10 more who, though residing outside, practise within the State. The minimum number of visits to Estates is fixed by the Government and depends on the size of the Estate and its sick rate.

The Government Health Officers visited 95 Estates during the year and made many recommendations, to which effect was in every case given, for the improvement of Estate sanitation.

FINANCIAL

77. The expenditure on Personal Emoluments and Other Charges came to \$777,765, compared with \$664,543 in 1926. Revenue amounted to \$69,522.

XV.—MILITARY

78. The total strength of the Forces at the end of the year was 632, being 24 short of the authorised strength. The signal section has increased to 13, and is making progress. Discipline is reported to be fair, and health good except at Mersing where there was an outbreak of beri-beri following the floods.

A detachment of the Johore Military Forces, by invitation of His Excellency the General Officer Commanding, Malaya, took part in the Parade held at Singapore in honour of His Majesty the King's Birthday.

Considerable progress was made with the Lewis Gun. At the Straits Settlements Volunteer Corps Rifle meeting the Lewis Gun Section of the Johore Military Forces won the second prize.

Musketry again showed a marked improvement. Teams competed with success at six meetings. At the Malaya Command Rifle meeting held at Kuala Lumpur Major YAHYA, Adjutant, Johore Military Forces, won the Rifle Championship Cup of Malaya.

The Johore Volunteer Forces were maintained at practically full strength. There are contingents at Johore Bahru, Muar, Batu Pahat and Mersing, and the report of their progress is generally satisfactory. The Signal section shows promise. Increased attention is being given to musketry.

JOHORE VOLUNTEER RIFLES

79. During the year the Corps made considerable progress in efficiency. Credit is due to the Officer Commanding, Major F. E. DAVIES, M.C.; to Captain S. J. W. GOOCH who commanded while Major DAVIES was on leave and to energetic Platoon Commanders. From the 1st January, 1928, the Corps became the Johore Volunteer Engineers. Engineer training started before the end of the year. Success in making the transitional changes is due to Captain T. PRINCE, the Adjutant.

The strength of the Unit rose to 9 officers and 252 other ranks as compared with 10 officers and 222 other ranks in 1926. Owing to increase of numbers in Central Johore it was found desirable to split the Central Johore Company into two with centres at Kluang and Rengam.

Excluding Volunteers on leave or auxiliary service 85% of the Unit were efficient. This is the highest standard yet reached by the Unit and reflects credit on all concerned. In a country where communications are as difficult as they are in Johore this is a high standard—which it is hoped to improve.

XVI.—MINES

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

81. The expenditure for the year amounted to \$17,105 against an estimate of \$19,102 and an expenditure of \$17,620 in 1926.

82. The total revenue derived from mining (including premia and rents) amounted to \$428,603 against \$393,444 in 1926, an increase of \$35,159.

Details are as follows:—

	1926	1927
	—	—
	\$	\$
<i>Export duty on—</i>		
(i) Tin-ore ...	238,532	220,928
(ii) Iron-ore ...	125,050	181,364
(iii) China Clay ...	377	824
Premia on Leases ...	9,470	7,910
Rents on Leases ...	12,178	11,306
<i>Licences—</i>		
(i) Prospecting ...	7,337	5,621
(ii) Ore Buyers ...	500	600
(iii) Individual ...	—	50
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	393,444	428,603

The Warden of Mines carried out the duties of 1st Magistrate, Johore Bahru, in addition to his own throughout the year.

83. Minerals to the value of \$4,419,181 were exported and paid \$403,116 in duty: an increase of \$642,280 in value and \$39,157 in duty.

84. *Tin Ore*.—Sixteen thousand three hundred and seventy-four pikuls were exported against 17,453 pikuls in 1926—an apparent decrease of 1,079 pikuls. This is almost certainly due to evasion of customs duty by certain exporters which at the date of writing this report is under investigation.

85. *Iron Ore*.—Four hundred and nine thousand two hundred and forty-one tons of hæmatite were exported against 250,100 tons: an increase of 159,141. The average output for the last 3 months of the year was just under 50,000 tons a month.

86. *China Clay*.—Eight hundred and twenty-four tons were exported against 337, an increase of 487 tons. In addition to being used in the manufacture of rubber goods in Singapore it is exported to Batavia for use in the manufacture of paper.

87. Labour was fairly plentiful: there was an increase of 700 in the total labour force: 400 in the iron mines, 300 in the tin mines.

The total labour force employed amounted to 3,641 persons. Machinery of 719 H.P. was in use—the nett result being a labour force and machinery equivalent to 9,393 units.

88. Details are—

(i) Open Cast Mines	...	...	3,242
Lampan	...	...	389
Under ground	...	...	10
(ii) Working on Tribute	...	...	1,599
,, Wages	...	...	501
,, Contract	...	...	1,541
(iii) Working in Tin Mines	...	...	2,336
,, Iron Mines	...	...	1,289
,, China Clay	...	...	16

89. Gravel pump installations are in use at Jemaluang: suction dredges in the Tingkil valley: compressed air plant in the iron mines.

The difficulty of transport prevents any extensive use of machinery.

90. Twelve thousand seven hundred and thirty-five acres were held under mining title at the end of the year—a decrease of 378 acres: due to the surrender of worked out lands.

91. Sixty-two Prospecting licences covering 26,382 acres were issued against 51 covering 39,214 acres in 1926.

XVII.—POLICE

92. The strength of the Force was on the 31st December, 1,060 all ranks, the approved establishment being 1,126.

93. At the close of the year there were 63 Police Stations, of which 12 are headquarters of Police Districts. The new Police Head Office at Johore Bahru was completed and ready for occupation at the end of the year. A new Police Station and barracks were completed at Pasir Gudang. Additional barracks were built at Muar. A new Police Station (temporary) was opened at Jeram Choh. Telephone extensions were effected to six stations hitherto unconnected.

RECRUITMENT AND DISCIPLINE

94. During the year 122 Malays and 35 Sikhs were enlisted. There were 256 Malay and 44 Sikh applicants.

95. The discipline was not very satisfactory, there being 1,022 offences against 767 in 1926, 622 being cases of absence from duty.

HEALTH

96. Four hundred and seven members of the force were admitted to the Hospital and 3,743 were treated as out-patients. There were 6 deaths. Ten men were discharged as medically unfit.

CRIME

97. The total number of offences of all kinds reported was 14,954 compared with 13,225 in 1926.

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

	1925	1926	1927
Murder and Homicide	44	50	69
Gang-robbery	7	14	17
Robbery	36	26	78
House-breaking	57	74	94
Thefts (over \$100)	170	174	164
Counterfeit coin and Stamps	3	—	10
Unlawful Societies	15	14	4

There was a marked improvement in the discovery of criminals and in the number of successful prosecutions before the Courts.

98. Unlawful Societies still constitute a serious menace. One hundred and twenty-six persons were banished from the State as compared with 67 in 1926. Fifty-one Chinese and four of other nationalities were repatriated as vagrants.

FIREARMS

99. Three thousand six hundred and thirty-nine firearms were registered against 3,476 in 1926.

WEIGHT AND MEASURES

100. Nine thousand six hundred and seventy-four weights and measures were verified by the Police Department, the work being under the control of a Malay Inspector.

MOTOR CARS AND DRIVERS

101. The registration of Traction Engines and Motor Cars is in the hands of the Town Boards at Johore Bahru, Muar, Batu Pahat, Mersing and Segamat. The Chief Police Officers at Johore Bahru, Muar and Batu Pahat continued to license drivers under the Enactment. Twenty-three certificates were cancelled by the Licensing Officers and 26 were suspended for varying periods.

NOXIOUS ANIMALS

102. Twelve tigers, 1 leopard and 28 crocodiles were destroyed and handed over to the Police. The number of persons reported killed by noxious animals was 62, 44 by tigers, 15 by crocodiles, 1 by a snake and 2 by elephants.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

103. The expenditure on the Police was \$690,284 compared with \$556,351 in 1926 while the revenue collected by the Department amounted to \$52,656.

XVIII.—POST OFFICE

104. A comparison of the business done during the past three years is as follows:—

	1925	1926	1927*
Letters, papers and parcels received ...	4,180,337	4,613,572	4,200,067
Letters, papers and parcels despatched ..	2,226,018	3,117,096	2,800,466
Value of Money Orders issued ...	\$583,031	\$875,939	\$872,940
Value of Money Orders paid ...	\$135,597	\$212,842	\$235,644
The revenue was \$238,717 as against \$192,515 in 1926.			
The expenditure was \$153,119 against \$131,000.			

TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES

105. The total mileage under control of the Chief Telegraph Engineer and maintained by the Johore Government is 1,227 miles and 52 chains.

There were at the end of 1927 thirteen telephone exchanges and nine sub-exchanges. Much valuable work was done during the year to improve service. The number of telephone stations was increased by 127, making 519 in all. Thirty-eight miles of pole line were added during the year. Six outlying Police Stations were connected. Underground cable was laid at Batu Pahat, Muar and Bukit Pasir.

XIX.—PRISONS

PRISON POPULATION

106. Admissions to the two State Prisons, Johore Bahru and Muar totalled 1,774 as against 1,053 in 1926.

The daily average numbers for 1926 and 1927 are shown in the following table:—

	1926		1927	
	Johore Bahru	Muar	Johore Bahru	Muar
Civil Prisoners ...	10'09	11'52	11'30	14'13
Convicted Prisoners	269'20	109'07	383'58	143'39

Convicted, Prisoners in the State Prisons numbered as follows:—

	<i>Johore Bahru</i>	<i>Muar</i>
Remaining on 1st January, 1927 ...	238	115
Admitted during 1927 ...	995	779
Total ...	1,233	894
Released during 1927 ...	851	541
Transferred ...	3	233
Died ...	6	2
Executed ...	10	—
Remaining on 31st December, 1927	363	118
Total ...	1,233	894

Classification of Prisoners on 31st December, 1927.

	<i>Johore Bahru</i>	<i>Muar</i>	<i>Total</i>
Long Sentence ...	126	—	126
Short Sentence ...	237	118	355
Prisoners on Remand ...	16	23	39
Awaiting Banishment ...	58	—	58
Detained during His Highness's Pleasure ...	4	—	4
Total ...	441	141	582

HEALTH

107. There were 6 deaths in the Prison Hospital at Johore Bahru.

The average daily number in hospital was—

Johore Bahru ...	14.05
Muar ...	6.99

DISCIPLINE

108. Two hundred and twenty-two offences by prisoners were dealt with and fourteen floggings were inflicted. There were no serious disorders in either prison.

LABOUR

109. At Johore Bahru an average of 135 prisoners was engaged by the Public Works Department on extramural labour, including extensive reclamation operations at Sungei Chat.

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

At Muar the daily average number of prisoners engaged on extramural work was 58.95. Useful work was done for the Public Works Department and a large amount of stone was broken for road metal.

RECIDIVISM

110. Of the prisoners admitted during the year 37 had one, 8 two and 7 three or more previous convictions.

EXECUTIONS

111. Ten executions were carried out at Johore Bahru.

STAFF

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

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

EXPENDITURE

113. The expenditure on the maintenance of the Johore Bahru Prison amounted to \$165,311 against \$135,659 in 1926. The expenditure at Muar was \$56,354 against \$42,722 in 1926. The increase in each case was due to higher musters.

REVENUE

114. A sum of \$10,607 was received from the laundry, bakery and workshops at Johore Bahru, and \$476 was collected at Muar.

VAGRANT WARDS

115. The two State Prisons at Johore Bahru and Muar are also vagrant wards under the Vagrancy Enactment, 1921. Seventy-nine vagrants were admitted and nineteen remained at the end of the year. Of the vagrants admitted 92.4 per cent were Chinese.

XX.—PUBLIC WORKS

116. The provision and expenditure during the year were—

	\$
Provision	8,510,909
Expenditure	6,899,178

The expenditure exceeded that of 1926 by \$1,608,166. The cost of supervision was $6\frac{1}{4}$ per cent of the total expenditure.

WORKS AND BUILDINGS

117. The expenditure was as follows:—

	\$
Annually Recurrent	199,889
Special Services	2,010,485

Under Special Services anti-malarial work was carried out in the Johore Bahru, Endau and Segamat Districts at a cost of over \$33,000.

118. For the purpose of combating flooding of the Kota Tinggi Road considerable sums were spent in clearing the Tiram River. A snagging barge was put to work with a European in charge.

The new Central Police Station at Johore Bahru was completed. Good progress was made with the new Law Courts and the new house for the General Adviser. At Muar a new Rest House was completed and the new Law Courts commenced. Considerable improvements were effected in wharfage facilities. Necessary additions were made to Wards at the Muar and Tangkak hospitals. At Batu Pahat a new market was erected at a cost of \$42,000. A sum of \$54,000 was spent on quarters for Assistant School Masters, Clerks and Subordinate Officers. A new Godown with extension of the Government wharf was commenced. Four new vernacular schools were completed and there were several additions made to hospital accommodation throughout the State.

ROADS, STREETS AND BRIDGES

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

	ANNUALLY RECURRENT		SPECIAL SERVICES	
	<i>Provision</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Provision</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
	\$	\$	\$	\$
	984,000	970,509	1,873,914	1,633,336
	TOWN ROADS		COUNTRY ROADS	
	<i>Metalled Natural</i>		<i>Metalled Natural</i>	
Johore Bahru	54.64	...	94.18	...
Segamat	7.12	...	81.40	...
Kota Tinggi	4.57	...	46.23	...
Kluang	4.56	...	87.40	3.00
Muar	23.82	...	117.12	4.22
Batu Pahat	15.07	...	68.27	11.37
Endau	2.66	...	34.51	5.1
Total	115.27	...	531.00	24.7

120. The total length of roads upkept was 671 miles at a cost of \$1,348 per mile compared with a cost of \$1,436 per mile in 1926.

121. Traffic census shews that the main Town Roads in Johore Bahru carry approximately 4,000 tons a day. A census taken near Scudai on the Trunk Road gave 1,700 tons a day.

SPECIAL SERVICES

ROAD EXTENSION SCHEME

122. At the end of 1926 there were $291\frac{1}{4}$ miles open to traffic, and during 1927 an additional $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles were opened.

The total expenditure during the year was \$248,069 making a total since 1911 of \$5,383,216.

During 1927 work was continued on Section 12 (Ayer Hitam—Muar) and Section 18 (Gunong Pulai—Pontian Kechil). The Road Extension Scheme will be complete when

the roads now under construction from Ayer Hitam to Muar and from Gunung Pulai to Pontian Kechil are through. Progress on the first mentioned of these roads is necessarily slow at the present stage. From the Ayer Hitam side the road is now metalled for nineteen miles. Construction has reached the Simpang Kiri river. Between the Simpang Kiri and the Muar District boundary the trace runs through bad swamp and for filling purposes mechanical haulage is necessarily employed over this section. Good progress was made during the year, work being done efficiently though of necessity at a high cost. Haulage will eventually be as far as five miles. The country is so bad that it has been found necessary to construct several miles of very deep drains through jungles before commencing earthwork.

On the Pulai—Pontian Kechil section 2 miles of earthwork were completed and $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles metalled and opened to traffic. A length of 6 miles remains for construction. This portion of the trace goes through heavy peat and swamp and progress will be slow.

NEW ROADS

123. The expenditure was \$347,650.

Johore Bahru District.—Plintong road. The road was completed and opened to traffic as far as Plintong village. Plintong-Masai road. This is a continuation of the Plintong road. Two miles of earthwork were completed and half a mile metalled.

Muar District.—Progress was made with the Muar-Labis Road and the Serom and Ayer Hitam Road.

Segamat District.—The road from Batu Anam to Buloh Kasap was completed and opened to traffic. The Tenang-Labis Road was opened for light traffic and three miles of earthwork were completed on the Labis-Yong Peng Road.

Batu Pahat District.—Metalling was completed on the Senggarang-Benut road for a distance of nine miles. Eight bridges and several culverts were put in. This road is now practically complete from Batu Pahat to the Benut river, a distance of 30 miles.

Of the Mengkibol-Kluang road a distance of $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles was metalled.

124. A contract for resurfacing 10 miles of the Johore Bahru-Batu Pahat road was let at an approximate price of \$24,700 a mile. On Bitumen surfacing a sum of \$45,507 was spent.

GENERAL

125. The Muar-Batu Pahat road was strengthened and resurfaced over a total length of five miles. This road, which lies on coast mud may be expected to need strengthening periodically.

A sum of \$66,600 was spent in replacing temporary by permanent bridges.

Reinforced concrete bridges were completed and opened to traffic across the Segamat River at Segamat and the Muar River at Buloh Kasap.

Satisfactory progress was made with the installation of a large stone crushing plant at the Bukit Mor quarry, Muar. Similar plants are in process of erection at quarries in the Batu Pahat and Endau Districts.

On the Scudai road in the Johore Bahru District sums totalling nearly \$130,000 were spent on road improvement up to the 5th mile and in protective measures near the Scudai creek.

Very considerable and satisfactory progress was made in improving the water supply at Muar, Kluang and Segamat. The Johore Bahru water supply scheme has not gone ahead as quickly as expected. Delay was due to matters outside the control of the Johore Government.

ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT

126. The Johore Bahru Power Station functioned satisfactorily during the year, though working to the limit of its capacity. The accounts shew a profit of \$22,639.

Progress on the new Power Station was good. At the end of the year nearly all the new plant had arrived. The expenditure was \$194,950.

XXI.—SURVEYS

127. The average effective strength of the staff throughout the year was 76 including the Superintendent and eight European Surveyors.

The total expenditure of the Survey Department was \$266,665 as compared with \$257,507 in 1926. The total revenue was \$132,125. A total area of 55,256 acres was surveyed in 6,046 lots. The average cost was 93 cents a chain.

For location of rivers compass traverse of 61 miles was made.

Documents of title prepared for issue were 952 duplicate titles and 4,764 mukim extracts.

At the end of the year there were with the Survey Office unsatisfied requisitions for survey of 179,794 acres in 25,571 lots. The total area of occupied land which still requires survey in Johore is not less than 250,000 acres. Wanting a preliminary settlement it is impossible to estimate, except very approximately, what the area is.

Considerable progress is being made towards training a competent subordinate field staff. This is the outstanding need of the Department.

The office staff has shewn considerable improvement during the year but there is still much to be desired. The system of training now employed is that recommended by Mr. J. DEWAR, Acting Surveyor-General, Federated Malay States, in a special report.

XXII.—TOWN BOARDS

JOHORE BAHRU

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

The total revenue collected by the Board was \$341,543 compared with \$252,870 in 1926.

The revenue collected for electric light in Johore Bahru amounted to \$131,668 as against \$74,032 in 1926 and for motor vehicles \$51,558 against \$41,929.

At Kluang and Rengam there was considerable progress in the building of brick shop houses.

The Fire Brigade was called out on five occasions only to deal with small outbreaks of fire. Expenditure on the Brigade was \$17,044 as compared with \$12,782 in 1926.

KOTA TINGGI

129. The revenue in 1927 was \$22,351 against \$20,971 in 1926. An Incinerator was built and brought into use and a considerable amount of reclamation work was done.

MUAR

130. The Muar Board is in charge of the townships of Bandar Maharani, Panchor, Tangkak, Parit Jawa, Sungei Idrus and Bukit Pasir, and supervises sanitary work in the

villages of Serom, Parit Bakar, Sungei Renchong, Tanjong Agas, Bukit Kangka, Sagil Luar, Bekoh, Gersek and Simpang Jeram.

The Revenue was \$267,563 in 1927 compared with \$246,009 in 1926, \$60,172 being collected on account of licences for motor vehicles.

BATU PAHAT

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

The revenue was \$153,618 compared with \$138,886 in 1926. Taxes on motor vehicles accounted for \$9,722 of this increase.

ENDAU

132. This Board is in charge of the townships of Mersing and Jemaluang. The revenue for 1927 was \$19,356. Revenue from taxes on motor vehicles amounted to \$4,244.

SEGAMAT

133. This Board was at the beginning of the year in charge of the townships of Segamat, Batu Anam, Buloh Kasap and Labis, and (under section 50 of the Enactment) of Kampong Gonting, Jabi, Jementah and Kampong Jalan Genuang. Jementah was declared a Town Board area in April and in November the charge of the Board under Section 50 of the Enactment was extended to Kampong Bukit Satu and Kampong Gemas. The revenue was \$45,733 compared with \$34,617 in 1926. House and Land Assessment were collected at Segamat and Batu Anam only. Taxes on motor vehicles amounted to \$12,419. Building in the new township of Buloh Kasap is proceeding apace.

XXIII.—VETERINARY

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

Increased attention is being given to meat inspection. All meat exposed for sale in markets is now subjected to preliminary examination by the Veterinary Department. Dairies are also regularly inspected. Action is proceeding for removal of pig styes, goats pens and cattle sheds outside Town Board limits.

There were outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease in the Districts of Muar, Batu Pahat, Johore Bahru and Segamat, 588 animals being infected, with 12 deaths.

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

	Horses	Oxen	Sheep and goats	Swine
Import ...	4	3,049	2,530	23,408
Export ...	50	77	100	1,912

XXIV.—STAFF

MALAY STAFF

135. His Highness TUNGU TEMENGGONG AHMAD was appointed to act as President, Town Board, Johore Bahru, from 14th January, 1927.

UNGU ALI BIN ABDULLAH succeeded DATO DAUD BIN HAJI SULEIMAN as State Commissioner, Endau, on the 16th November, 1927.

DATO DAUD BIN HAJI SULEIMAN succeeded UNGKU ALI BIN ABDULLAH as State Commissioner, Muar, on the 16th November, 1927.

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

DATO HAJI YUNOS BIN IBRAHIM, Treasurer, Muar.

HAJI NOORDIN BIN ABDUL KARIM, Treasurer, Mersing.

INCHE HARRON BIN HAJI KASSIM, Postmaster, Batu Pahat.

DATO OMAR BIN UNDOT, District Officer, Segamat.

EUROPEAN STAFF

136. Mr. C. W. H. COCHRANE was transferred to the Federated Malay States as Acting British Resident, Perak, on the 10th September and was succeeded by Mr. G. E. SHAW as Acting General Adviser.

Captain A. C. BAKER succeeded Mr. F. T. TREE as Assistant Adviser, Muar, on the 1st July.

Mr. S. W. JONES took over duty as Commissioner, Trade and Customs, from Mr. D. WILLS on the 3rd December.

Dr. G. H. GARLICK and Mr. S. J. W. GOOCH acted as Principal Medical Officer and State Engineer from 22nd November and 8th November respectively.

G. E. SHAW,
Acting General Adviser.

JOHORE BAHRU,
27th May, 1928.

APPENDICES

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APPENDIX A
Statement of Assets and Liabilities on 31st December, 1927, with corresponding figures for 1926

LIABILITIES	31st Dec., 1926		31st Dec., 1927	
	\$	c.	\$	c.
Deposits	3,894,223	06	5,660,984	09
Opium Reserve Replacement Fund	6,119,922	29	7,704,199	28
Toh Ah Boon Education Fund	20,000	00	20,789	14
Suspense	3,810	25	46,270	66
Surplus	17,935,508	17	20,826,057	84
Total	27,973,463	77	34,258,301	01

ASSETS	31st Dec., 1926		31st Dec., 1927	
	\$	c.	\$	c.
Cash	6,936,671	44	6,055,286	04
Cash in Transit	111,793	20	101,711	01
INVESTMENTS SURPLUS FUNDS (at cost)—				
British War Loans	618,142	56		
National War Bonds	1,816,533	75		
Other Sterling Securities	7,902,719	61		
S. S. War Loans	1,486,532	55		
Fixed Deposits	7,500,000	00		
INVESTMENTS SPECIFIC FUNDS (at cost) —				
Opium Reserve Re- placement Reserve Fund	7,704,199	28		
Toh Ah Boon Educa- tion Fund	20,789	14		
Advances				
Loans				
Suspense (Temporary Investment)				
Due by other Governments				
Stock of Chandu				
Total	27,973,463	77	34,258,301	01

APPENDIX B
Comparative Statement of Actual Revenue
for 1926 and 1927

Head of Revenue	Actual 1926	Actual 1927	Increase	Decrease
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Land Revenue	2,173,477	2,380,293	206,816	...
Forest Revenue	135,435	152,435	17,000	...
Customs	7,190,960	5,905,439	...	1,285,521
Licences, etc.	6,460,016	6,113,477	...	346,539
Fees of Court	221,534	224,355	2,821	...
Posts and Telegraphs	192,218	238,299	46,081	...
Ports and Harbour Dues	39,440	42,046	2,606	...
Railways	352,500	470,000	117,500	...
Interest	604,323	719,292	114,969	...
Miscellaneous Receipts	9,352	17,972	8,620	...
Municipal	705,535	838,516	132,981	...
Land Sales	696,775	1,136,899	440,124	...
Total	18,781,565	18,239,023	1,089,518	1,632,060

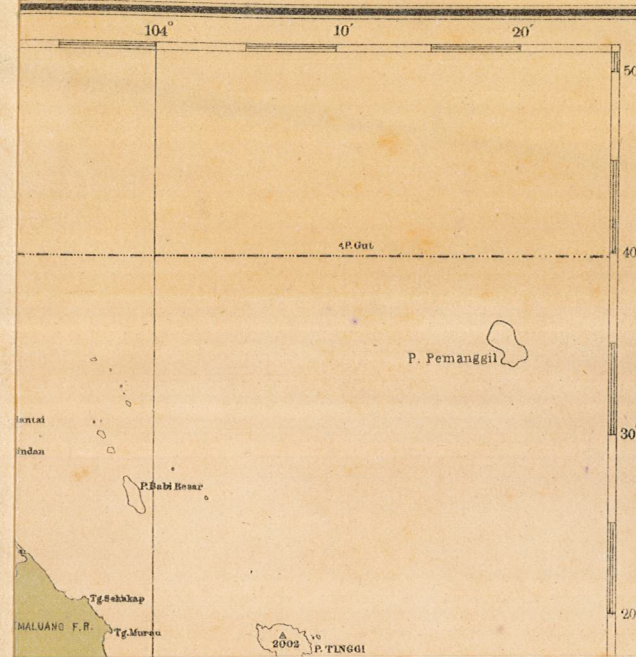
APPENDIX C
Comparative Statement of Actual Expenditure for
1926 and 1927

Head of Expenditure	Actual 1926	Actual 1927	Increase	Decrease
	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.
Pensions	230,822	344,096	113,273	70
Personal Emolu- ments	3,312,449	3,836,076	523,627	33
Other Charges	2,098,224	2,727,269	629,045	46
Transport	23,142	41,968	18,825	50
Opium Reserve Fund	5,898,498	1,249,998	...	4,648,500
Interest	28,000	...	...	28,000
Miscellaneous Services	472,119	575,562	103,442	64
Purchase of Land	1,176,223	161,838	...	1,014,384
Public Works (A. R.)	1,534,716	1,635,458	100,741	63
Public Works (S. S.)	3,325,034	4,776,205	1,451,170	33
Total	18,099,231	15,348,473	2,940,126	5,690,884

APPENDIX D

STATISTICAL RETURN OF PROGRESS, 1923 - 1927

		<i>Revenue</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
		—	—
		\$	\$
1923	...	11,094,955	7,064,166
1924	...	10,947,960	8,095,276
1925	...	15,884,592	9,780,322
1926	...	18,781,565	18,099,232
1927	...	18,239,023	15,348,473



1934

Revenue	Expenditure
	\$
4,955	7,064,166
7,960	8,095,276
4,592	9,780,322
1,565	18,099,232
9,023	15,348,473

