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ANNUAL REPORT
ON THE
PUNJAB COLONIES

For the year ending 30th September 1932.

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**Report by the Financial Commissioner, Development,
on the Punjab Colonies for the year ending 30th
September 1932.**

1. THE only colonies where any pioneer work has been done are those of the Nili Bar and the Lower Chenab Colony Extensions—Burala, Pir Mahal and Khikha. In the Nili Bar all measurement work is by now practically completed except in the area to be served by the new 3-R distributary. As the colony develops naturally less killabandi remains to be done each year. This year only 19,000 killas were laid out as opposed to 85,000 last year. Some plots in the Lower Chenab Colony Extensions area remain to be mapped and surveyed ; but no regular survey or demarcation work was done in that area during the year.

2. Colonization in the Pir Mahal, Khikha and Burala Extensions continued steadily during the year, though progress was still slow. Perhaps the most interesting feature of colonization in this neighbourhood during the year was the experiment made in allotting two whole estates to selected graduates from Lahore Colleges. The idea was to allow educated young men to show their capacity for rural life and to provide an outlet for a class that has been badly hit by unemployment. It is hoped that these estates will in due course afford an example in agricultural skill, sanitation and social welfare generally to the country side. The Financial Commissioner, Development, recently visited these estates and was on the whole much impressed with the good start that these young colonists had made.

The civil non-official reward grantees, who were allotted land in the Pir Mahal Extension last year, are reported to have made a good beginning though handicapped like everybody else by agricultural depression.

Unfortunately the sufferers from waterlogging, erosion, etc., who were destined to receive 500 odd squares in the Pir Mahal and Khikha Extensions did not get their grants in time for rabi 1932-33 as was

hoped at the time when last year's report was written. The conditions for these grants have now been published and it is hoped that grantees will get possession in time for kharif 1933.

It appears that only a few allotments by way of reward to specially selected locals have been made in the Burala Extension so far. The main body of local colonists for this area under the statement of conditions published in May 1932 do not yet appear to have been finally selected.

In the neighbourhood of Kamalia in the area served by the Burala Extension a certain amount of dissatisfaction has been expressed by some of the local cultivators on the ground that on the introduction of irrigation they have been deprived of the most valuable inundation water which used to be supplied to them free of cost by the Ravi previously. This complaint has been and is being carefully investigated. Enquiries so far made suggest that as might be expected they will receive ample compensation for loss of the flood water in controlled irrigation.

Two new distributaries 5-R and 6-R were opened for perennial irrigation during the year in the Nili Bar while in the Lower Bari Doab Colony Extensions by means of which perennial irrigation is to be extended to 3,500 acres of non-proprietary and 25,500 acres of proprietary land have been started on the Gugera Branch in the Montgomery district. In the same colony (Khanewal Tahsil) a start has been made with the extension of 8-R distributary. About 1,100 acres of Crown waste land on this extension have been leased out for temporary cultivation from rabi 1933. The area to be served by this extension is mainly proprietary.

3. Practically no sales of agricultural State land took place during the year. A few plots were sold in the Chunian Colony. Elsewhere economic conditions made reasonable prices unobtainable. The Deputy Commissioner of Shahpur reports interesting figures in respect of private sales held in his colony during the year. The total area sold was not large; but it is interesting to note that whereas last year for lands not

Sale of Government agricultural land.

burdened with horse-breeding conditions the average price obtained in private sales was Rs. 347 per acre, the average price per acre for a somewhat larger area this year was only Rs. 149 per acre. The Colonization Officer, Nili Bar, is of opinion that the prospects of obtaining as much as Rs. 250 per acre for agricultural land in his colony are remote. A number of retired civil officials were given the option of purchasing land at this price during the year; but only one of them accepted. A complete review of the finances of the Sutlej Valley Project is now being undertaken in connection with the completion report of that Project. When this review is ready, it will be possible to gauge the financial effect of the failure to make sales of agricultural land to the extent and at the price estimated in previous forecasts. There can be no doubt that the income from temporary cultivation, with which it has been sought in some degree to balance the deficit, will fall far short of the income budgetted for sales.

4. This year the balances due to Government on account of land purchased by auction or by private treaty in all the colonies of the Punjab total only about 5 lakhs as opposed to 29 lakhs last year and 54½ lakhs the year before. The reason for these reductions is the progressive grant of concessions to purchasers of land from the State. More than 1½ lakhs of these arrears are due from the Lower Jhelum Colony, Jhang district being responsible for the greater part of this sum. The reason is that in this colony no concessions up to date have been granted to such purchasers. About 2¼ lakhs are due from the Lower Chenab Colony (Sheikhupura and Lyallpur districts) on account of past auction sales. Last year's dues on the same account from the Lower Chenab Colony in the Sheikhupura district amounted to 12½ lakhs; since then land of the auction value of 10½ lakhs has reverted to Government. In the Lyallpur district in the same colony over 23,000 acres of auctioned land were confiscated, of which nearly 8,700 acres were subsequently restored under the concession by which purchasers in certain circumstances were allowed to retain possession of land to the extent covered by money so far paid as purchase price at the rate bid and accepted.

Officer, however, is of opinion, an opinion in which the Commissioner supports him that "in spite of these disheartening difficulties, perseverance on the part of the grantees and the colony officers is prevailing, and is bound to triumph in the end. Although the Nili Bar may not be what it promised to be in 1927; although it may not fulfil the ambitions of the profiteer, it will yet be the home of the careful cultivator, tilling his land with sagacity, and using his water to the fullest possible advantage. No other colony has taught the cultivator the economical use of water better than the Nili Bar."

The Deputy Commissioner, Montgomery, echoes the Colonization Officer, Nili Bar, in his animadversions on the inability of some types of grantee, more particularly the military grantees from the Ambala and Rawalpindi divisions and the Dogras, to observe the residence clause in their statement of conditions. It is justifiable, however, to allow military grantees in the Lower Bari Doab Colony somewhat more latitude than in the Nili Bar because the military grants in the Lower Bari Doab Colony were definitely given as rewards for war services while in the Nili Bar the military grantees have from the start been regarded merely as peasant grantees.

6. Mule-breeding conditions are generally attached to allotments made to lambardars in the Lower Chenab Colony. Over 40,000 acres are held on these conditions in the Lyallpur district, and as far as can be ascertained from the report of the Deputy Commissioner the lambardars in questions are working satisfactorily enough. Only four tenants were warned and one fined in the course of the year. In the Lower Jhelum and the Lower Bari Doab Colonies Government's horse breeding schemes continue to do well. A new feature in the year under report was the allotment of the old 8th Cavalry Horse Run in the Lower Jhelum Colony and the old 31st Lancers Horse Run in the Lower Bari Doab Colony to selected tenants for the purpose of rearing fillies up to the time that they are fit for use as brood mares. In the past it has been found that too many horse-

Horse and mule breeding.

breeding tenants have been in possession of unproductive fillies. Under the new scheme the grantees are required to maintain in their grants two fillies per rectangle; the fillies being replaced every three years. The Lower Jhelum Colony filly farm has been allotted to one grantee while in the Lower Bari Doab Colony there are 8 grantees holding approximately 7 rectangles each.

In the Lower Jhelum Colony only 31 horse-breeders were reported to the Deputy Commissioner for breaches of their conditions as opposed to 213 in the previous year. Similarly only 3 horse-breeders were fined a total sum of 115 rupees during the year whereas last year fines totalling 1,540 rupees were levied from 29 breeders. These reductions are due to a combination of causes. A large number of the cases reported last year ended in a warning only and where a warning has been administered a considerable interval has to elapse before it can be seen whether the warning has had any effect or not, the period between the date of the covering of a mare and the date of the purchase or rejection of the foal got thereby being 2 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ years thus a horse-breeder, who has been warned or punished by the Deputy Commissioner, is not likely to be reported again for two or three years unless he grossly and consistently starves his stock. It is also reported that the District Remount Officer has taken particular pains to study the human factor where cases of neglect or non-fulfilment of conditions have been reported to him. Finally it is stated that horse-breeders generally take more interest in fulfilling their conditions partly as a result of the punishments inflicted during the previous year and partly because the sale of the young stock was profitable during a year when the prices of agricultural produce were low. Three cases of gross neglect of conditions were reported during the year and in one case total resumption of the grant was ordered and in another resumption for a period of ten years. Resumption for a period of ten years was also ordered in the third case; but the grantee died before orders could be announced. Orders in the other two cases were

actually announced after the close of the year under report. The complete resumption is the first for many years. It is hoped that its effect will be good. It is satisfactory to find from the report of the Deputy Commissioner that "there was no trace during the year under report of any real attempt to revive the agitation against horse-breeding conditions and so far as can be judged there is at present no feeling whatever against the conditions. In fact many horse-breeders found the prices fetched by their young stock most useful in the year of agricultural depression. The grantees were gratified to find that the Remount Department is still paying approximately the same price for stock as prevailed in the pre-slump years." The Commissioner who rode through part of the colony in November heard no complaints of any kind. Since these words were written, however, signs of an attempt to revive agitation have appeared.

In the Lower Bari Doab Colony in Montgomery district 125 acres of land were resumed from horse-breeding tenants and 4 horse-breeders were fined a total amount of Rs. 125 for non-fulfilment of conditions. In the Khanewal Tahsil 48 persons were fined a total sum of Rs. 658. It is not stated why so many more breeders were fined in the Khanewal than in the Okára and Montgomery Tahsils. But generally it is clear that progress has been satisfactory. The Deputy Commissioner, Montgomery, in agreement with the Deputy Commissioner, Shahpur, reports that "the slump in agricultural produce had at first an adverse effect on horse-breeding; but since it has been found that the price of young stock remained the same, breeders have realized that it is well worth their while to feed their animals, since horse-breeding is now one of the few paying rural industries."

In the Lower Bari Doab Colony an important decision was made during the year in modification of that mentioned in paragraph 6 of last year's report. It has now been settled that when it so happens that no suitable horse-breeder is forthcoming from the estate in which a horse-breeding grant has fallen vacant, the Commissioner has power either to transfer the tenancy

to another estate or to select a man from another estate, who will be represented by an agent, to hold the tenancy. Government was reluctant to permit any departure from the established order that a horse-breeding tenant can not remain as such unless he holds land in the estate concerned as a proprietor or tenant of Government otherwise than under horse-breeding conditions; but it was realised that the local authorities required special powers to deal with estates where horse-breeding was not progressing well. If in certain estates it was known that on confiscation of horse-breeding grants the land would be available for temporary cultivation until such time as satisfactory horse-breeders were forthcoming from the same estates it was anticipated that in time the Lower Bari Doab Colony horse-breeding scheme which up to date had been remarkably successful, might sustain a serious set back. The effect of the new orders will be carefully watched by the Commissioner and cases in which grants have been allotted otherwise than in accordance with the old orders in this respect will be reported annually to Government.

7. Though grants on tree planting conditions in the Lower Bari Doab Colony have no doubt led to the laying out of a number of very good avenues which will in time contribute largely to the comfort of travellers, the scheme as a whole has worked somewhat wastefully. The condition under which the district board and not the grantee has to pay for the irrigating of these trees has involved the district boards in a very serious financial obligations. The Deputy Commissioner, Montgomery, reports that watering roadside trees costs the district board there Rs. 10,000 annually, at the time these grants were made the demand for land was so intense that a large number of avenues were laid out which were not really required. The Deputy Commissioner, Montgomery, comments on the ludicrous position whereby avenues have been provided for roads which are completely impassable and which the district board can never afford to make up while it continues spending so lavishly on the trees. But much of the expense incurred by the district board on roadside trees can be put down to the fact that many avenues were taken over from grantees before

Tree planting.

such grantees had obtained proprietary rights in the lands allotted in connection therewith. If the orders noted by the Financial Commissioner last year to the effect that a grantee must be made responsible for the maintenance of his avenues until he has acquired proprietary rights in his grant are properly observed, the district board in future cases will at least be relieved from paying for any maintenance costs except water on any but properly established avenues. In the Montgomery district 64 acres of land on tree-planting conditions were resumed for non-fulfilment of those conditions, while in the Khanewal Tahsil fines totalling Rs. 363 were imposed on 38 tree planters as opposed to Rs. 105 imposed on 6 tree planters last year.

In order to supply young trees for roadside avenues and for planting in village sites it was decided early in 1915 in the Lower Bari Doab Colony to lease out in selected estates 5 acre plots, out of which 1 acre was to be kept as a tree nursery by the grantee, who recouped his expense on the nursery out of the temporary cultivation of the remaining 4 acres. In 1929 the Settlement Officer resumed all these plots in view of the fact that they were purely temporary grants and that the need for nursery trees no longer existed. It was, however, decided by Government to allow the holders of these zakhiras to purchase their plots at Rs. 250 per acre and many of the zakhiradars have availed themselves of this concession.

8. The Colonization Officer, Nili Bar, reported last year that the compensatory grantees in that colony, *i.e.*, persons whose land had been acquired by Government for the Sutlej Valley Project or for agricultural farms, were very lax in carrying out their conditions. He again reports this year that these grantees have been a constant source of annoyance. A large number of them neither reside themselves nor have agents appointed. During the year under report 56 acres had to be resumed and fines amounting to Rs. 1,840 had to be inflicted. He remarks that if this state of affairs continues, resumption will have to be resorted to in many more cases.

Special grants in the
Nili Bar Colony.

In the Nili Bar the scheme of granting half rectangles as rewards for good cultivation does not find the support it deserves. The Colonization Officer reports that the number of competitors is on the wane, which is surprising in these times when it might have been expected that every extra acre would be gratefully accepted.

9. Statement No. 1 appended to this report gives figures of allotment for the triple project canals, the Nili Bar Colony and for the Pir Mahal, Khikha and Burala extensions on the Lower Chenab Canal. In the Lower Jhelum Colony and in the Lower Chenab Colony outside the extensions allotment is to all intents and purposes finished. In both these colonies, however, there are considerable areas of land still available for temporary cultivation. The Deputy Commissioner, Lyallpur, reports that in his district lists of plots so available have been prepared and forwarded to the Irrigation Department to ascertain whether arrangements for water supply are possible. There are probably large areas in the old established colonies of which more use can be made; but irrigation is of course a limiting factor and the Deputy Commissioners concerned need to keep in constant touch with the officers of the Irrigation Department.

On the Lower Bari Doab Canal in the Montgomery district a final allotment of 1,755 acres was made to the last of the local grantees selected in 1930. As noted above 1,419 acres forming the old 31st Lancers Horse Run were allotted to 8 selected grantees on filly rearing conditions. No allotment of any significance took place in the Khanewal tahsil. The balance of land commanded by the Lower Bari Doab Canal fit for allotment in the Montgomery district is shown in the statement as totalling 97,000 acres while in the Khanewal tahsil the similar total is about 90,000 acres. But much of this land is very inferior and no further allotments will be carried out on this canal until the Canal Department has completed the detailed survey in which they are now engaged, the result of which will show how far the water-supply available can be used to irrigate these plots.

If in the Nili Bar land set aside for auction and for sales to retired Government officials be excluded, only about 6,000 acres in the perennial area ear-marked for allotment remain now unallotted. About 14,000 acres were allotted during the year mostly to local peasants. In the non-perennial area nearly 5,000 acres were allotted. Allotments to locals in the Pakpattan tahsil were completed last year; but possession was taken by several of these grantees during the year under report. Owing to the facts that no auction has been held recently in the Nili Bar and that the scheme of sale by private treaty to retired or retiring officials has failed, permanent allotment in this colony at present is not up to the figure forecasted; but every effort has been made to fill the gap with temporary cultivation leases. It must be remembered that much of the large areas shown as available for allotment but unallotted has been deliberately left out as inferior or is included in partially allotted estates. It is not often possible to allot estates completely in the first instance and filling up the blank spaces in them is and must be a long process.

The allotment of inferior lands in this colony must always be a problem. Where soil is patchy and cultivation is carried out in odd plots here and there economical irrigation arrangements become impossible. Channels, which have been designed to run to a definite supply, will not run satisfactorily when only a fraction of that supply is required. The Commissioner remarks that "there is much waste of water at present owing to the big gaps in the cultivation and land often cannot be properly irrigated by half full channels."

In the non-perennial areas in the Nili Bar land has been set aside for plantations, for tahudkhahi lessees and peasant grants including sufaidposhis. The allotments for plantations and tahudkhahi lessees have been completed. Out of 168,000 acres ear-marked for peasant grants about 30,000 acres should be deducted for abadi sites, charagah, etc. Some 25,000 acres of agricultural land will be available for allotment after the peasant grantees so far selected have been settled on their lands.

In the extensions of the Lower Chenab Colony allotments so far have been made only to non-official

rewards grantees on the Pir Mahal extension (sanctioned allotment 565 squares) and to the graduates from Lahore Colleges mentioned in paragraph 2 (sanctioned allotment 84 squares). Allotments totalling 800 squares have been sanctioned on the Burala extension for locals and 506 squares on the Pir Mahal and Khikha extensions are now in process of allotment to sufferers from water-logging, erosion, etc., in other districts.

10. Statement No. 2 shows figures for cultivation during the year, *viz.*, kharif 1931 and rabi 1932 by canal divisions in the colonies of the Triple Project, in the Nili Bar and in the Lower Chenab Canal Colony extensions. It will be seen that the percentage of failed crops is highest in the Upper Chenab Colony, Sheikhpura district, where the average for the year is 10 per cent. It would appear that the normal average in perennial canal areas is 4 per cent. on permanently allotted land with a somewhat higher percentage in the case of temporary cultivation. In respect of the Upper Chenab Canal Colony the Commissioner points out that the essential difference between this colony and others is that it is in the main a kharif colony, and though a part of the colony receives perennial irrigation, rice is the really important staple crop. The Commissioner while on tour in the neighbourhood found considerable discontent with the periods for which the kharif channels are open. "The cultivators," he says, "were unanimous in urging that under the ordinary conditions of rice cultivation there will always be a shortage in the demand for water during the first month after the channels are open, and that the postponing of the opening of the channels for a month merely results in the postponement of sowings. Rice is a crop which is first sown in a restricted area and then transplanted. The cultivators argued that they needed water in the middle of April for their original sowings in the seed beds and small supplies of water for the first month to irrigate the seedlings. From the end of May onwards they require all the water they can get for the rice when it is planted out, and they argue that the total failure to supply water until the middle of May results in their being unable to put in sufficient seed in the early stages to provide seedlings for the full

area available for cultivation when full supplies are received." This is obviously a vital question for the Upper Chenab Canal Colony and the Commissioner will no doubt take steps to have it thoroughly investigated in co-operation with the officers of the Irrigation Branch.

The cultivators in the Sidhnai Colony appear to have had a poor season. "The canal" says the Commissioner "was too late this year for good crops and at the end of the season the people had to choose between using the available water for ripening their cotton or sowing their wheat. They gambled on rain to ripen their cotton and sowed their wheat. No rain came and what cotton they had sown suffered accordingly."

In the Lower Jhelum Canal Colony, Shahpur district, the sown acreage in the permanently allotted area amounted to 395,000 acres as against 418,000 acres last year. The principal reduction in sowings was in the rabi and is put down by the Deputy Commissioner to the low prices received for wheat during the previous year. The Deputy Commissioner remarks that though the price of wheat rose as high as Rs. 3 per maund in the middle of 1932, most of the zamindars sold their crop earlier at prices varying between Re. 1-14-0 and Rs. 2-8-0 a maund. Agricultural conditions were satisfactory in both harvests.

From the report of the Deputy Commissioner, Montgomery, it appears that in the Lower Bari Doab Canal Colony also the wheat crop was satisfactory; but few cultivators were able to retain their crop long enough to take advantage of the rise in prices, which took place during June and July. Much attention has been paid to sugarcane, especially the Coimbatore varieties, and the Military Grass Farm at Okara are reported to be contemplating the installation of a sugarcane factory. Cotton, however, is still the staple crop. The crop during 1931 was damaged to some extent by boll worm. The Deputy Commissioner reports that the standard of cultivation is not noticeably improving, though the Deputy Director of Agriculture reports a considerable increase in green manuring and in the use of improved implements. After a tour in the colony the Commissioner remarks

"Beyond the use of good seed, which is fortunately very general, I have seen little sign of any attempt at better farming. No one bothers to sow cotton in lines, and the waste of manure and with it of health—is dreadful. Chaffcutters are seen occasionally ; but I do not happen to have seen any other improved implement." The Commissioner notes that the farm of Sayed Pir Muhammad Hussain Shah at Shergarh is a welcome exception to these criticisms, and the Financial Commissioner believes that these criticisms in the main do not apply to the more important farms in the colony. Some of the larger grantees are known to have adopted careful and scientific methods of cultivation with admirable results. In the Khanewal tahsil of the same colony the area sown during the year rose to 315,000 acres from 305,000 acres last year. The main increases appear to be accounted for by oilseeds, sugarcane and gram. The percentage of failed crops is only about half what it was last year. The cotton sowings fell from 91,000 acres last year to 82,000 acres in the year under report. The area under desi cotton decreased 21 per cent. and that under American cotton 9 per cent. Wheat sowings decreased 13 per cent. Outturns were normal.

The Colonization Officer, Nili Bar, reports a decrease in kharif sowings both in the permanently allotted and in the temporarily cultivated area, which he attributes to an unprecedented shortage in the river from the middle of March to the third week of June 1931. The Commissioner in his comments on the Colonization Officer's report emphasizes the necessity of encouraging the colonists by every possible means to sink wells where subsoil water is sweet in order to supplement canal supplies. This is no doubt of great importance in the Nili Bar ; but similar encouragement should also be given in other colonies. In canal-irrigated areas whether the irrigation is perennial or non-perennial wells are an invaluable supplement to canal supplies enabling the cultivator to tide over unexpected closures and to undertake the cultivation of tobacco and other valuable crops to which canal irrigation unaided is not entirely suited. Rabi sowings showed a marked increase, since once the canals began to flow satisfactorily in June practically full supply was

maintained up to the end of November. The winter rain, however, was short, which combined with a long closure in February and March had a prejudicial effect on the crop. "Wheat and cotton" says the Colonization Officer "are undoubtedly the main crops of the colony; but it is surprising how well sugarcane has done. The reason perhaps is that during the period of short supply, *i.e.*, March to May, this crop can do with less water than others. For this reason the cultivation of sugarcane is increasing, and it is a pity that a scheme for a sugarcane farm was excluded from the colonization scheme on the ground that the irrigation intensity was only 51 per cent. Recently it has been found possible by scaling down the irrigation demand to cover the culturable commanded area instead of the gross area in the colony to raise the proposed intensity to 60 per cent. It is hoped that this may do something to allay the popular apprehension as regards canal supplies in the Nili Bar. It is unfortunate that a series of unexpectedly short supplies in the river has exposed the prospects of the Nili Bar to what the Financial Commissioner believes to be somewhat unreasonable suspicions. It is high time that public confidence was restored, a confidence which the irrigation figures if properly understood will fully justify. The Colonization Officer expresses his admiration for the manner in which water supplies during the year were controlled by the Irrigation Branch. It is hoped that the shortage of supply from March to June, which was so serious in the years 1930-1931, will not often be repeated.

Cultivation in the Lower Chenab Canal Colony Extensions is divided roughly half and half between the permanently allotted and the temporarily cultivated area. The percentage of failed crops in the Khikha Extension, an area which is almost entirely on temporary cultivation, is remarkably high. The reasons are not stated by the Deputy Commissioner. They should be investigated.

11. A reference was made in paragraph 15 of last year's report to the general orders issued in that year introducing a system of tender for temporary cultivation leases. An enquiry was held into the working of this system

Temporary cultivation.

during the year under report and it has not been found necessary to modify it in any important particulars. The Financial Commissioner was of opinion that the rules when intelligently used have proved satisfactory. Certain supplementary orders were, however, issued after the close of the year under report. Under these orders officers disposing of plots for temporary cultivation were authorised to supplement the tender system by summary disposal of the land on the spot, provided this did not result in excited bids leading to offers which could not be recovered. It has been pointed out to Commissioners that there is nothing in the rules preventing lands being leased for more than two years; but under the existing powers a proposal of a lease for a longer period requires a reference to the Financial Commissioner. Where rents per matured acre are considered to be more suitable than those per allotted acre, Commissioners have been invited to make proposals accordingly to the Financial Commissioner but this system has great dangers as lessees paying rent on matured area are apt to restrict cultivation and devote the available supply of water to a small area. As regards the fixing of minimum rents, Collectors have full power to modify the minima in accordance with the economic conditions prevailing at the time. Collectors have now been directed to maintain an up-to-date record of plots available for lease on temporary cultivation, and as far as possible to attend personally on the spot to the actual allocation of leases. The one important question in temporary cultivation on which decision has not yet been reached is whether it would be practicable or desirable to publish in the Gazette a statement of conditions for such cultivation under section 10 of the Colonization of Government Lands Act V of 1912. This question is being further investigated.

In the Lower Chenab Canal Colony excluding the extensions, the area under temporary cultivation fell from 20,000 acres last year to 15,000 acres. Rents varied from Rs. 10 to Rs. 24 per acre allotted including land revenue. The Deputy Commissioner attributes this fall to the following causes :—

- (1) low prices for agricultural produce ;

- (2) restoration to auction purchasers of confiscated areas which were on temporary cultivation last year ;
- (3) in the areas not permanently allotted irrigation arrangements are imperfect.

There are large areas of unallotted waste land on this canal in the Jhang district, which cannot be leased because the supply of canal water cannot be arranged. In that district only 1,145 acres were leased on temporary cultivation at an average rent of Rs. 13 per acre including land revenue. It has been found that the area reported last year as having been on temporary cultivation in the Shahpur district and quoted in paragraph 15 of last year's report was wrong. The area was 16,000 acres and not 9,400. The area this year was again approximately 16,000 acres, the average rent being Rs. 7-4-3 per acre including land revenue ; a fall of nearly Rs. 2 per acre from the rents obtained last year. The Deputy Commissioner reports that though the total unallotted area in this colony available for temporary cultivation amounts to 70,000 acres, not more than 20,000 are worth cultivation. The remainder is either uncommanded or inferior land surrendered by colonists in exchange from time to time on account of waterlogging, kallar or other defect. It must also be remembered, he observes, that each year the total area of good unallotted land is shrinking as a result of petty exchanges in which colonists receive good land in exchange for land which has become unculturable. There are heavy arrears of temporary cultivation rent in this colony which the Deputy Commissioner attributes mainly to the "phenomenal drop in prices which made it difficult for any cash demands other than the land revenue to be met from the agricultural produce. Further, it was customary in the past to lay much greater stress upon collections of land revenue proper than on the collection of other miscellaneous dues of Government ; indeed where temporary cultivation rents were collected they were sometimes credited to land revenue in order to clear the account of land revenue, realizations of which were more stringently controlled. Where this practice has been followed it becomes very difficult to discover from whom the uncollected land revenue is due.

A further cause may be found in the fact that responsibility for the collections is in a manner divided between the colony and the tahsil establishments. The Government instructions forbidding the participation of the tahsil agency in the allotment of temporary cultivation have often had this effect that persons who had consistently defaulted in payment of temporary rent were allowed by the colony officer to take up the same or fresh land again on temporary cultivation; similarly temporary cultivation was allotted to landless persons from whom the realisation of rent once fallen into arrears is practically impossible. Again the Tahsildars find it difficult to keep check of temporary cultivation rent because their accounts show the demands by villages instead of by individual lessees.

Endeavours are being made to rectify these defects for the future and to collect the arrears as far as possible."

In the instructions recently issued on the question of temporary cultivation, to which a reference has been made above, district officers have been informed that there is no objection to the Tahsildar accompanying the Collector for the purpose of assisting him in verifying the financial reliability of persons tendering for leases. In fact every effort should be made to interest the tahsil staff in securing good tenants and ensuring prompt realization of rents. The original embargo on interference by the tahsil staff in the allotment of temporary cultivation leases was only intended to secure a fair field and no favour to tenderers. The Deputy Commissioner, Shahpur, and his Colony Assistant are to be congratulated on the high rent obtained this year for the area capable of producing saltpetre. At present 253 acres of such land are on lease on an average rental of Rs. 83 per acre as against Rs. 7-4-3 per acre quoted above as obtained for agricultural land. The Deputy Commissioner considers that there is no reason why this income should decrease in future. An area of 58 acres which for the last five years had fetched only Rs. 40 annually fetched Rs. 725 for four months and subsequently Rs. 8,250 for 12 months.

In the Lower Bari Doab Colony in Montgomery district the area under temporary cultivation declined

from 26,000 acres last year to 22,000 this year and the income from Rs. 262,000 to Rs. 177,000. Rent varied from Rs. 5 to Rs. 12 per acre. The Deputy Commissioner anticipates a further decline in future; in the area because of the concessions to the auction purchasers of 1925, 1927 and 1928 mentioned in paragraph 4 by which considerable areas previously on temporary cultivation will be restored on peasant terms to the purchasers; and in income by reason of the fact that the water supply to the most valuable area now on temporary cultivation, *i.e.*, the lift area resumed from the heirs of the late Sir Ganga Ram has been reduced to the extent permissible under the project? There has also been a drop in the temporary cultivation area in Khanewal tahsil on the Lower Bari Doab Canal Colony, which the Deputy Commissioner attributes to shortage of money and the general financial depression. It is satisfactory, however, to find that in this tahsil the area under failed crop in the temporary cultivation area fell from 12·6 per cent. last year to 6·5 per cent. this year.

The Commissioner, Multan, comments as follows on temporary cultivation in the Nili Bar:—"Temporary cultivation is profitable but the land is exploited even more here than by the grantees. There is absolutely no incentive to improve the land and it is just squeezed for all it is worth. The conditions under which the tenants of these lands live are often squalid to a degree even with the biggest and best known lessees. The need for a money return, however, amply justifies this method of raising revenue." The area in the Nili Bar on temporary cultivation this year increased from 112,000 acres last year to 119,000 acres. A large area available for cultivation is unleased by reason of inferiority of the soil. New leases covering 40,751 acres were entered on during the year, of which 30,143 acres were leased on a matured area rent and 10,608 acres on an allotted area rent. The average in the matured area plots works out at Rs. 9-1-0 per acre matured each harvest and in the leased area plots at Rs. 6-8-0 per acre per annum. The best land was leased out on the leased acre system. The Colonization Officer observes that it will be better in future to give out leases on the matured area system and he is supported in this by the Commissioner, who observes that tenders are

bound to suffer, if the lessee feels that the lessor is not financially interested in seeing that he gets adequate water. Government has accepted this proposal in respect of the temporary cultivation leases recently granted and the result will be awaited with much interest. The tenders received have been most gratifying; but it remains to be seen if the area matured will turn out sufficient to justify the change of system. When maturity is the regulating factor there must be a temptation to the lessee to concentrate valuable crops on small areas. But in the past few years Government has been compelled to make constant abatements in its claims for rents due on the leased area system. Lessees whose rent was determined before 1st August 1930 were permitted to pay on matured area instead of on leased area for the four harvests from kharif 1930 to rabi 1932. The justification for this concession was that these rents were fixed at very high rates before the subsequent slump in prices of agricultural produce had set in. Unfortunately the concession intended by Government was doubled in practice. Annual rents per leased acre had been chargeable half with the kharif and half with the rabi instalment of land revenue. When the concession was made that rent should be charged per matured acre, only half rates per matured acre were charged at each harvest. On the discovery of this mistake Government decided not to insist on restitution from the lessees who had profited thereby. These concessions are calculated by the Colonization Officer to have led to a loss in income of over 15 lakhs of rupees. The income from temporary cultivation in the Nili Bar Colony rose this year to Rs. 3,11,000 as against Rs. 2,15,000 last year, while the income estimated by the Colonization Officer for 1932-33 is over 8 lakhs. The Colonization Officer deserves great credit for the success that has attended his supervision of temporary cultivation work in the colony. He has lost no opportunity of leasing as much land as cultivators were prepared to take. He has resorted to single harvest leases where areas have unexpectedly fallen vacant, and having taken adequate security from the lessees he is in a position to report that there are no arrears outstanding on this account. About 20,000 acres of leased land were

resumed during the year by reason of the persistent failure of the lessees to pay rent ; but no serious loss to Government resulted, since only those leases were resumed where arrears had accumulated up to or very nearly up to the amount paid in advance. The Colonization Officer has a special word of praise for the work of Rai Sahib Lala Wazir Chand, Extra Assistant Colonization Officer, in overhauling the temporary cultivation accounts of the whole colony during the year. The Financial Commissioner gladly associates himself with this commendation.

Owing to the delay which has taken place in formulating conditions for permanent allotment in the Lower Chenab Canal Colony Extensions temporary cultivation has become a most important factor in that area. The Financial Commissioner regrets to observe that the arrears of temporary cultivation rents outstanding there are extremely heavy. Out of the demand for 1931-32 totalling Rs. 62,000, only Rs. 25,000 had been collected at the time of the Deputy Commissioner's report, while arrears totalling about a lakh are outstanding for previous years. The Deputy Commissioner has now introduced the system prevailing in the Nili Bar by which one instalment of lease money is taken in advance before possession is given, and this will no doubt effect an improvement. But strenuous efforts must be made to recover the arrears.

12. The only important fresh source of revenue on capital account, which was tapped during the year, was the sale of town sites at Mandi Baha-ud-Din in the Upper Jhelum Canal Colony in Gujrat district. The demand on account of sales there during the year amounted to Rs. 5,22,975, out of which Rs. 5,05,315 had been recovered when the Deputy Commissioner's report was written. The Commissioner remarks that the very high prices obtained were probably due to money seeking investment and not finding it satisfactorily in either trade, money-lending or banks. It having been realised that money was available in the province for investment in urban real estate, a number of sales of residential and shop sites have been held in other colony towns after the close of the year under report.

Capital receipts.

and in almost every case prices obtained have been most satisfactory. In other respects the figures shown in statement No. 3 are somewhat dispiriting. Both in the Lower Chenab Canal Colony and in the Upper Chenab Canal Colony in Sheikhpura district the balance due to Government has been largely decreased owing to confiscations of land amounting in value to 10 lakhs in the Lower Chenab and to 2 lakhs in the Upper Chenab Canal Colony, with the result that arrears in these colonies have been reduced to Rs. 66,000 and Rs. 51,000 respectively. The Deputy Commissioner, Shahpur, reports very great difficulty in realising sums due from defaulting auction purchasers in respect of loss on re-sale. An important legal question has arisen in this connection whether such arrears can be recovered as arrears of land revenue or are recoverable only by civil suit. The Commissioner remarks that the heavy arrears under different heads especially in the Sargodha Tahsil are a serious feature of the colony. He suggests that it would be a real economy to strengthen the colony administration staff. It is most satisfactory to note that in the Lower Bari Doab Colony, Montgomery district, the total demand for the year has been collected except for Rs. 13,000 due for rent on temporary cultivation. Since the total demand for temporary cultivation amounted to $1\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs, the arrears under this head are not excessive. It is hoped, however, that they will be recovered before long. In the Khanawal tahsil of the Lower Bari Doab Canal Colony arrears have gone down to Rs. 28,000 by reason of resumptions of auctioned land and out of this balance Rs. 23,000 are due on account of sales by private treaty. By reason of further concessions recently announced the greater part of these arrears on account of private treaty sales will also disappear. In the Nili Bar land to the value of $5\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs has been confiscated and the arrears now outstanding amount to about $4\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of rupees out of which over 4 lakhs are due on account of the purchase of land by tenants. Some sales of town sites were held at Arifwala, Burewala and Vihari, but they were not successful. Rupees 40,000 are due from the previous year on account of acreage rate. The Colonization Officer has been successful in

reducing very considerably the arrears outstanding against land revenue, malikana and water rates. This subject is not strictly relevant to capital receipts, but it may be noted here that the arrears under those heads have been reduced from Rs. 4,14,000 last year to Rs. 2,32,000 this year in the Multan district while in the Montgomery district Rs. 3,18,000 of last year has been reduced to Rs. 1,90,000 this year.

13. In colonies where proprietary rights and occupancy rights remain to be acquired by tenants, such acquisition is proceeding very slowly as is natural in respect of proprietary rights when money is so short. In the Shahpur district up-to-date only 205 non-horse-breeding occupancy tenants have acquired proprietary rights in respect of the whole or part of their grants. Most of the tenants who purchased proprietary rights during the year did so with a view to obtaining permission for the transfer of their interests. In the Montgomery district on the Lower Bari Doab Canal Colony in the year under report proprietary rights were acquired in 3,172 acres and occupancy rights in 6,651 acres. The Deputy Commissioner reports that the slump in agricultural prices was followed by numerous applications for the Collector's permission to sell tenancies with or without occupancy rights largely to non-agriculturists. Such applications were invariably refused and have now practically ceased. He adds "some 1,800 acres have been sold by colonists who have already acquired proprietary rights from Government during the last two years, only some 400 acres of which was to non-agriculturists. Successful colonists like Jat Sikhs are slowly acquiring squares from absentee military grantees who acquire proprietary rights as soon as they can." In the Khanewal tahsil in the Lower Bari Doab Canal Colony the total area up-to-date in which proprietary rights have been acquired by Government tenants is 9,877 acres while occupancy rights have been acquired in 142,291 acres. During the year proprietary rights were acquired in 446 acres and occupancy rights in 3,853 acres. In the Nili Bar it is reported that a number of auction purchasers are still holding their land as tenants, though the full purchase price has been paid, because the

tenants object to the payment of stamp duty and registration fee on their conveyance deeds. Some peasant grantees in the Nili Bar have now finished their probationary period of five years as tenants-at-will and the grant of occupancy rights to them is under consideration.

14. In the last year or two a very thorough investigation has been held by Government into the principles which should govern the allotment of village sites in colonies. Detailed orders have now issued applicable to all colonies showing the principles on which residential sites, shop sites, and sites for religious and public purposes and for menials should be allotted. It is believed that these orders do not generally introduce any new features into the established colonization policy, but they collect and tabulate the principles already established, and it is hoped they will ensure uniformity of treatment of this somewhat complicated question in future. Generally grantees of Government lands are entitled to occupy village sites at a ratio of one per rectangle or square limited to a maximum total of 6 sites in respect of any one grant free of rent until such time as proprietary rights are acquired. Proprietary rights in their village sites are to be acquired together with and at the same time as such rights in their agricultural lands. In future, if any extra sites are allotted over and above those permissible by the ratio stated, rent will be paid for them until proprietary rights are acquired. Auction purchasers acquire their village sites at the same price per acre as the agricultural land together with which the sites were allotted. Shopkeepers after five years probation can purchase their sites at Rs. 25 per marla for chaulk sites and Rs. 15 per marla for other sites, and until and unless proprietary rights are purchased, rent is payable for the same sites at Rs. 2 and Re. 1, respectively. Sites for religious and public purposes are allotted in proprietary rights from the start. Menial sites are allotted as required; but in these proprietary rights vest in the Crown in perpetuity. These orders were issued after the close of the year under report and where rents are to be levied, they will be payable

first in advance as for the year 1934. The matter is thus not strictly relevant to this report; but it is considered that this brief summary of the decisions reached is of sufficient interest to receive advance publicity.

Previous to the issue of these orders the only colony in which arrangements had been made for the purchase of shop sites was the Lower Chenab Canal Colony in the Lyallpur and Jhang districts. The execution of these orders has been met from the start with organised opposition and protest. The arrears outstanding on account of rent from shopkeepers in Jhang district now amount to Rs. 61,000. In Lyallpur district shopkeepers appear to have taken rather more advantage of the option to purchase their sites. Rs. 1,10,391 were collected during the year on this account. The shopkeepers up-to-date have paid Rs. 6,71,319 out of the total demand of Rs. 9,11,712 leaving a balance of Rs. 2,40,393 still to be collected. Those shopkeepers who have failed to complete their purchases are being charged rent under the previous orders, and Rs. 6,825 as rent was realised during the year.

In respect of Lyallpur district the Commissioner remarks that the condition of the villages he had so far seen was very disappointing indeed. He found the fine broad roads running through the aladi dirty and badly kept, while in the houses ventilation was entirely neglected. He was astonished at the high standard of cleanliness maintained in the interior of the houses inhabited by the local settler (Janglis) which he attributes to the influence of the women, while outside, where the men were responsible, he found dirt and neglect to be the order of the day. In the Lower Bari Doab Canal Colony the Deputy Commissioner, Montgomery, remarks that conditions relating to house building, tree planting and well sinking are generally satisfactorily met. Here again the Commissioner found the houses very badly ventilated. Generally the Commissioner found the abadis disappointing and he considers that though it is difficult to be very strict during the hard times, if it is desired to improve health and with it better farming, a campaign for better living is most necessary. Here again the houses of the Janglis (local settlers), though kacha, are well built, and the standard

of cleanliness is very high. It is satisfactory to note from the report of the Deputy Commissioner, Multan, that in the Khanewal tahsil in the Lower Bari Doab Canal Colony the obligation of compulsory residence is being enforced and the number of absentees is decreasing day by day. In the Upper Chenab Canal Colony in Sheikhpura District on the other hand it is found that the colonists are not residing permanently in their villages. This is attributed by the Deputy Commissioner to the fact that the soil is inferior and in some places water-logged, leading to general discouragement among the colonists.

In the Nili Bar a year or two ago special orders were issued regarding the allotment of shop sites. These will be superseded by the orders summarised above. Under the previous orders the total demand on account of rent for these sites from kharif 1928 to rabi 1932 amounts to Rs. 25,472 of which Rs. 19,948 have been recovered. In the Nili Bar also the Commissioner has found housing conditions, especially ventilation, most unsatisfactory. He suggests that a ready made roof ventilator might be designed and its use popularised. Every endeavour in this colony is made to persuade settlers to comply with the elementary instructions of the Health Department; but the Colonization Officer reports that though ventilators are made in the houses, the lady of the family generally stops them up.

15. As noted in paragraph 12 a most successful sale of town sites was held in Gujrat district at Mandi Baha-ud-Din during the year under report and a further sale has been held in the same Mandi recently with success. Satisfactory sales of town sites have also taken place in several other colony towns. But in the Nili Bar the demand for town sites is not at present so insistent as in the older colonies. The Colonization Officer is of opinion that this is not only due to the prevailing shortage of money in the colony but also to the fact that sufficient sites have already been sold for existing needs. No progress has been made at Lodhran since 1928, while the proposed Mandi at Dunyapur has been held up pending an investigation into the potability of the subsoil water. The Commis-

sioner suggests that in some cases merchants in the existing Mandis have prejudiced the prospects of their own business by adopting unsatisfactory trading methods with the colonists. Many colonists now prefer to sell their crops to the village shopkeepers. If cotton is brought by a colonist into the Mandi, he commonly tells it direct to the factory. The Commissioner considers that the prospects at Burewala are quite bright and that Arifwala is positively thriving. At Vihari progress is slow but not apparently unsatisfactory. The Colonization Officer considers that the Notified Area Committees in the Nili Bar are utilising their funds to the best advantage. The Commissioner emphasizes the necessity for building girls schools in these towns. At Montgomery the municipal committee has been extremely negligent in the past in collecting rents for the agricultural land which had been handed over to them by Government for management. The arrears at present outstanding amount to over a lakh of rupees. It is sad to observe from the Deputy Commissioner's report that in consequence chiefly of the negligence of the late committee in failing to take agreements from its tenants, very little of this sum is likely to be recovered. Large areas of land in Montgomery owned by an important family in the vicinity have been sold recently and the Financial Commissioner agrees with the Deputy Commissioner that it is much to be desired that the Committee should exercise some control over these areas by instituting a satisfactory scheme of town planning. Effect is at last being given to the Montgomery drainage scheme and the town now enjoys the benefits of electricity.

Okara is a prosperous Mandi; but Chichawatni appears to be on the down grade. Burewala has taken over a considerable portion of its trade and Chichawatni has always been handicapped by its position with poor communications and large tracts of inferior land in its neighbourhood. The Renala Mandi scheme is still hanging fire. The Deputy Commissioner considers that now is a favourable time for bringing this much delayed scheme into effect. In Khanewal tahsil in the Lower Bari Doab Canal Colony an auction of town sites was held at Jahanian where quite satisfactory prices

were obtained. A further successful auction has been held at this town since. This Mandi has never been successful up-to-date; but its prospects have now been brightened by extensions of cultivation in the neighbouring estates of the Nili Bar. In the Upper Chenab Canal Colony 23 combined shop and residential sites and 9 shop sites were auctioned during the year at Sheikhpura. The prices obtained were satisfactory. The Deputy Commissioner reports that the municipal committee of Sheikhpura is taking proper advantage of the 226 acres of Government land handed over to them for management. The rent realized from this land during the year totalled over Rs. 11,000.

16. Complaints regarding unsatisfactory road communications are recorded in the report of the Deputy Commissioner, Multan, regarding Khanewal tahsil in the Lower Bari Doab Canal Colony, in the report of the Colonization Officer, Nili Bar, and in that of the Deputy Commissioner, Lyallpur, regarding the Lower Chenab Canal Colony extensions. Actually the Nili Bar is probably more blessed with road communications than any colony ever has been or is likely to be. The Commissioner considers that the first requirement now is a road from Mailsi to Vihari, the second from Dunyapur to Basti Maluk and third from Jalalpur Pirwala to Lodhran; but there does not seem to be any prospect of these roads being metalled in the near future. The Multan District Board obtains a very considerable sum from Khanewal tahsil in local rates and it is for them to see that due attention is paid to the convenience of the residents therein. A complete scheme of roads has been drawn up for the Lower Chenab Canal Colony extensions; but none of them is to be metalled at present. All that is proposed is that the alignments should be cleared and marked out on the ground; but even for this purpose money has not yet been forthcoming. If the new Mandi at Pir Mahal is to be a success in the early stages road communications of some sort are necessary and every effort will be made at least to align and lay out the proposed roads as early as possible. The Deputy Commissioner, Shahpur, reports that the railway and road bridge over the Chenab at Chiniot was opened to traffic of both kinds

during the year under report. This is much used for railway traffic between Sargodha and Lyallpur and between Sargodha and Lahore. The road bridge will be even more popular when the metalling of the road is completed, particularly during the flood season when the boat bridge over the Chenab on the direct Lahore-Sargodha road is not maintained.

17. The Deputy Commissioner, Shahpur, closes his report with a few remarks on the ^{Effect of financial} _{depression.} effect upon the colony of the general agricultural depression. He says that the fall in prices of agricultural produce was a heavier blow and demanded greater efforts towards readjustment in the colony areas than elsewhere, first because the cash demand from colony areas is greater than elsewhere and secondly because it was in the colony areas that in the years of agricultural prosperity the standard of living had in particular been raised. Government was able to deal with the first of these factors by generous remissions and this was done. As regards the second factor, the Deputy Commissioner remarks that it was noticeable throughout the year under report that the agricultural population have succeeded to a considerable degree in adjusting themselves to the new conditions. While everyone hopes that prices will continue to improve, no one expects a very rapid improvement. The only manner in which the agriculturists can save themselves in the present and protect themselves for the future is by adjusting their standard of living, and this they are certainly doing. The Deputy Commissioner thinks that no discussion of the agricultural crisis in the Punjab would be complete without a tribute to the courage and endurance with which the Punjab peasant has borne a shock which seven years ago few would have believed him capable of sustaining. The Commissioner endorses everything said by the Deputy Commissioner under this head. He finds that the peasant has only been able to pay his dues by drawing heavily on his reserves and drastically reducing his scale of living. He suggests that in many ways the depression has been a blessing in disguise; but like all such blessings it has involved great hardship, which has been borne well. The Financial Commissioner believes that these remarks apply not

only to the Lower Jhelum Canal Colony but to all the colony areas in the province. Government has done everything reasonably possible to alleviate the lot of the cultivator in colony areas by generous remissions of the Government demand; but even entire remissions of the Government demand, though it would cripple Government, would not compensate the cultivator for low prices and bad harvests.

18. (1) The Deputy Commissioner, Shahpur, has interesting remarks to make on the question of water-logging. "The Drainage Division of the Lower Jhelum Canal Circle continued to work on the reclamation of areas from water-logging.

Miscellaneous.

"The Pakhowal area lying between Miani and the main line of the Lower Jhelum Canal is now considered to be totally reclaimed from water-logging thanks to the Mona Drain. No water is standing anywhere on this land except in about one square mile in the Nabi Shah Jheel, the reclamation of which has been postponed for the present. Of the areas dried out large portions are being brought under cultivation. The Mona Drain which has recently been deepened was of great assistance in carrying off to the river water which spilled into this depression from the small flood in the Jhelum during the Monscon in 1932.

"The Behk area is a depression lying between Sulki Branch and the Sargodha-Sahiwal road. This has now been drained by the Behk Drain from which the seepage water is pumped into the Faruka Distributary. Fortunately there were no heavy floods in the Jhelum during the year and no flood water has passed under the Sulki Branch into this area. A small demonstration farm was commenced in this area under the direct management of the Canal Department in order to prove that the land was now fit to be reclaimed by suitable rotation of crops. The results are very promising; but the zamindars are unwilling to exert the necessary energy or do not possess the necessary capital required to reclaim the land. Three squares were granted to six cultivators at a nominal rent of four annas per acre allotted per annum, free of abiana

and land revenue in the hope that the possibility of reclaiming the land might further be demonstrated. This experiment has not so far been successful as the cultivators did not put sufficient labour into the preparation of the land.

“ Towards the close of the year under report Government decided to transfer from this area certain horse-breeding nazarana paying grantees in order that more suitable arrangements might be made for reclaiming the land.

“ As was to be expected from its situation the Sargodha Remount Depôt is beginning to show signs of water-logging. The area affected by Thur is spreading and over 700 acres have gone out of cultivation. The original proposal to reclaim this area by pumping water by tube wells has now been abandoned and an alternative scheme of reclamation by means of an open drain is under consideration. The seepage water will either be pumped into the Sulki branch or be carried away to the Jhelum.

“ The Wan area, that is, the area lying between the Southern Branch and the Khadir Feeder is being drained by the Wan Drain. A pumping station opened during the year now lifts the seepage water from this drain into the Khadir feeder. The water-logged area being proprietary land, little has been done so far to cultivate it, although a considerable portion has been dried out.

“ The history of the Behk and Wan reclamation schemes shows that after the removal of surplus water there remains a very big problem indeed—the problem of bringing under the plough the land which was water-logged. In the areas where Government is still the landlord, the zamindar ordinarily prefers to hope for an exchange rather than to spend capital and energy on reclamation, a task in the success of which he has not much confidence. Even in proprietary areas where there is no hope of exchange zamindars are slow to resume cultivation of areas formerly water-logged. However, it is to be hoped that this attitude will gradually change as it becomes known that reclamation of such soils is possible.”

(2) Government issued orders during the year explaining the principles on which exchanges of colony land should be sanctioned or withheld. These orders were intended merely to notify established principles and it is hoped that they will be of assistance to Deputy Commissioners in dealing with what is one of the most tiresome features of colony administration. It is satisfactory to find in the Lyallpur colony that during the year only 4 grantees were permitted to exchange their lands, while in the Shahpur district out of 63 applications made for exchanges during the year by horse-breeding and non-horse breeding tenants only 11 were accepted, these being cases where the land had been rendered unculturable by water-logging or kallar or where the land was reported to be uncommanded. The question is naturally of more importance in the less well established colonies, and in the Nili Bar the greatest difficulty during the year is reported by the Colonization Officer to have been experienced in finding land for those whose grants had to be exchanged owing to the inferiority of the soil. Since allotments in the perennial area are now practically complete, whenever an exchange of this sort is permitted it means that good land set aside for auction is handed over to the grantee and land which may eventually turn out to be practically unsaleable is set aside for auction. The Commissioner finds that exchanges in the Nili Bar Colony are being carefully done. No exchange is allowed unless the grant has been inspected by the Assistant Colonization Officer or one of the Extra Assistant Colonization Officers. During the year under report in the circle of the Assistant Colonization Officer covering about half the colony 1,232 applications for exchange were rejected. It was, however, found necessary to exchange 494 rectangles in September and October 1931 and 612 rectangles in March 1932. The extent of these exchanges is partly due to the economic depression, which, as the Colonization Officer observes, has made it impossible for grantees to eke out even a bare living from an inferior grant; but their effect on the financial forecast for the project may be serious.

(3) In the Lower Bari Doab Canal Colony extensive re-modelling operations have been undertaken

by the Irrigation Branch. An endeavour has been made to re-model outlets with due consideration to the actual area which each outlet is to irrigate and not as previously with consideration to the irrigable area whether actually occupied or not. The Deputy Commissioner observes "This is obviously a work of very considerable delicacy and difficulty and if one were to judge by the clamour created it would appear that almost every outlet has been reduced and that the colony is faced with imminent desiccation. As, however, the water must have gone somewhere it appears that those whose outlets have been enlarged are tactfully keeping silent about it. It is the Deputy Commissioner's misfortune that any village he visits always seem to have had its supply reduced." It is to be hoped that in conducting these operations the most complete liaison will be observed between the Deputy Commissioner's staff and that of the Irrigation Branch. Though the Lower Bari Doab Canal Colony is in a very fairly advanced state of stability by this time there are still many chaks in which the extent of cultivation is by no means irrevocably fixed. Exchanges still go on to a limited extent and there are still large areas leased on temporary cultivation from year to year in which some variation must be allowed to occur.

19. Mr. Bhanot remained in charge of the Nili Bar Colony throughout the year and continues to carry out his duties to the entire satisfaction of Government. His energy, tact and commonsense are of the greatest value to the colony administration. Mr. Kaul remained in charge of the Lower Chenab Colony extensions. He has now handed over charge leaving a foundation of much useful work in this area to his successor. The only other colony which can be said not yet to have come of age is the Lower Bari Doab Canal Colony and Mr. LeBailly has done full justice to the administrative problems there in a very full and interesting report. He took over from Mr. Partab as Deputy Commissioner, Montgomery, after the close of the year, to which this report relates. The Commissioner, Rawalpindi, again records his appreciation of what the Shahpur colony owes to Mr. Jones for his sympathetic interest in the many facts and problems of its most varied life. Mr. Jones, who has since handed

over charge and proceeded on leave to England, has a very thorough grasp of colony work and has again this year compiled a most admirable report.

The Financial Commissioner wishes to record his appreciation of the manner in which Mr. Partab and all other Deputy Commissioners in charge of colony districts have safeguarded the interests of Government in respect of the large and valuable areas of land entrusted to their charge.

Mr. Jones and Mr. LeBailly give a special word of praise for the good work done in their respective colonies by Khan Sahib Chaudhri Husain Ali and Khan Sahib Sardar Din Muhammad, Colony Assistants, with which the Financial Commissioner is glad to associate himself. Though Mr. Vidya Dhar took over as Extra Assistant Colonization Officer, Lyallpur, in charge of the Lower Chenab Canal Colony extensions after the close of the year under report, the Financial Commissioner would like to record here his agreement with the appreciation of the Commissioner, Multan, of the manner in which Mr. Vidya Dhar is doing his work. The Commissioner observes that in Mr. Vidya Dhar the Deputy Commissioner has a very trustworthy assistant and that the best possible is being done for the establishment of this colony by the Deputy Commissioner and his staff, an opinion in which the Financial Commissioner concurs. Mr. Bhanot is entirely satisfied with the assistance he receives from Mr. Brander, Chaudhri Pir Muhammad and Rai Sahib Lala Wazir Chand. The Financial Commissioner agrees with the Commissioner that Mr. Bhanot and his assistants and staff deserve great credit for their patient and skilful administration of the Nili Bar Colony during the year.

Mr. Brayne has taken over as Commissioner, Multan, after the close of the year under report. With the Lower Chenab, Lower Bari Doab and Nili Bar Colonies he will have ample scope for his energy and for that enthusiasm for better living and better farming for which he has made himself famous. He has already made extensive tours in these colonies and the Financial Commissioner is indebted to him for his discerning comments on the colony reports put up by the Colony Officers concerned.

STATEMENT NO. I—ALLOTMENT.

Serial No.	Name of Colony.	Tahsil or branch.	Total area of state land.	Allottable area.	Culturable and irrigable portion of area in column 4.	Allotted area.	Balance unallotted.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1	Lower Bari Doab Canal Colony, Montgomery District.	Okara ..	218,093	288,899	288,899	261,118	27,781
		Montgomery ..	585,809	546,283	546,283	477,134	69,149
		Total ..	903,902	835,182	835,182	738,252	96,930
2	Lower Bari Doab Canal Colony, Multan District.	Khanewal ..	558,369	424,039	401,193	333,362	90,677
3	Upper Chenab Canal Colony, Sheikhpura District.	Upper Chenab Canal	85,078	79,958	79,958	67,477	12,481
4	Upper Jhelum Canal Colony Gujarat District.	Phalis, Upper Jhelum Canal.	47,355	42,691	38,827	42,465	226
		Kharian, Upper Jhelum Canal.	162	162	142	162	..
		Total ..	47,517	42,853	38,969	42,627	226

PERENNIAL AREA ONLY.

5	Nili Bar Colony, Montgomery and Multan districts.	Pakpattan ..	302,605	255,800	281,327	159,178	96,622
		Mailsi ..	359,548	291,457	326,679	128,728	162,720
		Lodhran ..	120,447	98,487	109,240	45,710	52,768
		Thud Khuwahi ..	4,054	4,054	4,054	4,054	..
		Total ..	786,654	649,798	721,300	337,679	312,119

NON-PERENNIAL AREA ONLY.

6	Lower Chenab Canal, Pir Mahal, Khikha and Burala extensions.	Dipsalpur Canal ..	101,838	73,627	84,637	50,576	23,051
		Pakpattan Canal ..	64,664	51,510	58,208	33,482	18,028
		Mailsi Canal ..	114,607	66,389	75,845	14,588	51,801
		Area under forest..	29,282	29,282	29,282	29,282	..
		Area under the control of D. Cs.	39,523	39,523	39,523	39,523	..
		Total ..	349,914	260,331	287,495	167,451	92,880
		Pir Mahal extension	39,089	29,899	32,271	15,360	14,539
		Khikha extension ..	21,047	12,493	13,623	2,464	10,020
		Burala extension..	94,777	59,769	70,258	55	59,714
		Total ..	154,913	102,161	116,162	17,579	84,282
GRAND TOTAL ..	2,886,347	2,394,322	2,480,249	1,704,727	689,595		

STATEMENT NO. II.—AREA SOWN IN THE
YEAR 1931-32.

Serial No.	Branch, Canal, Division or Tahsil.	Harvest.	On permanently allotted area.	Percentage of failed crops allowed.	Temporary cultivation.	Percentage of failed crops allowed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			Acres.		Acres.	
1	Lower Bari Doab Canal Colony, Montgomery Division—Okara Division.	Kharif 1931 .. Rabi 1932 .. Total ..	125,187 168,493 293,680	2.17 2.08 2.11	812 1,006 1,818	7.14 3.77 5.22
	Montgomery Division.	Kharif 1931 .. Rabi 1932 .. Total ..	147,349 201,234 348,583	9.35 6.80 7.88	2,956 6,272 9,228	18.16 9.50 12.27
	Balloki Division.	Kharif 1931 .. Rabi 1932 .. Total ..	73,095 102,204 175,299	2.51 1.39 1.81	4,118 7,212 11,330	3.98 1.95 2.69
	GRAND TOTAL	Kharif 1931 .. Rabi 1932 .. Total ..	345,631 471,931 817,562	5.3 3.9 4.5	7,886 14,416 22,376	9.6 5.3 6.9
2	Lower Bari Doab Canal Colony, Multan District—Khanewal ..	Kharif 1931 .. Rabi 1932 .. Total ..	134,596 180,203 314,799	3.6 3.9 3.8	5,768 5,737 9,505	6.3 6.6 6.5
3	Upper Chenab Canal Colony, Sheikhupura District.	Kharif 1931 .. Rabi 1932 .. Total ..	17,547 25,469 43,016	5 15 10	710 989 1,699	8 16 12
4	Upper Jhelum Canal Colony, Gujrat District—Phalia, Upper Jhelum Canal.	Kharif 1931 .. Rabi 1932 .. Total ..	16,633 24,340 40,973	4 1 3	11 13 24	......
	Kharian, Upper Jhelum Canal.	Kharif 1931 .. Rabi 1932 .. Total ..	43 129 172	0 9 7	......	......
	Grand Total ..	Kharif 1931 .. Rabi 1932 .. Total ..	16,676 24,469 41,145	4 1 5	11 13 24	......

STATEMENT NO. II.—AREA SOWN IN THE
YEAR 1931-32—concluded.

Serial No.	Branch, Canal, Division or Tahsil.	Harvest.	On permanently allotted area.	Percentage of failed crops allowed.	Temporary cultivation.	Percentage of failed crops allowed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			Acres.		Acres.	
5	Nili Bar Colony, Montgomery and Multan districts— <i>Perennial</i> .					
	Eastern Bar ..	{ Kharif 1931 Rabi 1932	55,625 81,549	5·85 7·45	13,041 16,527	6·67 7·06
	Western Bar ..	{ Kharif 1931 Rabi 1932..	26,534·37 46,025·04	10·07 9·44	7,709·58 10,188·90	13·94 12·12
	<i>Non-perennial</i> .					
	Khadir Division	{ Kharif 1931 Rabi 1932..	10,075 3,355	1·35 2·59	3,814 1,003	3·17 4·78
	Khanwah ..	{ Kharif 1931 Rabi 1932..	4,405 5,183	·72 ·75	....	....
	Sahag ..	{ Kharif 1931 Rabi 1932..	1,475·88 2,480·07	2·19 1·60	....	....
	Mailsi Main Line	{ Kharif 1931 Rabi 1932..	22·12 91·08	9·0..	....	....
	Chitwala ..	{ Kharif 1931 Rabi 1932..	1,115 685	8·61 11·39	....	....
	GRAND TOTAL..	{ Kharif 1931 Rabi 1932..	99,252·37 1,39,368·19	6·27 7·65	24,564·58 27,718·90	8·40 8·84
	Total ..		2,38,620·56	7·0	52,283·48	8·63
6	Lower Chenab Canal, Pir Mahal, Khikha and Burala extensions—					
	Pir Mahal extension.	{ Kharif 1931 Rabi 1932..	3,564 6,026	5 3	1,418 2,887	9 3
	Total ..		9,590	4	4,305	5
	Khikha extension.	{ Kharif 1931 Rabi 1932..	17 22	.. ..	1,045 2,648	17 19
	Total ..		39	..	3,693	18
	Burala extension	{ Kharif 1931 Rabi 1932..	.. ..	.. ..	2,479 444	4 6
	Total ..		..	..	2,923	4
	GRAND TOTAL..	{ Kharif 1931 Rabi 1932..	3,581 6,048	5 3	4,942 5,979	8 10
	Total ..		9,629	4	10,921	9
	GRAND TOTAL		1,464,771	..	96,808·48	..

STATEMENT No. III.—STATEMENT SHOWING DEMANDS AND RECOVERIES ON
CAPITAL ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR 1931-32.

1 Serial No.	2 Name of Colony.	3 Particulars.	4 DEMAND.							5 Recovered.	6 BALANCES.										
			(a) Sale of town sites.	(b) Sale of land.		(d) Purchase of land by tenants.	(e) Nasirana.	(f) Acceage rate.	(g) Total.		(a) Sale of town sites.	(b) By auction.	(c) By private treaty.	(d) Purchase of land		(f) Acceage rate.	(g) Total.				
				(b) By auction.	(c) By private treaty.									(d) Purchase of land by tenants.	(e) Nasirana.			(f) Acceage rate.	(g) Total.	(d) Purchase of land by tenants.	(e) Nasirana.
1	Lower Chenab Canal Colony, Sheikhpura District.	{ Last year's balance. Present year's demand.	...	12,42,057	...	...	...	12,42,057	2,01,409	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Total	...	13,54,617	...	3,306	...	13,57,923	2,50,729	...	66,606	...	...	...	...	66,606*	
3	Lower Chenab Canal Colony, Lyalpur District.	{ Last year's balance. Present year's demand.	...	1,18,707	...	...	...	1,18,707	53,284	...	65,423	...	...	...	...	65,423
		Total	3,408	7,04,909	...	1,48,838	...	8,57,315	7,53,563	...	1,03,352	...	...	...	...	1,03,352	
		Total	3,408	8,23,676	...	1,48,838	...	9,75,922	8,07,147	...	1,68,775	...	...	...	...	1,68,775	

3	Lower Chenab Canal Colony, Jhang District.	Last year's balance.	...	7,63,081	490	...	...	...	7,63,511	56,368	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
			Present year's demand.	...	...	345	3,970	...	...	4,315	4,315	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				Total	...	7,63,081	775	3,970	...	...	7,66,826	60,683	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	Chunian Colony, Lahore District.	Last year's balance.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
			Present year's demand.	2,078	1,936	1,641	...	614	...	6,269	6,269	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				Total	2,078	1,936	1,641	...	614	...	6,269	6,269	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	Lower Jhelum Canal Colony, Shahpur District.	Last year's balance.	...	67,930	...	21,541	5,177	...	94,648	1,928	...	67,517	...	21,541	3,662	...	92,720	
			Present year's demand.	2,000	...	...	39,195	5,254	...	46,449	41,621	...	...	...	...	4,828	...	4,828
				Total	2,000	67,930	...	60,736	10,431	...	1,41,097	43,549	...	67,517	...	21,541	8,490	...	97,548
6	Lower Jhelum Canal Colony, Jhang District.	Last year's balance.	...	1,18,167	...	...	...	4,491	1,22,658	900	...	1,17,267	...	...	...	4,491	1,21,768	
			Present year's demand.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				Total	...	1,18,167	...	...	...	4,491	1,22,658	900	...	1,17,267	...	...	...	4,491	1,21,768
7	Lower Bari Doab Canal Colony, Montgomery District.	Last year's balance.	2,945	...	...	...	...	...	2,945	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
			Present year's demand.	8,653	1,53,117	1,765	78,194	3,590	...	2,45,310	2,48,264	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				Total	11,598	1,53,117	1,765	78,194	3,590	...	2,48,264	2,48,264	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	Lower Bari Doab Canal Colony, Multan District (Khanewal Tahsil).	Last year's balance.	...	1,01,382	65,007	...	125	...	1,66,514	89,455	...	...	7,786	...	...	...	7,786	
			Present year's demand.	25,895	1,68,121	26,387	15,802	260	...	2,86,455	97,221	300	4,523	16,455	...	125	...	20,403
				Total	25,895	2,69,503	91,394	15,802	375	...	4,52,969	1,86,676	300	4,523	23,241	...	125	...	28,189†

*Land of the value of Rs. 10,40,588 has been confiscated.

‡Rs. 2,38,104 are irrecoverable.

†Land of the value of Rs. 7,66,143 has been confiscated.

STATEMENT NO. III.—STATEMENT SHOWING DEMANDS AND RECOVERIES ON
CAPITAL ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR 1931-32—(concl'd.)

Serial No.	2	3	4						5	6						
			DEMAND.							BALANCES.						
			(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)		(g)	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
Name of Colony.	Particulars.	Sale of land.			Purchase of land by tenants.	Nazrana.	Acreage rate.	Total.	Re- covered.	Sale of town sites.	By auction.	By private treaty.	Purchase of land by tenants.	Nazrana.	Acreage rate.	Total.
		Sale of town sites.	By auction.	By private treaty.						Sale of town sites.	By auction.	By private treaty.	Purchase of land by tenants.	Nazrana.	Acreage rate.	Total.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
9	Upper Chanab Canal Colony, Sheikhupura District.	Last year's balance	...	2,66,384	...	...	...	2,66,384	2,665	...	38,905	...	...	...	...	38,905
		Present year's demand.	1,00,844	17,336	...	...	...	1,13,180	1,00,814	...	12,336	...	...	...	...	12,336
		Total	1,00,844	2,68,720	...	...	...	3,69,564	1,63,509	..	51,241	...	...	...	...	51,241*
10	Upper Jhelum Canal Colony, Gujrat District.	Last year's balance.	...	...	74,320	...	...	74,320†	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Present year's demand.	5,22,975	...	...	...	...	5,22,975	5,05,315	17,660	...	...	...	...	...	17,660
		Total	5,22,975	...	74,320	...	...	5,97,195	5,05,315	17,660	...	...	...	...	...	17,660

11	Nili Bar Colony, Montgomery and Multan Districts.	Last year's balance	...	...	1,16,23	3,77,015	...	86,159	5,79,696	3,514	...	...	...	3,77,015	...	40,228	4,17,243
			Present year's demand.	20,359	...	6,52,854	3,46,869	253	10,000	10,36,735	5,86,821	...	...	...	50,744	...	...	50,744
		Total		20,359	...	7,75,377	7,23,884	253	96,158	16,16,031	5,90,355	...	...	...	4,27,760	...	40,228	4,67,987†
12	Lower Chanab Canal, Pir Mahal, Khikha and Borala extensions.	Last year's balance	...	...	...	...	...	9,443	9,443	4,213	...	...	...	...	...	5,231	5,231
			Present year's demand.	...	...	...	...	3,131	194	3,325	3,098	...	...	...	...	38	194	227
		Total		...	...	...	...	3,131	9,637	12,768	7,310	...	...	...	...	38	5,425	5,458
GRAND TOTAL			6,89,167	38,19,747	9,45,172	10,34,730	18,394	1,10,386	63,17,486	27,60,686	17,960	4,75,920	23,241	4,49,300	8,648	50,144	10,25,225‡

*Land of the value of Rs. 2,14,814 has been confiscated.

†This land has been resumed.

‡Lots of the total value of Rs. 5,57,709 were confiscated.

§Land of the total value of Rs. 28,31,678 has been confiscated.

