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ANNUAL REPORT

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ON THE

RECLAMATION DEPARTMENT

For the year ending 31st December, 1940.



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report

Proceedings of the Punjab Government in the Home (Judicial) Department, No. 5182-I-41/12073, dated 4th March, 1942.

READ—

Review on the working of the Reclamation Department for the years 1939 and 1940.

Although the report under publication is that of the Punjab Reclamation Department for 1940 this review covers the reports for both 1939 and 1940. It has not been considered advisable to print the report for 1939 at this late stage.

2. On the 1938 report Government pointed out that in view of the serious overcrowding in Punjab jails the release of suitable prisoners on probation was regarded by Government as important. In 1938, 666 prisoners were released on probation, but in both 1939 and 1940 it is disappointing to find that the numbers released have progressively declined, 629 being released in 1939 and 569 only in 1940. Deputy Commissioner for Criminal Tribes has given as the reason for this decline the opposition of District Officers to releases. There is probably some truth in this contention in so far as District Officers, in view of the situation created by the War, have been more chary in recommending releases in doubtful cases, but it is by no means the whole truth. Figures show that both Superintendents of Jails and officers of the Department have sent up fewer rolls for consideration. As compared with 965 considered in 1938 only 894 were considered in 1940. Government would therefore again emphasise the importance they attach to the maximum possible number of releases being made under the Probationary Release Act.

As a natural corollary to fewer prisoners being released the total number of probationers working has fallen from 1,357 in 1938 to 1,301 in 1940. This is a pity, because the demand for probation labour has increased owing to the War, and Government hopes that this demand will be taken full advantage of by the Department while the present favourable situation lasts. Due care should, however, be taken to see that employers do not exploit this form of labour in order to avoid the rising costs of ordinary labour in the market. The Department should ensure that the wages to be paid by prospective employers bear relation to the general rise in the cost of living in the Province.

The steady improvement shown in the conduct of probationers during the years under review is observed with

gratification by Government and reflects credit on the Department and its officials. It is hoped that this improvement will be maintained and that the Department will be generous in allowing short leave and remissions to deserving probationers as an encouragement to them and an inducement to others who are less well-behaved.

3. The farms at Burewala continue (as they should do considering that the very great majority of the prisoners are agriculturists) to pay a great part in the reclamation of the prisoners not only by providing them with the means of livelihood they are accustomed to but also by demonstrating to them better methods of farming and familiarising them with the latest improved seeds.

The population of the farms, as one would expect in view of the smaller numbers released under the Act, has shown a small decrease each year since 1937. Notwithstanding this the progress made has been most encouraging. All the uncommanded area on the farms has been reclaimed and the total area under cultivation has shown an increase of 200 acres over the 1939 figures and of 210 acres over the 1938 figures. The yields of both cotton and wheat per acre have also shown a most gratifying increase over the figures of both 1938 and 1939. This improvement is reflected on the financial side. Receipts have arisen from Rs. 27,863 in 1938 to Rs. 47,684 in 1940 and for the first time income has exceeded expenditure, by no less than Rs. 3,496. The business conducted in the co-operative institutions attached to the farms has increased by over Rs. 6,000 on the 1938 figures and earnings of the tenants have also proportionately improved. Apart from the admitted fact that climatic considerations and water supplies were better in 1939 and 1940, due credit must go to Mian Ali Ahmad, M.A., LL.B., Superintendent of the Reformatory Farms and his staff for their careful and intelligent management. Government hope that no setback will be allowed to occur and that the results achieved will be maintained. The health of the tenants has remained good, and educational and social activities have received proper attention.

4. The Reformatory School at Delhi continued to do good work. In 1937 the attention of District Magistrates was drawn to the considerable vacant accommodation in this institution but this does not appear to have had any appreciable effect in raising the number of admissions. At the close of the year 1937 there were 114 boys on the rolls

of the School, in 1938 111 boys, in 1939 112 and 1940 115. It appears that the general advantages of the School and the fact that accommodation is ample must be specially brought to the notice of District Magistrates annually, and this will be done in future. The fact that Government have agreed that detention in the Reformatory School should no longer be regarded as a disqualification for employment in Government service should make admissions more popular. For the School to run at full capacity, legislation in the Punjab on the lines of the Bombay Children's Act is essential and the Delhi Administration have outstripped the Punjab in having an Act on those lines passed for Delhi. As a result it is expected that the population of the School will show an increase in the near future. It is unfortunate that during the year six boys escaped. It is noticeable that cases of misconduct dealt with by the School Panchayat were fewer than in the previous years. There is little point in keeping youthful offenders confined unless they are to be duly equipped by the time of their release to take their proper place in the outside world as good and useful citizens. The most valuable activity of the School is therefore the educational and industrial training imparted to the boys and this appears to have received the attention due to it.

There was a fall in profits from articles manufactured but this was mainly due to rise in the cost of raw materials and a consequent lowering of profit margins. It is satisfactory, however, to see that the profits from gardens and dairy produce showed a considerable increase on the previous years' figures.

5. The Department was in the charge of Rai Sahib Lala Balwant Rai, P.C.S., during both 1939 and 1940, and the general progress and improvements made in the working of all branches of the Reclamation Department are due to his intelligent and energetic guidance of its activities.

By order of the Governor of the Punjab.

F. B. WACE,

Home Secretary to Government, Punjab.

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

RECLAMATION DEPARTMENT.

For the year ending 31st December, 1940.

1. It is a well-known fact that a fair proportion of jail population consists of men, who are sent there not on account of any innate tendency towards commission of crime or purposeful anti-social conduct, but due to lack of the wherewithal of existence or to failure to adjust themselves to their environments. Criminal Law does not require an enquiry into the causes of crime to determine the penalty to be imposed for the commission of the same. The natural result of this is that the necessity of giving a deterrent sentence outweighs all considerations of its suitability to the private circumstances of the individual offender. Separation from family and home for a number of years, very often without a single visit from relatives on account of poverty and the distance of the place of confinement from their homes is apt to produce a very unwholesome influence on people not previously tainted with criminal characteristics.

To make it easier for such people to re-adjust themselves to society, the Good Conduct Prisoners Probationary Release Act (Act X of 1927) was passed in this Province on 1st of May, 1927. Releases under the Act are naturally subject to very important limitations. The most important of these is the concurrence of District Officers, who look into the history of each case and the adequacy of the sentence already undergone, before recommending releases on probation. Their opinions are invariably given due weight in every case. Besides this, a number of classes of offenders are excluded from the operations of the Act. These classes are given in detail in Rule 9 and include murderers, would-be murderers, dacoits, robbers, dealers in property acquired by robbery or dacoity and some classes of house-breakers.

It is difficult to precisely assess the general effect of the Act on would-be criminals, but it can be said without fear of contradiction, that the system of probationary releases has not produced any unfortunate results. Risks are involved in this as well as in other modern theories of penal reform, but the benefits of probationary release, are far greater than the dangers connected with it. The number of enquiries the Punjab Government has received about the working of the Good Conduct Prisoners Probationary Release Act, from other provinces and its gradual imitation by them, gives some indication of the success achieved by this system in this Province.

On release on probation, the convicts, who are thereafter known as probationers, are provided with suitable employment under approved employers and are placed under the supervision of Probation Officers. During the period of probation, they are encouraged to keep their families with them and their savings are deposited in the Post Office Savings Bank.

The Savings Bank Accounts, so opened in their names, enable them to have ready money at the time of release to re-settle themselves in life. This serves the double purpose of engendering habits of thrift, as well as of providing money to those who would otherwise return to their homes with empty pockets, and thereby facilitates entry into normal life, without incurring any fresh liabilities.

During the year under report, the probation work of Hoshiarpur, Jullundur and Ludhiana Districts and Moga Sub-Division of the Ferozepore District, was given to Probation and Criminal Tribes Officer, Harni Villages, as a measure of administrative convenience.

2. The provisions of the Good Conduct Prisoners Probationary Release Act, are now extensively known to prisoners, who are eligible for release under the Act and they eagerly wait for this concession instead of submitting mercy and other petitions.

Altogether, rolls of 894 prisoners, willing to be released under the Act, were dealt with during the year under report. The conditional release of 569 prisoners was sanctioned by Government, as against 629 in 1939. Out of this number, 552 prisoners were actually released before the close of the year 1940. Out of the prisoners released, 485 were adults and 67 adolescents. They were distributed as under :—

	Adults.	Borstals.
1. Burewala Farms	51	56
2. Agricultural Farm, Gujranwala	6	..
3. Private agencies under the Supervision of Probation and Criminal Tribes Officer, Montgomery	95	2
4. Private agencies under the supervision of Probation and Criminal Tribes Officer, Lahore	134	6

	Adults.	Borstals.
5. Private agencies under the supervision of Probation and Criminal Tribes Officer, Lyallpur ..	103	2
6. Private agencies under the supervision of Probation and Criminal Tribes Officer, Ambala ..	84	1
7. Private agencies under the supervision of Probation and Criminal Tribes Officer, Jagraon ..	12	..
Total --	485	67

The officers of the Reclamation Department visited 21 jails for the selection of prisoners for probational release, nine of these were visited twice and one thrice.

Altogether, 1,301 probationers, including those released under the Punjab Borstal Act and under section 401 of the Criminal Procedure Code, were working under the Reclamation Department in the course of the year, as against 1,335 in 1939. The following table shows their distribution for employment at different places :—

Place of employment-	Adults.	Borstals.
1. Reformatory Farms, Burewala	129	62
2. Agricultural Farm, Gujranwala	4	..
3. Private Farms and Zamindars	176	13
4. Working as stray employees	244	20
5. Finally released	537	87
6. Licenses cancelled and returned to jail	5	4
7. Licenses revoked	10	6
8. Escaped	3	1
9. Died .. ..	..	..
Total --	1,108	193

The fall in the number of probationers is mainly due to the objection of the District Officers to the release of large number of convicts because of the prevalence of violent crime in the Province. The demand for probation labour has, however, enormously increased on account of the scarcity of men as a result of the war.

Probationers were generally employed on wages commensurate with their skill. They may be classified as under :—

- (a) Probationers employed on wages plus food and lodging, Rs. 5-8-0 to Rs. 6-8-0 per mensem.
- (b) Probationers employed on wages only, Rs. 11-8-0 to Rs. 13-0-0 per mensem.
- (c) Literate and skilled probationers, Rs. 12 upwards.

The rates of wages in the case of probationers falling under (a) above were increased by annas 8, as compared with the past, as it was noticed that employers do not regularly supply clothes to the probationers. Each probationer is now supplied clothes worth Rs. 3 out of his wages after every six months. This condition has not been enforced so far in the Eastern Punjab Districts, owing to the cheapness of labour in that part of the country.

The majority of the probationers are agriculturists, and while efforts are made to employ probationers on other kinds of employment, agriculture must always remain the main field of employment.

The irrigation arrangements at the Gujranwala Farms being unsatisfactory, the earnings of the probationers employed there is low, as compared with other probationers. The Director of Agriculture, Punjab, has been requested to arrange for the sinking of a well in the Farm area in order to improve irrigation. If he is unable to do so, probation labour will have to be withdrawn from the only agricultural farm where it is employed at present.

Wages are regularly collected by Probation and Criminal Tribes Officers and their Assistants, thereby reducing to the minimum the chances of the probationers buying immunity from work.

Experience has shown that persons, who have little at stake, take more to crime than those, who have much to lose, and consequently the largest percentage of criminals, come from the poorer classes. A majority of them, when finally discharged, are destitute. With a view to making them learn habits of thrift and

to facilitating their re-adjustment to society, probationers are made to save a part of the wages earned by them during the probation period. The amount thus compulsorily saved by the probationers is deposited in their names in Savings Bank Accounts, which are transferred to their home addresses at the time of their final release.

At the close of the year, such savings amounted to Rs. 28,716-4-6. Out of this amount, accounts of the value of Rs. 19,107-4-7 were handed over to probationers on their final release; while Rs. 9,608-15-11 remained at their credit in the Savings Bank Accounts.

3. The conduct of the probationers was on the whole most satisfactory. Only 16 licenses (13 under the Good Conduct Prisoners Probationary Release Act and 3 under the Punjab Borstal Act), as detailed in the table given below, were revoked during the year under report in a total population of 1,301, as against 26 in a total population of 1,335 in 1939 :—

Name of Circle.	Escapes.	Malingering.	Convictions.	Misbehaviour.	Theft.	Left place of employment without permission.	Total
Lahore	1	..	..	..	1
Lyalpur	1	1	1	1	..	4
Montgomery	1	..	..	..	..	1
Ambala
Jagraon
Adult Farm, Burewala.	4	1	..	2	7
Borstal Farm, Burewala.	2	..	..	1	3
Total	2	8	2	1	3	16

Out of 103 probationers, who were previous convicts under Chapters XII, XVI, XVII of the Indian Penal Code, only one was convicted during the year under report. In all 8 probationers were convicted during 1940. Out of these 6 were convicted for offences under Chapter XVII of Indian Penal Code.

Three probationers and one parolee escaped from the area of their restrictions. All, except one probationer, have since been arrested.

Forty-six adults and 12 adolescents were punished with forfeiture of remission for lesser breaches of discipline and misbehaviour.

The probationers continued to enjoy the concession of receiving visits from their friends and relatives. The concession of keeping families with them was enjoyed by 138 probationers during the year 1940, as against 128 during the year 1939.

In order to maintain home contacts, which invariably have a beneficial effect on probationers, they are allowed short spells of leave after every six months. During the year under report, 178 probationers were granted short spells of leave. None of them abused this privilege.

Four hundred and eighteen adults and 64 borstals were granted special remissions for good work and exemplary conduct, as against 392 adults and 120 borstals in the preceding year.

4. The general health of probationers, working under the Department, was satisfactory, during the year under report. No death took place during the year. 53 probationers employed in the probation circles were sent to jail dispensaries for treatment. They were received back on recovery.

5. Five hundred and thirty-seven adults and 87 adolescents were finally released during the year under report, on the completion of their sentences, as against 486 adults and 97 adolescents in 1939.

Final releases and releases under Section 401 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

Government sanctioned conditional release of 7 convicts under Section 401 of the Criminal Procedure Code. All of them were sent to Reformatory Farms, Burewala.

The cases of 33 juvenile offenders were examined by the Reclamation Officer during the year. The cases of three juvenile offenders, who were not tried by the Special Magistrates, were brought to the notice of the Deputy Commissioners of the districts concerned.

6. Enquiries made through Zaildars regarding the after-career of 1,900 probationers finally released during the previous three years, furnish satisfactory results. Reports have so far been received in respect of 1,142 probationers and it appears that 983 men are leading honest lives whole 59 are reported to have been re-convicted or suspected. Ten are stated to have died and 90 are untraceable.

After-career.

The statements marked 'A' and 'B' showing the offences for which the 983 men referred above, were actually convicted and the offences in connection with which 59 men were either suspected or convicted subsequently, are appended.

The results given above tend to show that 86 per cent of the probationers are leading honest lives after final release. The percentage of failures is reasonably small.

7. The Reclamation Officer assisted the Home Secretary to Government, Punjab, in the disposal of 334 cases of commutation, conditional release and appeals of mercy.

Miscellaneous.

PART II—REFORMATORY FARMS, BUREWALA.

8. Mian Ali Ahmad, M.A., LL.B., held the charge of the office of the Superintendent, Reformatory Farms, Burewala, throughout the year under report.

Charge.

9. The maximum number of probationers, including parolees and prisoners released under Section 401, Criminal Procedure Code, employed in the Adult and Borstal Farms during the year 1940, was 193 and 137, as against 211 and 128, respectively, during the preceding year as per details given in the following table. Of these 160 adults and 75 borstals were employed as tenants on *batai* system; while 33 adults and 62 borstals worked as non-tenants on wages ranging between Rs. 8 and Rs. 10 per mensem :—

Probationers on 1st January, 1940.	FRESH ADMISSION DURING 1940.			Total.
	G. C. P. P. R. Act, Punjab.	Borstal Act.	Under Section 401, Cr. P. C.	
	ADULT FARM.			
133	60	..	-	193
	BORSTAL FARM.			
65	56	9	7	137

As a result of releases, transfers, revocations and escapes, etc., the number of probationers at the close of the year stood

at 129 adults and 62 borstals, as against 133 adults and 65 borstals at the end of the year 1939.

10. The majority of the long-term prisoners, belonging to the agricultural classes and released under the Act, are sent to the Burewala Farms, so as to afford them a chance of following their hereditary profession and getting training in modern methods of agriculture, which stand them in good stead on their final release.

During the year under report, 56 acres were cleared of jungle, levelled and brought under cultivation. All the un-commanded area has now been reclaimed and brought under cultivation. The Colonization Officer, Nili Bar Colony, has been requested to transfer the rest of the uncommanded area of 69 acres 4 kanals and 14 marlas to this Department for reclamation.

The total culturable and commanded area in the Adult Farm is 1,645 acres and that in the Borstal Farm is 920 acres 1 kanal and 15 marlas. The area under cultivation including that reclaimed during the year, rose from 1,543 to 1,563 acres in the Adult Farm and from 720 acres to 920 acres in Borstal Farm.

The area actually sown with crops was 1,271 acres on the Adult Farm and 471 in the Borstal Farm, as compared with 1,239 and 449½ acres, respectively during the preceding year.

The table given below shows the area sown with cotton and wheat at both the Farms and the area actually matured :—

Area sown.	Kharaba allowed.	Destroyed owing to poor germination.	Area matured.	Area sown.	Kharaba allowed.	Destroyed owing to poor germination.	Area matured.
ADULT FARM.				BORSTAL FARM.			
<i>Cotton.</i>							
A. K. M.	A. K. M.	A. K. M.	A. K. M.	A. K. M.	A. K. M.	A. K. M.	A. K. M.
484 5 9	42 4 6	13 1 12	428 7 11	181 5 10	12 2 0	..	169 3 10
<i>Wheat.</i>							
592 3 16	11 7 14	..	580 4 2	187 5 4	6 4 6	..	181 0 18

The average yield of cotton and wheat crops at both the Farms compares as under with the average of the last year:—

	Yield of crops in Adult Farm.			Yield of crops in Borstal Farm.		
	1939.			1940.		
	M.	S.	Ch.	M.	S.	Ch.
Cotton	6	18	0	9	16	0
Wheat	10	18	0	13	6	0

The average yield of cotton and wheat in both the Farms has increased as compared with the previous year. The result would have been better, but for a very severe attack of *tirak* which affected yield from 25 to 30 per cent.

The comparative low yield of cotton in the Borstal Farm is due to an extensive attack of *tirak* and the unsatisfactory discharge from canal outlets.

During the year under report, 137 probationers who were employed as tenants on half *batai* system in the Adult Farm and 20 in the Borstal Farm were able to grow two crops; whereas 49 tenants in the Adult Farm and 55 in the Borstal Farm sowed only one crop.

About 14 adults and 24 borstals were employed on wage system on works connected with the Farms.

In order to increase the income of the probationers at the Farms, efforts are being made—

(a) to grow *hena* and *khar lana* at the Farms. The results of the experiments are being watched with interest.

(b) to start sericulture at the Farms. With this end in view about 5,000 mulberry plants have been sown in an area of 8 acres of land set apart for the purpose.

(c) to manufacture soap. 12 maunds 36 seers and 10 chhataks of cheap laundry and toilet soap were prepared during the year and sold for Rs. 134-0-3 yielding a profit of about Rs. 8. This industry has a future, as soap is in great demand at the Farms

and adjoining Criminal Tribes Agricultural Settlements and cheap soap of good quality is not available in the market.

Rural uplift work continued to receive special attention. "Pobli week" was organised throughout the Farm area and the fields were cleared of 'Ak' and other obnoxious weeds and shrubs.

The adults and borstals participated in the competitions organised during the Cattle Fair held at Mandi Burewala, and won cash and other prizes of the value of Rs. 94 from among the prizes offered to the public. They also won the first prize for *toria* selection and for Sudan grass.

11. The Co-operative Supply Shops worked satisfactorily at both the Farms. These Societies are serving the dual purpose of supplying necessities of life to the probationers and training some of them in co-operative methods.

These shops, which have a strength of 220 members, as compared with 233 of the previous year, conducted business of the value of Rs. 15,578-9-6, as against Rs. 9,929-3-6 during the preceding year.

The table given below shows the net profits earned by these shops during the year under report and also the profits earned during the year 1939 :—

—	1939.		1940.	
	Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.
Adult Farm	144	2 7	193	1 8
Borstal Farm	49	2 8	205	4 0

There was no very satisfactory arrangement in existence for the supply of drinking water to the children attending the District Board Lower Middle School. In order to remove this difficulty, the Adult Farm Supply Society, provided a hand pump at a cost of Rs. 103-1-0 out of its profits.

12. The Demonstration Farms continued to serve the useful purpose of giving practical training in improved and scientific methods of agriculture and to supply approved seeds and fresh vegetables to probationers. The area of these Farms was

Demonstration
Farms.

extended from 158 acres 3 kanals and 6 marlas to 275 acres. The net profit of these Farms at the close of the year 1940 was Rs. 1,821-10-10 in the Adult Farm and Rs. 3,281-15-4 in the Borstal Farms, as against Rs. 1,119-3-0 and Rs. 2,235-4-6, respectively during the preceding year.

The system of co-operative farming, which was introduced towards the close of last year at the Borstal Farm, with a view to increasing the income of that Farm, has, during the course of the year under report, not only resulted in an income of over Rs. 3,200, but has also provided employment for 13 short-termed borstals.

The condition of the fruit garden has improved as a result of deep manuring, but owing to excessive heat and canal closures, the plants still shed their fruits. Endeavours are being made to get a separate outlet for the garden through the Fruit Specialist to Government, Punjab, and it is hoped that with the construction of a separate outlet and introduction of a plant nursery, the fruit garden will become a paying concern.

Shisham, Sharin and Kikar trees and ornamental shrubs, etc., were planted in and around the *abadi* and are flourishing.

13. Tenants owned 181 bullocks at the Adult Farm and 74 at the Borstal Farm, at the close of the year 1939. Forty-five new bullocks were purchased during the year with the advances given by Government, while 30 were brought by the new tenants from their homes. 30 bullocks were disposed of by sale or removed by the tenants at the time of their final release, and 8 bullocks died. The tenants at the Adult Farm owned 217 bullocks and those at the Borstal Farm 75 bullocks, at the close of the year.

There were 10 Government bullocks in the Adult Farm and 12 in the Borstal Farm in the beginning of the year. Seven new bullocks (2 for the Adult Farm and 5 for the Borstal Farm) were purchased during the year, as six unserviceable bullocks were disposed of during the year under report. There were 23 Government-owned bullocks, which were used on the Demonstration Farms and for working the Farm wells, etc.

The probationer tenants at the Farms kept 61 milch animals for their personal use. The probationers kept 213 fowls in the Adult Farm and 50 in the Borstal Farm.

There are three horses at the Farms for field inspection and rounds by Farm officials.

14. Education, as an important item of reform, is receiving due attention on the part of the Farm officials. As a result of sustained efforts, the number of the scholars has increased in all the schools, as compared with the figures of the preceding year.

Sixty-one adolescents were attending the primary school at the Borstal Farm at the close of the year. Of these, 19 were attending senior, 35 junior and 7 library classes. These youths have shown keen interest in their studies as well as in games.

The Night Schools were attended by 136 adults and 68 borstals against 121 adults and 61 borstals during the preceding year. Fifty adults have qualified themselves in the literacy test.

The number of boys on the rolls in the District Board Middle School at the Adult Farm, rose from 90 to 105 during the course of the year. Eighty out of them belonged to Zamindar families of the locality, while 25 were sons of probationers and Farm officials.

The girls school was attended by 26 girls at the end of the year under report as against 17 at the close of the preceding year.

The inmates of the Farms are provided all possible facilities in connection with their religious observations. The members of the staff continued to deliver lectures to the inmates on social and moral subjects.

15. The Scout movement, which was started to inculcate the virtues of truthfulness, loyalty and industry among the probationers, continued to do good work during the year. The strength of the Scouts Troop of the Reformatory Farms rose from 37 in 1939 to 40 in 1940.

16. There has been considerable improvement in the financial condition of probationers due to better out-turn and better prices. The savings of probationers at the Farms increased from Rs. 4,390-11-3 during the preceding year to Rs. 7,612-10-5 (including Rs. 1,994-5-4 as cost of bullocks and milch animals taken away by the tenants at their final release).

17. The health of the probationers on the whole was satisfactory. Quinine was issued as a prophylactic and all the inmates and their children were vaccinated. The number of outdoor patients, who

attended the Farm Dispensary, was 13,306 against 9,395 during the preceding year. 142 probationers were admitted as indoor patients, against 61 during 1939, in the hospital attached to the Farm. There were 4 child deaths and 2 births among the probationers during the year under report.

18. The total receipts of both the Farms (including recoveries on account of Recoverable Indigent Grant) rose from Rs. 35,002 in the preceding year to Rs. 47,684 during the year under report, while the expenditure rose from Rs. 42,724 to Rs. 44,188 (including advances made and amounts written off under head "Recoverable Indigent Grant"). It is gratifying to note that this is the first year in which the two Farms have not only become entirely self-supporting, but have also shown a net profit of Rs. 3,496.

During the year under report, Rs. 11,277-1-7 were received from the probationers towards the "Recoverable Indigent Grant" account leaving a balance of Rs. 15,470-11-2 due from them at the end of the year 1940. In addition to this, a sum of Rs. 6,998-0-10 was recovered for the liquidation of Co-operative Shops debts.

PART III.—REFORMATORY SCHOOL, DELHI.

19. Mr. Jalal-ud-Din, B.A., B.T., held charge of the office of the Superintendent, Reformatory School, Delhi, during the year.

20. There were 112 boys on the rolls of this School, which serves Punjab, North-West Frontier Province, British Baluchistan and Delhi, at the beginning of the year under report. During the course of the year 38 boys were discharged while 41 were admitted. The strength of the school at the close of the year under report was 115 (77 Muhammadans, 24 Hindus, 7 Sikhs, 4 Christians and 3 others). The 41 new admissions were as below:—

(1) Punjab	...	18
(2) North-West Frontier Province	...	11
(3) Delhi	...	6
(4) Bombay	...	1
(5) Re-admissions	...	5
		<hr/>
Total	...	41
		<hr/>

Of these new arrivals, 27 were Muslims, 11 Hindus, 2 Sikhs and 1 Christian. Three of them were literates.

Twenty-five had been convicted for theft, 5 for murder, 2 for breach of trust, 1 for perjury, 1 for rape and 2 for political offences. The remaining five were cases of re-admission.

Out of 38 boys discharged during the year, 27 were discharged on the expiry of their sentences, 3 on appeal, 2 were transferred to the Borstal Institution and Juvenile Jail, Lahore and 6 escaped.

The admissions have risen from 33 to 41 in 1940. There is, however, still accommodation for a further increase. Government will again be asked to draw the attention of all District Magistrates to the vacant accommodation in this Institution.

21. The general tone of the School was a source of great Conduct and concern. Six boys escaped during the year. discipline, and Five of them were arrested and brought back to the School by the police. One was still at large at the close of the year.

The Prefects rendered useful assistance in the maintenance of discipline. During the year under report, the School Panchayat investigated 16 cases of breaches of School discipline and recommended suitable punishments for them.

Nothing has so far been done for the treatment of the under-trial delinquent children, by the Provinces and Administrations served by this Institution.

It is a recognized fact that a delinquent child is the produce of unfavourable circumstances and is entitled to a fresh chance under better surroundings. We should, therefore, have an entirely separate system of Courts for them, because by treating them with grown-up criminals, we make criminals out of them.

The Delhi Administration passed towards the close of the year an Act on the lines of the Bombay Children Act, for the treatment of child offenders, and a similar Bill was also sponsored by a non-official member in the Punjab Legislative Assembly.

During the year under report the boys earned Rs. 1,666-15-0 as "Mark Money" for good conduct and industry as against Rs. 1,585-15-0 during the preceding year. The average earning per head came to Rs. 14-10-0, as against Rs. 14-5-0 in the preceding year.

22. Education is imparted in this School up to the Vernacular Lower Middle Standard. Sixty-four out of eighty boys came out successful at the annual examination. During the year under report, two boys attended the Anglo-Arabic School, Delhi.

Education,
moral and industrial training.

The Divisional Inspector of Schools, Ambala Division, visited this institution twice during the course of the year under report. As would appear from the extracts from his Inspection Notes, he was satisfied with the work of this Institution :—

1. " General Class work of the School is satisfactory and the teachers are taking interest in their work. P. T. work and Scouting are receiving due attention in the Institution and one feels gratified with the cheerful atmosphere prevailing within the Institution "
2. " The daily average attendance has risen from 70·81 to 80·01 "

Members of the staff delivered 18 lectures on subjects of practical utility during the year.

During the course of the year, no book was added to the House Library. It continued to serve the useful purpose for which it was started, and 111 books were issued to boys for study out of school hours.

The strength at the close of the year in each industrial class was as given below :—

Name of class.	Senior.	Junior.
Cane work	15	4
Tailoring	30	4
Carpentry	12	2
Blacksmithy	7	1
Leather work	10	5
Gardenng	18	7
Total	92	23

Mr. J. G. Cowie, Inspector of Industrial Schools, Punjab, paid a visit to the School on 6th December, 1940. He was satisfied with an all round improvement in the working of the various industrial classes.

During 1940, articles worth Rs. 3,218-0-3 were sold from this Institution. Total profits earned stood at Rs. 700-5-2, which worked out to be Rs. 5-15-9 per capita. The fall in profits as compared with those of the preceding year, was due to rises in the cost of raw material owing to war conditions and a consequent lowering of profit margins.

The volume of work in the Smithy shop has decreased due to rise in the price of metal and it is proposed to combine the Drawing Class and the Smithy, as the Drawing Master is a qualified Smith, and the Drawing work is only for 6 hours a week, and to transfer the Blacksmith to Reformatory Farms, Burewala, where he is likely to be usefully employed in manufacturing agricultural implements for the Farms and the Criminal Tribes Agricultural Settlements and in training the boys of Criminal Tribes Reformatory School in blacksmith's work.

The School participated in the Cottage Industrial Exhibition and the All-India Jail Industries Exhibition, and secured certificates of merit on each occasion.

23. The boys continued to receive training in agriculture and horticulture by working in the School garden. The sales of garden and dairy produce showed an increase. The proceeds of the former were Rs. 71-15-0 as against Rs. 29-0-9 in the preceding year, while a total of Rs. 810-11-3 was registered in the latter as against Rs. 605-9-0 in the last year.

The Agricultural Marketing Officer was consulted with a view to improving the working of the dairy and to making it a paying concern. On his suggestion steps are being taken to replace the present stock of buffaloes by cows, as it is profitable and economical to have a cow dairy.

24. The general health of the boys remained satisfactory. Total admissions into the hospital during the year were 39, as compared with 41 in the preceding year. Malaria alone was responsible for 17 admissions. The Medical Officer has emphasised the necessity of providing lights in the kitchen and dining shed and of connecting the night latrines of the cells to a sewer. Both proposals are receiving consideration. The total number of indoor and outdoor patients was 472 against 519 during the year 1939. There was no death during the year and there was no case of infectious diseases. No one was released on medical grounds.

25. The physical training of the boys is given special attention in the Reformatory School and there is a special instructor for this purpose. Physical

training, games and swimming form an integral part of the training, and are enjoyed both by the boys and staff. The boys take part in different games every evening except on Sundays and every one is afforded an opportunity to take part in some game or other.

The School team played 12 matches with outside teams. It won five, lost three and drew in two.

The Dramatic Club was organised as a result of the efforts of Major Shah, the Medical Officer, who contributed Rs. 50 towards the funds. The Club arranged a variety show this year, which was a success.

Inter-house competitions in swimming and various other games were held in the School as usual with a view to fostering the spirit of healthy rivalry among different groups of the boys.

The annual prize distribution of the School was held on 30th March, 1940, and the successful groups were presented with trophies by the Honourable Sir Manohar Lal, Finance Minister.

The Scout Troop of the School is maintaining its reputation for efficiency and usefulness. Forty-four Scouts were under training during the year. Nineteen were discharged and two more were recruited, bringing the strength of the troop to 25 (seventeen being second class and eight tender foot). The Troop held 28 Rallies during the year and earned 24 proficiency badges.

During the fortnight's holiday in February, an interesting programme of games, sports, outings, etc., was arranged. Historical places of interest were visited by the whole School.

26. Seven boys were licensed out during the year. Out of these one had to be recalled on account of misbehaviour. Four were discharged on the completion of their terms and two were still on license.

Licensing system.

27. "Home Leave" was granted to six boys, and they all returned punctually to the School on the expiry of their leave.

Home Leave.

28. Efforts were made to keep down the expenditure of this Institution as low as possible on account of financial stringency. The total expenditure during the year declined from Rs. 46,551 to Rs. 45,454-15-3, and the receipts amounted to Rs. 4,129-4-0 as against Rs. 4,316-9-9.

Financial.

The post of the Manager was abolished in 1939, and the Head Master of the School was entrusted with most of his duties. This arrangement did not work satisfactorily, as the Head Master failed to come up to my expectations. The post of an Accountant was created at the institution in August, 1940, to improve the accounts and efficiency of the Institution.

29. Only two years' record of the boys discharged from the Reformatory School is now maintained in the Institution on account of the amendment of rule 48 of the rules and regulations of the Reformatory School, Delhi, as against three years in the past.

After care of the Reformatory School boys.

Seventy-one boys were discharged during the two years preceding the year under report. Their particulars are given in statement 'C'. Out of these, 7 boys were discharged on appeal, one transferred to the Borstal Institution and Juvenile Jail, Lahore, and 6 escaped. As regards the after career of the remaining 57 boys, 7 have been re-convicted, the whereabouts of 13 are not known and 37 boys are definitely leading honest lives giving a percentage of 64.9. Sixteen boys are following the trades taught in School, while 21 boys are engaged in other trades.

In order to enable the discharged boys of the Reformatory School, Delhi, to enter public service, it was decided by Punjab Government, during the year under report, that detention in the Reformatory School should not be regarded as a disqualification for Government service.

PART IV.

30. The prisoners released under the Good Conduct Prisoners' Probationary Release Act and the War efforts. boys of the Reformatory School, Delhi, contributed a sum of Rs. 476-4-0 towards the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund.

The Staff Association of the Reformatory School, Delhi, staged a drama in aid of the Red Cross War Fund and raised a sum of Rs. 101, which was forwarded to the Secretary, Red Cross Society, through the Honourable Finance Minister.

One probationer and fourteen Reformatory School boys volunteered themselves for recruitment to the Army in the initial stages, but as the idea did not find favour with Government the Reformatory School boys were asked to wait till their services were required.

31. The total expenditure of the Department declined from Rs. 1,17,907 to Rs. 1,13,157. The total income of the Department including Rs. 40,634 on account of the sale-proceeds of the Reformatory School, Delhi, and Reformatory Farms, Burewala, rose from Rs. 31,084 to Rs. 40,701.

The details of the Recoverable Indigent Grant as it stood on 1st April, 1941, are given below :—

	<i>With interest.</i>	<i>Without interest.</i>		
		Rs.	A.	P.
(1) Outstanding on 31st March, 1940	...	23,838	13	1
(2) Amount advanced during 1940-41	...	7,027	13	6
(3) Recoveries made in 1940-41	...	11,868	7	4
(4) Amount written off during 1940 41	...	2,190	6	11
(5) Balance outstanding	...	16,807	12	4

Grant Total Rs. 16,807-12-4

32. The office of the Reclamation Officer and Inspector-General of Reformatory School, Punjab, was held by undersigned throughout the year.

The year under report was marked by very hard work done under trying conditions on account of the war and the results achieved were due to the loyal support and very close co-operation of all members of the staff.

B. RAI,

*Reclamation Officer and Inspector-General
of Reformatory Schools, Punjab, Lahore.*

APPENDIX 'A.'

STATEMENT SHOWING THE OFFENCE FOR WHICH EX-PROBATIONERS, WHO ARE REPORTED TO BE LEADING HONEST LIFE WERE CONVICTED (PARAGRAPH 6 OF THE REPORT).

Name of offence for which convicted.	No. of ex-probationers convicted for the offences in column 1.
PROBATION CIRCLE.	
Offences affecting life (Chapter XVI, I.P.C.)	533
Offences against property (Chapter XVII, I.P.C.)	47
Offences relating to documents and to trade marks or property (Chapter XVIII, I.P.C.)	2
Offences relating to coin and Government stamps (Chapter XII, I.P.C.)	1
Offences relating to false evidence and against public justice (Chapter XI, I.P.C.)	2
Offences against public tranquillity (Chapter VIII, I.P.C.)	1
Offences against the State (Chapter VI, I.P.C.)	1
Offences affecting life and against public tranquillity (Chapter XVI/VIII, I.P.C.)	196
Offences affecting life against property and public tranquillity (Chapter XVI/VIII/XVII, I.P.C.)	5
Offences affecting life and against property (Chapter XVI/XVII, I.P.C.)	12
Attempt to commit offences affecting life (Chapter XVI/XXIII, I.P.C.)	12
Abetment of offences affecting life (Chapter XVI/XI/VIII, I.P.C.)	5
Offences affecting life, relating to false evidence and against public justice (Chapter XVI/XI, I.P.C.)	1
Attempt to commit offences against property (Chapter XVII/XXIII, I.P.C.)	1
Attempt to commit offences affecting life and property (Chapters XVII/XVI/XXIII, I.P.C.)	1
Offences against property relating to document and to trade mark or property marks (Chapter XVI/XVIII, I.P.C.)	3
Convicted under Borstal Act	1
Convicted under Post Office Act	1
Total	825
BUREWALA.	
Offences affecting life (Chapter XVI, I.P.C.)	104
Offences against property (Chapter XVII, I.P.C.)	8
Offences affecting life and public tranquillity (Chapter XVI/VIII)	49
Attempt to commit offences affecting life (Chapter XVI/XXIII)	2
Offences affecting life and against property (Chapter XVI/XVII)	2
Offences relating to false evidence and against public justice (Chapter XI, I.P.C.)	1
Offences affecting life relating to false evidence and against public justice (Chapter XVI/XI)	1
Total	158

APPENDIX 'B'.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE OFFENCES FOR WHICH EX-PROBATIONERS, WHO ARE REPORTED TO BE RE-CONVICTED OR OF SUSPICIOUS CHARACTER WERE ORIGINALLY CONVICTED (PARAGRAPH 6 OF THE REPORT).

Name of offences for which originally convicted.	Number of ex-probationers suspected.	Number of ex-probationers convicted.	Total.
PROBATION CIRCLE.			
Offences affecting life (Chapter XVI, I.P.C.).	4	23	27
Attempt to commit offences affecting life (Chapter XVI/XXIII).	..	1	1
Offences affecting life and against property (Chapter XVI/XVII).	..	1	1
Offences affecting life relating to false evidence and against public justice (Chapter XVI/XI, I.P.C.).	..	1	1
Offences affecting life and against public tranquillity Chapter XVI/VIII, I.P.C.).	3	8	11
Offences against property (Chapter XVII, I.P.C.).	1	6	7
Offences relating to false evidence and against public justice (Chapter XI, I.P.C.).	..	1	1
Total ..	8	41	49
BUREWALA.			
Offences affecting life (Chapter XVI, I.P.C.).	1	7	8
Offences affecting life against public tranquillity (Chapter XVI/VIII, I.P.C.).	..	1	1
Offences relating to false evidence and against public justice (Chapter XI, I.P.C.).	..	1	1
Total ..	1	9	10

APPENDIX 'C'.

AFTER-CAREER OF BOYS DISCHARGED DURING THE YEARS
1938 AND 1939 (PARAGRAPH 29 OF THE REPORT).

	1938.	1939.	Total.
1. Total discharged in two years ..	39	32	71
2. Number who are taught agriculture --	10	7	17
3. Number in entry 2 occupied in agriculture.	..	..	..
4. Number who are taught other trades	21	19	40
5. Number in entry 4 occupied in trades and handicrafts taught them.	9	5	14
6. Occupied in industry (Agriculture not taught them in School—2, Other trades—11=13).	13	8	21
7. Unemployed or with friends --	..	2	2
8. Reconvicted .. --	4	3	7
9. Of bad character .. --	..	..	..
10. Died .. --	..	..	..
11. Not known or not reported --	5	8	13

(1) Discharged under Government orders .. --	Nil.)	
Discharged on appeal .. --	3 }	6
Escaped .. --	3 }	
(2) Discharged on appeal .. --	4)	
Transferred to Borstal Institution, Lahore ..	1 }	8
Escaped .. --	3 }	

