

in water bound macadam dressed with asphalt, 12 miles in sheet asphalt on a cement concrete foundation, 13 miles of tar macadam, 17 miles of concrete, 3 miles of granite setts and wooden blocks on a cement concrete foundation and 39 miles of gravel.

21. The public travelling over the Colony's roads increases yearly with a corresponding growth in the number of motor buses, of which there are 59 operating on the island of Hong Kong, and 115 on the mainland. These are gradually replacing the rickshas, the number of which decreases year by year.

22. The Hong Kong Tramway Company has a fleet of nearly 90 double deck tram cars running along the sea front of Victoria from Kennedy Town to Shaukiwan.

23. Communication between the island and the mainland is maintained by a number of ferry services; the most important of which are the Star Ferry between Kowloon Point and a pier near the General Post Office, and the combined vehicular and passenger service of the Hong Kong and Yaumati Ferry Company between Jordan Road, Kowloon and Jubilee Street, Victoria.

Chapter XI.

BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS & MEASURES.

The Colony is well served by banking institutions. There are fifteen principal banks doing business in the Colony which are members of the Clearing House, and in addition several Chinese banks and numerous native Hongks doing some portion of banking business. There are no banks which devote themselves specially to agricultural and co-operative banking. The Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation also conducts the business of the Hong Kong Savings Bank on usual savings bank principles. Several of the more important Chinese Banks have opened branches in Hong Kong during the year and there have been no notable difficulties among the smaller native banks. The credit and repute of the Colony's financial institutions have never been higher than during this difficult period and it is satisfactory to be assured that ample encouragement and support are available to finance any possible demand that a revival of trade would need.

2. The Currency of the Colony is based on silver and is governed by the Order in Council of 2nd February, 1895. The dollar, which is normally in circulation and which is legal tender to any amount, is the British Dollar of 900 millesimal fineness and weight 26.957 grammes (416.00 grains). Silver subsidiary coins of the value of 5, 10, 20 and 50 cents and one cent pieces

in bronze are also legal tender up to the value of two dollars for silver and one dollar for bronze. Bank notes issued by The Hong Kong & Shanghai Bank, The Chartered Bank and The Mercantile Bank are also in circulation, the estimated amount issued at the end of 1934 being \$153,601,407. These Bank notes are redeemable in legal tender dollars at the Banks' Offices in Hong Kong, and include fiduciary issues amounting to \$12,000,000, the balance being covered in various proportions for the respective banks by silver coin of approved denominations, by bullion, and by securities.

3. The weights and measures in use in the Colony are defined in the Schedule to Ordinance No. 2 of 1885. They consist of the standards in use in the United Kingdom and of the following Chinese Weights and Measures:—

1 fan (candareen)=0.0133 ounces avoirdupois.

1 tsin (mace)=1.33 ounces avoirdupois.

1 leung (tael)=1.33 ounces avoirdupois.

1 kan (catty)=1.33 pounds avoirdupois.

1 tam (picul)=133.33 pounds avoirdupois.

and

1 check (foot)=14 $\frac{3}{8}$ English inches divided into 10 tsün (inches) and each tsün into 10 fan or tenths.

Chapter XII.

PUBLIC WORKS.

During the year under review the operations of the Public Works Department were carried out, under a Head Office Staff, by eleven sub-departments, namely the Accounts and Stores, Architectural, Buildings Ordinance, Crown Lands and Surveys, Drainage, Electrical, Port Development, Roads and Transport, Valuations and Resumptions, Waterworks Construction, and Waterworks Maintenance offices.

2. The European staff comprised 160 officers and the non-European approximately 623.

3. The following is a summary of works carried out during the year:—

BUILDINGS.

4. Works completed were:—New Markets at Bowrington Canal and Arsenal Street; temporary Barrack Sheds for Police on Caine Road; new Quarters for Wireless Operators at the Peak Wireless Station; fire Appliance Sheds at Aberdeen and Aplichau; new Stores for the Hong Kong Volunteer Defence Corps; new