

Appendix J.

REPORT ON THE NEW TERRITORIES FOR THE YEAR 1934.

DEPARTMENT OF DISTRICT OFFICE, NORTH.

STAFF.

1. Mr. T. Megarry succeeded Mr. E. H. Williams as District Officer early in January.

EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE.

2. Tables I and II show some comparative details of the expenditure and revenue from the District in 1933 and 1934. The decrease, by comparison with the previous year, in the amount of revenue collected by the District Office is largely accounted for by a drop in the amount of premia received for land sales. It is noteworthy however that the amount of Crown Rent collected was the largest in the history of our administration. Table III gives a comparative statement of revenue collected and expenditure incurred by the District Office over the last ten years.

MAGISTRACY.

3. Tables IV to VIII give details of the cases both criminal and civil, heard by the District Officer as Magistrate during the year, and include details of juvenile cases, the number of which happily continued small.

4. The number of police cases heard was about 19% higher than the record number of 1933, and more than double the number heard in 1930. Of the total of 1437 cases, 383 concerned traffic offences and dangerous driving, 373 opium and revenue offences, 197 offences against property, 107 offences of unlicensed or unmuzzled dogs, and 83 offences against the person. The number of opium and revenue cases was slightly higher than in 1933, but there was a decrease of over 100 in the number of traffic cases in spite of the continuously increasing traffic on the roads, especially since the inception of the vehicular ferry.

There were 14 cases, as against 8 in 1933, of indictable offences not tried summarily. Many of these involved several defendants and in 12, comprising 4 cases of homicide, 6 of armed robbery, 2 of possession of arms, and 1 of breach of deportation order, committals were made for trial.

5. 39 cases of deaths in unusual circumstances were reported to the Police Magistrate as Coroner during the year. Four Death Inquiries were held. There was a slight decrease in the number of Small Debts cases heard, but an increase in the number of cases in which action by distraint had to be taken to enforce the Court's decision.

LAND AND GENERAL.

6. Complete details of the work of the Land Office are shown in Table IX. In the Land Registry 3010 memorials were registered as compared with 3291 in 1933 and the amount of stamp duty received for such registration was \$3,982.90 as against \$5,121.40 in 1933. In almost all cases the deeds and memorials in English and Chinese are filled in by the clerical staff of the department for the parties on the prescribed forms, a procedure which throws a great deal of work on the staff, but is well worth while, encouraging as it does registration, upon which the efficiency of the land and small debts administration largely depends.

7. It is hard to give any particular reason for the decrease in the sales of Crown Land, for in any one year an exceptional circumstance like the sale of a large piece of land to a Hong Kong interest may make a large increase in the receipts, which may not be repeated in the following year. More Crown Rent than ever before was paid in 1934, which might show that development is steady, despite temporary slackening in the rate of progress; and of course as development proceeds the amount of land available for development decreases, though we may be still a long way off saturation point.

8. Most striking is the way in which the Yuen Long market town is growing. Here during the year some 40 large new shops and family houses facing wide roads have been erected to a regular lay-out plan on a large area reclaimed from the creek to the North of the town. Further reclamation seems probable here in the near future. Development in lay-out areas of course involves Government on recurrent expenditure for the maintenance of roads etc. and all such areas will eventually have to be included in the rating scheme proposed for 1935. The work of laying a main water supply to Yuen Long was almost completed by the Public Works Department and the supply should be available in 1935.

9. In the Tai Po Market area there was a normal amount of building development and a new block of houses was completed fronting the Main Road.

10. One or two large European style houses were in process of erection during the year near the Main Road in the Fanling and Yuen Long—Castle Peak areas.

11. The rainfall at Tai Po was 94.36 inches, as against 70.07 inches in 1933, distributed as well as might be expected in these latitudes. There were no very severe rain-storms and in consequence calls on the Local Public Works vote (v. Table X) for assistance in repairing storm damage to local dams, bridges and bridle paths were below normal, and a considerable saving was effected in this vote. Both padi crops also appeared excellent, though locally, with the understatement habitual in farmers, the first crop was stated to be 'fair' and the second to be a '50 or 60% crop' owing to an unexpected North wind having done damage before all was got in.

12. The acreage under pineapple in 1934 was 157.08 acres as compared with 141.23 acres in 1933. More and more hillside land seems to be in course of preparation for this form of cultivation, which is probably the only form from which hillside soil is likely to give any profitable return. The crops of pineapple were plentiful in 1934, though the fruit is not of a very high quality. It was said that the market demand for the fruit was weak, but this does not seem to have discouraged still further development in this line.

13. Mining enterprise had a recrudescence and it became profitable to work the few scanty deposits of wolfram ore in the district because of the monopoly established in China, which is said to be the chief source of the world's supply, in this commodity so useful in modern metal industries. Much work in this connection fell on the Land Department of the District Office and the local Police because of the disregard by some of the mining licensees of the conditions of their licence and consequent disputes with local villagers over the pollution of water courses and drinking water, cutting of trees, and damage to crops. There was also a good deal of illicit mining going on by 'privateers' in remote places, which occasioned the Police and District Office staff some anxiety to keep in check, as these 'privateers' were disposed to resist if surrounded. In the case of one mine there were two murders arising, it is suspected, out of a quarrel over the proceeds.

14. The fishing industry was again reported bad, though this is hard to understand, for more and more fishing junks are making Tai Po their head-quarters and new fish lans have been opened in Tai Po Market. It might seem that increased competition was being mistaken for 'depression' in this industry, and traditional fears of possible increased taxation do not encourage any confession of even moderate prosperity.

15. The production of vegetables as a form of 'dry' cultivation on the less irrigated land, and as a catch crop between padi crops on land mainly devoted to 'wet' cultivation, grows apace and more and more vegetables are being sent into the Hong Kong

markets. In this connection the provision of increased *lan* facilities in Kowloon for N.T. vegetables as advised by the 1933 committee on New Territories vegetable produce appears to be doing much good in stimulating local vegetable production.

16. During the year a Committee appointed by H.E. the Governor sat to make inquiries and review any measures that might be taken to foster the production of pigs and poultry in the New Territories for the local market. The Committee's published recommendations are still under consideration, but meanwhile it is noteworthy that several additional 'Leghorn' farms have been established in the district.

17. In conclusion I would again put on record my thanks to the leading elders of the district for their loyal co-operation and advice. Their assistance in effecting, subject to the District Officer's final approval, settlements of local family disputes and feuds, which are not always possible to elucidate accurately in Court or capable of the jurisdiction of the Court, is invaluable and indispensable, and I am much indebted to them for the time and effort they devote to finding solutions to advise for such questions.

T. MEGARRY,
District Officer, North.

8th February, 1935.

Table I.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE
IN 1933 AND 1934.

	1933.	1934.
Personal Emoluments*	\$58,414.76	\$59,790.51
<i>Other Charges.</i>		
Conveyance Allowances	1,725.33	1,724.84
Electric Light & Fans	109.88	131.74
Incidental Expenses.....	466.24	425.05
Local Public Works	3,000.00	2,035.60
Transport	1,467.64	1,270.32
Scavenging	1,593.21	1,574.71
Uniform	251.76	224.65
Upkeep of Grounds of Island House...	187.60	188.07
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Total Other Charges	\$8,081.66	\$7,574.98
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Total department	\$67,216.42	\$67,365.49
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* Includes officers of Cadet and Junior Clerical Services attached to the department.

Table II.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF REVENUE COLLECTED BY THE DISTRICT
OFFICER IN 1933 AND 1934.

	1933.	1934.
Crown Rent (Leased Lands)	\$99,571.45	\$101,109.41
Kerosene Oil Licences	1,858.25	1,986.67
Chinese Wine and Spirit Licences	3,031.25	2,536.66
Pawnbrokers' Licences	1,250.00	1,750.00
Money Changers' Licences	351.00	325.00
Fines	5,868.00	5,532.00
Fines (Land Sales)	1,185.03	1,775.54
Fines Reward Fund	2,877.00	2,242.50
Forfeitures	179.00	118.00
Forfeitures (Land Sales)	68.00	30.00
Distress Warrant (Crown Rent and S.D.C.)	73.00	372.00
Other Miscellaneous Receipts.....	134.00	626.00
Forestry Licences	8,269.58	7,763.38
Permit to cut Earth etc.	6,063.00	9,814.00
Grave certificates	18.50	15.00
Pineapple Land Leases	423.69	471.25
Matshed Permits	4,392.32	4,738.59
Permit to Occupy Land	3,219.62	2,979.05
Stone Quarry Permits	1,322.00	1,131.00
Ferry Licences	6.00	6.00
Certified Extracts	147.00	169.00
Sunprints	225.00	45.00
Land Sales	49,440.13	21,257.74
Stamps for Deeds	5,121.40	3,982.90
Boundary Stones	114.00	522.75
Building	1,500.00	500.00
Crown Leases.....	—	—
Tobacco Retailers Licences.....	1,765.00	1,290.00
Court fees or Miscellaneous fees	27.90	10.80
Widows & Orphans' Pension Contribu- tion	30.33	—
Poor Box.....	86.47	50.00
Mining Licence	182.50	4,702.50
Mining Royalties	—	1,122.95
Prospecting Licences	—	1,000.00
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	\$198,800.42	\$179,975.69
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Note.	1933	1934	
Mining Licences	\$ 122.50	\$4,640.00	} were paid in Hong Kong.
Prospecting Licences ...	Nil	1,000.00	
Mining Royalties	Nil	645.48	
Crown Rent	3,656.00	3,874.00	

Table III.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE FOR
LAST TEN YEARS.

	Personal* Emoluments and other Charges.	Special Expenditure.	Total Expenditure.	Total Revenue.
	\$	\$	\$	\$
1925	38,891.05		38,891.05	140,793.65
1926	37,990.97		37,990.97	138,527.55
1927	43,059.80		43,059.80	123,578.70
1928	46,339.30	150.80	46,490.10	117,383.48
1929	46,371.85		46,371.85	120,580.97
1930	61,273.56		61,273.56	146,300.10
1931	61,241.64		61,241.64	165,014.61
1932	61,663.99		61,663.99	179,033.92
1933	67,216.42		67,216.42	195,021.92
1934	67,365.49		67,365.49	169,816.21

*Includes Officers of Cadet and Junior Clerical Services attached to department.

Note. Only money expended or collected by the District Office is included in above table and no account is taken of revenue collected by other departments or expenditure by them or expenditure on Public Works, Police, Medical, Educational and other services.

Table IV.

T OF CASES UNDER COGNISANCE OF THE POLICE MAGISTRATES' COURTS DURING THE YEAR 1934.

TAI Po.

es, how disposed of, and the Number of Male & Female Defendants under each Head.

S.	Total No. of Charges.	Total No. of Defendants.	Convicted and Sentenced.		Discharged.		Committed for trial at the Supreme Court.	Bound over without further Penalty.		Convicted and Cautioned.	Police Supervision.		Previously Convicted.	
			M.	F.	M.	F.		Total	M.		F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
.....	52	60	41	1	15	1	16	2	...	...	...	...	4	...
ent	4	8	1	...	7	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
.....	2	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
.....	7	14	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
.....	9	11	9	...	2	12	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
.....	7	7	2	...	5	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
.....	11	13	6	3	4	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
men	27	34	13	...	21	...	21	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
.....	4	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
.....	3	4	2	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
.....	71	87	63	7	9	12	12	3	...	...	...	3	...	8
.....	7	14	...	...	8	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
.....	8	10	4	2	1	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
.....	53	70	20	...	11	12	12	33	...	...	...	...	...	...
.....	15	25	13	2	8	2	10	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
.....	280	363	182	15	94	8	102	41	5	...	3	...	15	...

Table IV,--Continued.
ABSTRACT OF CASES UNDER COGNISANCE OF THE POLICE MAGISTRATES' COURTS DURING THE YEAR 1934.
TAI Po,--Continued.

Cases, how disposed of, and the Number of Male & Female Defendants under each Head.

Classification of Offences.	Total No. of Charges.	Total No. of Defendants.	Convicted and Sentenced.		Discharged.		Total	Committed for trial at the Supreme Court.		Bound over without further Penalty. To keep the peace and be of good behaviour.		Convicted and Cautioned.	Police Supervision.		Previously Convicted.	
			M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.
<i>Brought forward</i>	280	363	182	15	94	8	102	17	1	41	5	...	3	...	15	...
OFFENCES OF A PUBLIC NATURE.																
<i>(c) Against the Crown and Government.</i>																
1. Currency offences	3	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Trespass and damages on Crown Land	26	34	18	3	10	3	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Opium and Revenue offences.....	373	501	375	77	42	4	46	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
8. Dangerous drug and goods.....	4	4	3	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Other offences	10	18	10	3	4	...	4	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
<i>(d) Against Public Justice.</i>																
1. Escape and breach of Prison	1	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
2. Returning from banishment	33	33	28	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	27	...
5. Other offences	4	4	2	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<i>Carried forward</i>	734	961	622	99	155	16	171	18	2	42	5	2	3	...	42	1

Table IV,—Continued.

ABSTRACT OF CASES UNDER COGNISANCE OF THE POLICE MAGISTRATES' COURTS DURING THE YEAR 1934.
TAI Po,—Continued.

Cases, how disposed of, and the Number of Male & Female Defendants under each Head.

Classification of Offences.	Total No. of Charges.	Total No. of Defendants.	Convicted and Sentenced.		Discharged.	Total	Committed for trial at the Supreme Court.		Bound over without further Penalty.		Convicted and Cautioned.	Police Supervision.		Previously Convicted.	
			M.	F.			M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.
<i>Brought forward.....</i>															
<i>(e) Against the Public Peace.</i>															
1. Breach of the peace.....	18	54	16	2	1	18	18	2	42	5	2	3	42	1	
2. Unlawful possession of arms.....	34	36	26	8	...	26	2	...	18	4	...	...	...	...
3. Other offences.....	1	5	...	...	...	5	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...
<i>(f) Against trade.</i>															
<i>(g) Against Public Morals and Polices.</i>															
3. Lotteries and gambling.....	34	116	109	5	1	114	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
4. Offences against public health.....	4	4	1	1	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Street hawkers offences... }	59	60	53	3	2	56	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
6. Obstruction.....	363	363	286	36	...	36	...	...	...	...	...	...	46	...
9. Traffic offences of a technical nature	20	20	18	2	...	20	...	...	...	...	41	...	...	...
10. Dangerous driving of vehicles....	6	6	5	1	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Vagrants.....	107	107	44	5	47	49	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
12. Unlicensed or unmuzzled Dogs.....	57	70	57	3	1	60	...	...	...	2	11	...	...	...
13. Other offences.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Total.....	1,437	1,802	1,287	117	272	1,354	20	2	67	9	56	...	91	1	

Table V.

TAI PO, New Territories.

Return of Punishments awarded in respect of Certain Classes of Offences during the Year 1934.

Punishments.	Number of Persons Punished.		Offences against Individuals						Offences of a Public Nature.							
	M.	F.	Against their Property.		Against their Person.		Against the Crown and Government.		Against Public Justice.		Against the Public Peace.		Against Public Morals and Police.		Other Offences.	
Description.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Fines	700	38	2	...	9	...	129	15	...	...	30	2	481	11	49	10
Imprisoned in default	383	69	16	...	7	...	258	63	...	...	...	...	32	2	61	3
Imprisoned without option	145	8	61	2	8	1	2	2	29	1	3	...	3	...	39	2
Bound over to be of good behaviour	34	2	3	...	24	1	...	1	...	...	5	...	...	...	2	...
Convicted and cautioned	53	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	49	...	2	...
Bound over and fined	16	7	1	2	6	1	...	...	...	...	5	2	...	...	3	2
Bound over, ordered to pay compensation and fined	11	...	1	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...
Bound over to keep peace	32	8	...	...	12	4	...	...	...	...	16	4	...	...	4	...
Fined and ordered to pay compensation	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
Total	1,376	132	84	5	74	7	391	81	29	1	70	8	565	13	163	17

Table VIII.

SMALL DEBTS COURTS.

	1934	<i>Average from 1929-1933.</i>
Cases heard	205	175
Writs of Execution	88	37

Table X.

LOCAL PUBLIC WORKS, 1934.

Allocation of Assistance.

NEW WORKS.

Path steps from Shung Tak Street to Railway Station at Tai Po Market	\$ 30.35
Bridge to the Salt Pans at Sha Tau Kok.....	200.00
Bridge at Shek Po.....	105.00
Wooden-Shed (latrine) at Wong Ye Au	20.00
Two wells at Tai Wai	250.00
Putting up railings for the bridge at Sam To Hang...	190.00

REPAIRS.

Side Channel near Tsung Hom Tong	50.00
Road at Sha Tau Kok	200.00
Dam across the stream near Sheung Shui	86.00
Path between the New and Old Markets, Un Long, final payment	784.25
Bridge at Ngau Liu near Kwan Ti	120.00
Un-expended	2,964.40

Total

\$5,000.00

REPORT ON THE NEW TERRITORIES FOR THE
YEAR 1934.

B.—SOUTHERN DISTRICT.

STAFF.

Mr. D. M. MacDougall was in charge throughout the year except during the period 26th November to 25th December, when Mr. E. Himsworth was in charge.

EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE.

2. Tables I to III show comparative details of the expenditure and revenue of the department for the years 1933 and 1934, exclusive of the revenue collected for it by other departments. The omission of statistics for other departments' collections, given in previous years, is due to the difficulty of distinguishing such collections in the district from collections elsewhere.

3. The actual Revenue collected by the Department, as given in Table II, has surpassed the previous year's total by \$1,629.85. This increase is almost entirely due to a new lease on a salt pan at Tai O together with a demand for sand permits still higher than the high level of last year.

4. Table III contains a comparative statement of actual Expenditure and Revenue of the department for the past ten years.

MAGISTRACY.

5. Tables IV to VIII show the details of the cases heard during the year by the District Officer sitting as Police Magistrate and Judge of the Small Debts Court.

6. The number of Police cases dealt with was again almost double that of the previous year. The principal increases were among the following offences (see Table IV):—

Opium, Revenue, Simple Larceny, Traffic and other Offences. The Traffic increase was largely due to the fact that the transfer from Kowloon Magistracy to the District Officer's Court of all traffic offences in the District was effective for the whole twelve months as against four months only in 1933.

7. There were during the year one charge of Murder (committed in the waters off Cheung Chau Island) and one of Manslaughter (at Heung Che village, Tsuen Wan) which resulted in committals for trial in the Supreme Court.

8. The total number of cases of Simple Larceny and Assault increased 43% but none was serious.

9. Table VI shows the number of Juvenile Offenders dealt with in the District Office South Court in 1934.

10. The number of Small Debts Cases and of Writs of Executions given in Table VIII again increased. Increased defaults among Money Loan Associations, a heavy fall in the price of bean-curd, and loss of business with fishing junks among Cheung Chau shop-keepers, were the chief causes.

11. Twenty nine cases of deaths in unusual circumstances were reported. Four Enquiries with Jury were held and three without Jury (Table IX). Two Coroner's verdicts of Murder were returned and none of manslaughter. In the former case no charges of murder followed.

LAND OFFICE.

12. Table X shows the work of the Land Office during the year. The demand for agricultural and building land fell off from the very high level of last year but is still above the average for the last ten years. 29.87 acres were sold, yielding premium to the amount of \$3,312.90 as against 28.48 acres for \$8,861.88 in 1933.

13. The number of memorials registered was 920, showing a decrease of 148 compared with 1933 and the revenue from registration fees shows a consequent drop.

14. The acreage held under Forestry Licences has decreased slightly, portions of certain areas having been surrendered to Government.

15. The demand for sand has enormously increased, figures being 249 permits for 1932, 294 for 1933 and 527 for 1934. This year, however, sand stealing charges showed a marked decrease from 68 to 52, the improvement being due to successful preventive efforts on the part of the Police and to the deterrent effect of heavy penalties. The increase in consumption is a heavy tax on the sand resources of the Southern District which will be seriously impaired if the demand is maintained.

16. Twenty five new permits for bathing sheds were issued in 1934, bringing the total outstanding up to 171. The supply of available sites is now practically exhausted. At about \$25.00 per shed these permits represent a substantial source of revenue.

GENERAL.

Agriculture.

17. There was no serious damage from rain or typhoon during the year. Except in Southern Lantau, where the rice suffered, no serious damage was done by the heavy rains experienced.

There was no typhoon damage. The rice, vegetable and pineapple crops were good. Prices though irregular tended downward. Pigs, sweet potatoes, firewood and bean-curd were lower in price but, except for the last mentioned, their volume was well maintained and no hardship felt.

Fisheries.

18. The shrimp catch was good except in Tsuen Wan. Other kinds were somewhat above the average and much above the low level of last year.

Ferries.

19. The Hong Kong and New Territories Ferry Company continues to give satisfaction, and approved schedules were maintained. The Tsuen Wan run continued slack owing to bus competition.

Registration of Births and Deaths.

20. Registration commenced in 1932. The Police Stations at Tsuen Wan, Cheung Chau and Tai O are the registry offices for their respective districts. The numbers registered increased substantially last year at all three stations. 976 births and 452 deaths in all were registered as against 875 and 376 respectively for 1933. There were very few prosecutions and light penalties were inflicted in all cases. Registration is rapidly becoming a habit with the villagers.

Sanitation.

21. The improved sanitation of the streets of Tsuen Wan, Cheung Chau and Tai O resulting from the drainage and concreting of street surfaces undertaken in recent years has been maintained. In addition at Hang Hau 490 square feet of paved street was completed and \$150.00 spent on subsidies for approved pigsties. Altogether \$1,475.00, a sum much greater than in previous years was spent for this purpose last year. The efficiency of the sanitary coolies paid by Government has been greatly increased by this measure.

Hygiene.

22. For some years Government has provided a travelling dispensary on the mainland and routine visits by a Medical Officer to the islands. The educative effect of this service is considered as important as the immediate benefit to the individual patients concerned.

23. The opening on the 21st November, 1934, of the Haw Par Hospital at Cheung Chau by Mrs. O. C. Borrett, wife of His Excellency the G.O.C., Major General O. C. Borrett, C.B., C.M.G., was the most important event of the year. This hospital with accommodation for 50 in-patients and 70 to 80 out-patients will, it is hoped, greatly stimulate the confidence in Western medicine already engendered by the measures above mentioned. The demand for medical attention has been satisfactory, numbers of patients coming from Lamma and Southern Lantau as well as from Cheung Chau. The hospital is about two thirds full.

Tai O.

24. Business had a fair year, showing a great improvement on the poor conditions of 1933. Fishing catches were fair, with prices lower and much below the average.

25. The following table shows approximately the results of the fishing season.

	<i>Catch.</i>		<i>Price per picul.</i>	
	<i>1933</i>	<i>1934</i>	<i>1933</i>	<i>1934</i>
Ma Yau	360 piculs.	500 piculs.	\$18.00	\$14.00
Herring	400 ,,	700 ,,	\$14.00	\$14.00
Wong Fa	4,000 ,,	10,000 ,,	\$12.00	\$ 9.00
Shrimps	1,000 ,,	4,000 ,,	\$ 6.00	\$ 5.00

The recovery of Wong Fa catch to normal volume is very satisfactory.

26. Pigs, cattle and poultry did very well indeed. Rice and vegetable crops were good.

27. The production of salt at 14,000 piculs, a low figure, was the same as last year but the value declined from \$13,000 to \$10,000. The greater part was exported to Chinese Territory.

28. A Portable Motor Fire Pump was provided by Government on the 5th April, 1934. The engine is operated by firemen supplied by the Kai Fong and trained by the Officer in Charge of Tai O Police Station. There was no serious damage from either fire or typhoon during the year.

Lamma.

29. Cattle and pigs were good, and fishing fair with improvement on 1933. Rice, vegetables and grass cutting did well.

Cheung Chau.

30. Business generally was worse in Cheung Chau than elsewhere. The fishing season except for a slight improvement in the Wong Fa catch was no better than last year. Rice and vegetables were medium but not as good as last year. The former were adversely affected by heavy rains and the latter by an insect pest.

31. All market stalls but two were occupied but business was dull. Shop-keepers have suffered from the poor fishing seasons at Cheung Chau during the last three years and several bankruptcies have resulted during the year. Lime kilns did badly and the output of the stone quarry, already low in 1933, fell to a negligible figure in 1934 (\$800.00 and \$300.00 respectively). The Distillery alone reported a good year.

32. There were three fires in the island during the year. Of these two were serious and caused a loss of several thousand dollars. No lives were lost. In June, following a failure of the private fire pump at a serious fire, two Government firemen, one of whom was paid by the Kai Fong, were appointed. At two subsequent fires the pump worked well and is now tested daily.

Tsuen Wan.

33. Crops were satisfactory but producers were badly hit by declining prices, vegetables alone recording a slight increase in price. Fair business was done in pigs and soy but the fishing junks had another poor year.

34. The Texas Oil Company and the Hong Kong Brewery were busy throughout the year. The factory of the Hume Pipe Company near Tsuen Wan was completed in the autumn and work commenced on a large contract for supply of pipes in connection with the Shing Mun Water Works. The Shing Mun works progressed to schedule and were employing over 2,000 men at the end of the year. The rebuilding of the Tsuen Wan village, referred to in 1933 report, was delayed by negotiations to decide the method of resumption to be employed. Erection of the market and resumption of an approved adjacent area during 1935 were definitely decided upon and \$40,000 included in the 1935 Estimates for the purpose.

G. S. KENNEDY-SKIPTON,
District Officer, South.

30th April, 1935.

Table I.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE 1933 AND 1934.

	1933.	1934.
Personal Emoluments	*\$35,604.36	*\$27,342.80
<i>Other Charges.</i>		
Conveyance Allowances	660.00	647.59
Incidental Expenses	144.29	116.93
Local Public Works	3,630.00	2,355.00
Rent of Offices	†4,900.00	9,100.00
Scavenging	1,490.30	1,490.30
Transport	588.16	644.03
Uniforms	99.52	93.35
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Total Other Charges	11,512.27	14,447.20
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Total Department	\$47,116.63	\$41,790.00
<hr/> <hr/>		

*Includes Officers of Cadet and Junior Clerical Services.

†7 months only. Previously the District Office was in the Post Office Building.

Table II.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF REVENUE COLLECTED BY THE
DISTRICT OFFICER, 1933 AND 1934.

	1933.	1934.
Fines	\$ 3,542.17	\$ 4,175.60
Building Covenant Fines	45.06	—
Forfeitures	195.65	344.00
Forestry Licences	2,998.90	2,672.40
Miscellaneous Licences	233.00	213.00
Earth and Stone Permits	8,931.00	13,382.00
Legal Costs	100.00	115.00
Boundary Stones and Survey Fees....	338.00	226.00
Crown Leases	60.00	60.00
Miscellaneous Fees	119.75	144.25
Deeds Registration Fees	1,920.50	1,389.90
Leased Lands	*25,263.57	*26,492.60
Pineapple Land Leases	735.18	658.35
Bathing Matshed Permits.....	3,849.15	4,647.95
Matshed Permits	803.00	840.00
Temporary Structure on Private Land	904.00	929.00
Permit to Occupy Land	978.70	409.40
Miscellaneous Permits	—	260.00
Stone Quarries	79.00	935.00
Market Fee	1,597.32	1,537.42
Other Miscellaneous Receipts	28.69	47.50
Premia on New Leases	8,839.75	3,208.00
Revenue Reward Fund	694.57	571.10
Arms Fine Fund	20.00	580.00
Poor Box	5.62	73.96
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	\$62,282.58	\$63,912.43
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

*1. Actual Collections, including normal arrears for previous year.

2. Amount due on 1933 Rent Roll \$25,331.53
 Amount due on 1934 Rent Roll \$26,467.64
 Increase \$ 1,136.11

This is entirely accounted for by the new lease of Salt Pan No. 2 at
 Tai O during the year.

Table III.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE
OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE FOR LAST TEN YEARS.

	* Personal Emoluments and Other Charges.		Special Expenditure.		Total Expenditure of the Department.		Total Revenue collected by the Department.	
	\$	c.	\$	c.	\$	c.	\$	c.
1925	25,329.74		...		25,329.74		42,538.70	
1926	25,946.68		..		25,946.68		40,664.95	
1927	24,646.74		...		24,646.74		42,046.73	
1928	23,111.62		...		23,111.62		39,279.47	
1929	23,776.34		...		23,776.34		40,870.41	
1930	39,410.90		...		39,410.90		46,715.94	
1931	36,282.47		...		36,282.47		51,285.59	
1932	42,073.65	§	...		42,073.65		56,679.19	
1933	47,116.63		...		47,116.63		62,282.58	
1934	41,790.00		...		41,790.00		63,912.43	

* Includes officers of Cadet and Junior Clerical Services attached to department.

§ Includes salary, May to November, of one Cadet Officer on leave.

Table IV.

Abstract of cases under cognizance of the Police Magistrate's Court at District Office, South during the year 1934.
Cases, how disposed of, and the number of Male and Female Defendants under each Head.

Classification of Offences.	Total No. of Charges.	Total No. of Defendants.	Convicted and Sentenced.		Discharged.		Committed for trial at the Supreme Court.		Bound over to keep the peace and be of good behaviour.		Bail Estreated.	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
OFFENCES AGAINST INDIVIDUALS.												
<i>(a) Against their Property.</i>												
Common Law Offences	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Demanding Money with menaces.....	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Larceny by Bailee	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Forgery	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
False Pretences	3	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Larceny by Finding	3	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Larceny by Servant.....	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Larceny (simple).....	44	49	42	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Receiving Stolen Property.....	3	5	4	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>(b) Against their person.</i>												
Assault (Common)	16	26	10	7	..	..	..	..	9	..	..	..
Adultery	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kidnapping	1	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Murder	3	4	..	3	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Manlaughter	2	3	..	1	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..
Sexual Offences.....	2	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
OFFENCES OF A PUBLIC NATURE.												
<i>(a) Against the Crown and Government.</i>												
Dangerous Goods	13	26	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Opium Offences	69	109	26	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	44
Possession of Offensive Weapons.....	4	5	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Possession of Arms	1	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Revenue Offences.....	26	23	17	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>(b) Against Public Justice.</i>												
Deportation	5	5	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>(c) Against Public Morals and Police.</i>												
Breach of Traffic Regulations	186	186	175	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gambling Offences	10	61	30	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	31
Hawking Offences	5	5	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Offences	111	114	88	6	3	..	..	..	7	..	..	..
Sand-stealing.....	52	87	66	21	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total.....	565	725	555	81	2	3	10	3	16	75	..	..

M. = Male, F. = Female, J. = Juvenile.

Table V.

Return of Punishments awarded in respect of certain Classes of Offences at District Office, South during the year 1934.

Punishments. Description.	Offences against Individuals.						Offences of a Public Nature.							
	Number of Persons Punished.		Against Their Property.		Against Their Person.		Against The Crown and Government.		Against Public Justice.		Against Public Morals and Police.		Other Offences.	
	M.	J.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Fined	277	6	...	...	4	...	24	...	...	...	154	...	95	6
Imprisoned in default	88	2	...	...	...	...	62	2	...	...	5	...	10	...
Peremptory imprisonment	86	2	3	42	5	2	18	...	5	...	...	...	16	3
Bound over to keep peace and to be of good behaviour	16	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...
Total	467	10	3	53	13	2	104	2	5	...	159	...	128	6

M. = Male.

F. = Female.

J. = Juvenile.

Table VIII.

SMALL DEBTS COURT.

	1933.	1934.
Cases heard	59	62
Writs of Execution	10	19

Table IX.

CORONER'S RETURN FOR THE YEAR 1934.

Number of Burial Orders issued.	Number of Death Enquiries held with Jury.	Number of Death Enquiries held without Jury.
Nil.	4	3

Table X.

Headings.	No. of Sales, Permits, Licences, &c.	No. of Lots.	Area in Acres.	Increase of Crown Rent.		Decrease of Crown Rent.		Amount of Premia, Fees, &c.		Amount paid for Resumption of Land.		Term of years.
				\$	c.	\$	c.	\$	c.	\$	c.	
Land Sales for Buildings.....	41	41	1.29	114.50	...	...	...	1,037.90	...	...	75
" " Agriculture.....	23	34	28.58	28.30	...	...	...	2,275.00	...	...	75
Conversion.....	5	5	.14	20.00	...	...	...	10.00	...	...	75
Stone Quarry Leases.....	10	12	12.19	...	...	...	...	945.00	...	...	5
Permits to occupy Land.....	5	...	11.22	...	...	...	...	36.00	...	...	1
Permits to occupy Land (Annual).....	103	...	54.49	...	...	...	...	347.30	...	...	1
Mashed Permits on Crown Land.....	660	...	6.11	...	...	...	...	802.00	...	...	1
Bathing Mashed Permits.....	171	...	1.51	...	...	...	...	4,201.10	...	...	1
Permits for Temporary Structure on Private Land.....	200	...	1.98	...	...	...	...	918.00	...	...	1
Earth and Sand Permits.....	527	...	...	...	...	...	...	13,382.00	...	...	1
Forestry Licences.....	121	...	13,590.81	...	...	...	...	2,719.90	...	...	1
Pine-apple Licences.....	355	...	221.34	...	...	...	...	664.02	...	...	10
Deeds Registration Fees.....	920	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,389.90	...	...	...
Resumptions.....	...	231	27.84	...	...	...	...	...	5,864.71	...	...
Re-entries.....	...	24	1.05	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Miscellaneous Licences.....	107	...	...	...	...	...	...	195.00	...	...	1
Miscellaneous Permits.....	45	...	...	...	...	...	...	260.00	...	...	1