

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 251.

The following Statement of the Revenue and Expenditure of the British Post Offices in China, which was laid before the Legislative Council on the 23rd instant, is published.

By Command,

T. SERCOMBE SMITH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 26th April, 1901.

REPORT.

We beg to attach Tables showing the Revenue and Expenditure of each of the British Post Offices in China for 1900.

In order to find out approximately the surplus or deficit in each case, it is necessary to apportion the Imperial Subsidy on the one side, Stationery and share of P. & O. Subsidy on the other, in accordance with the Revenue Table.

This can best be done by subtracting \$7,100 from \$31,475 leaving \$24,375 to be added to the expenditure of the various offices in proportion to their revenues.

Therefore in the case of Shanghai, there has to be added:—

$$\frac{35,807}{81,887} \times \$24,375 \text{ which is approximately } \$10,400.$$

This added to \$31,724 gives a total expenditure of \$42,124, therefore showing a deficit of \$6,317.

Even allowing some amount to Shanghai for work done on behalf of Ningpo and Hankow, it is apparent that the first named is run at a loss.

On this principle, all the other offices, except, obviously, Ningpo, earn some small profit.

As, however, it would be impracticable to abolish the Shanghai Office without abandoning the whole system, and as the total revenue shows an excess over the total expenditure, it would appear that there is no necessity for other action at present except to watch carefully any increase of the latter.

We recommend that, in the course of the next two or three years, another investigation should take place.

A. M. THOMSON,
Treasurer.

E. CORNEWALL LEWIS,
Acting Postmaster General.

Hongkong, 25th February, 1901.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE
OF H.B.M. POSTAL AGENCIES IN CHINA IN 1900.

AGENCY.	REVENUE.	EXPENDITURE.
	\$ c.	\$ c.
Shanghai,	35,807.86	31,724.08
Ningpo,	305.77	716.34
Hankow,	4,994.79	2,173.75
Liukung Tau,	2,080.62	982.56
Hoihow,	1,106.86	506.04
Canton,	13,603.18	7,759.25
Swatow,	5,814.30	3,586.68
Amoy,	11,180.78	5,642.44
Foochow,	6,993.28	3,928.76
	81,887.44	57,019.90
Stationery,	1,500.00
Share of P. & O. Mail Subsidy,	29,975.00
Contribution from Imperial Post Office,	7,100.00
Totals,.....\$	88,987.44	88,494.90

SHANGHAI.

1900.

RECEIPTS.	\$	EXPENDITURE.	\$
Sale of Stamps,	32,027.90	Personal Emoluments,.....	6,250.22
Unpaid Postage,	1,235.47	Incidental Assistance,.....	1,463.59
Boxholders' Fees,	743.80	Incidental Expenses,	1,501.82
Profit on Exchange,	988.29	Commission due to London on Money Orders,	161.83
Commission on Money Orders,	812.40	Exchange Compensation,	614.56
		Repairs to Post Office Building,	307.03
		Gratuities to Shipmasters (Estimated),	249.08
		Transit Charges (Estimated),	21,175.95
	\$ 35,807.86		\$ 31,724.08

NINGPO.

1900.

RECEIPTS.	\$	EXPENDITURE.	\$
Sale of Stamps,	287.09	Personal Emoluments,.....	420.00
Unpaid Postage,	18.68	Incidental Assistance,.....	177.00
		Incidental Expenses,	8.55
		Gratuities to Shipmasters (Estimated),
		Transit Charges (Estimated),	110.79
	\$ 305.77		\$ 716.34

HANKOW.

1900.

RECEIPTS.	\$	EXPENDITURE.	\$
Sale of Stamps,	4,913.39	Personal Emoluments,.....	420.00
Unpaid Postage,	81.40	Incidental Assistance,.....	96.00
		Incidental Expenses,	77.18
		Gratuities to Shipmasters (Estimated),.....	8.71
		Transit Charges (Estimated),.....	1,571.86
	\$ 4,994.79		\$ 2,178.75

LIU KUNG TAU.

1900.

RECEIPTS.	\$	EXPENDITURE.	\$
Sale of Stamps,	1,941.26	Personal Emoluments,.....	420.00
Unpaid Postage,	123.38	Incidental Assistance,.....	178.00
Profit on Exchange,	15.98	Incidental Expenses,	46.83
		Gratuities to Shipmasters (Estimated),.....	8.71
		Transit Charges (Estimated),	329.02
	\$ 2,080.62		\$ 982.56

HOIHOW.

1900.

RECEIPTS.	\$	EXPENDITURE.	\$
Sale of Stamps,	1,094.54	Personal Emoluments,.....	180.00
Unpaid Postage,	11.14	Incidental Assistance,.....	84.00
Profit on Exchange,	1.18	Incidental Expenses,	15.40
		Gratuities to Shipmasters (Estimated),.....	46.80
		Transit Charges (Estimated),	179.84
	\$ 1,106.86		\$ 506.04

CANTON.

1900.

RECEIPTS.	\$	EXPENDITURE.	\$
Sale of Stamps,	13,474.42	Personal Emoluments,	1,020.00
Unpaid Postage,	125.30	Incidental Assistance,	228.00
Profit on Exchange,	3.46	Incidental Expenses,	5.42
		Gratuities to Shipmasters (Estimated),	668.59
		Transit Charges (Estimated),	5,837.24
	\$ 13,603.18		\$ 7,759.25

SWATOW.

1900.

RECEIPTS.	\$	EXPENDITURE.	\$
Sale of Stamps,	5,778.69	Personal Emoluments,	720.00
Unpaid Postage,	33.57	Incidental Assistance,	612.00
Profit on Exchange,	2.04	Incidental Expenses,	170.55
		Gratuities to Shipmasters (Estimated),	150.28
		Transit Charges (Estimated),	1,933.85
	\$ 5,814.30		\$ 3,586.68

AMOY.

1900.

RECEIPTS.	\$	EXPENDITURE.	\$
Sale of Stamps,	11,077.29	Personal Emoluments,	960.00
Unpaid Postage,	85.37	Incidental Assistance,	432.00
Profit on Exchange,	6.70	Incidental Expenses,	93.30
Interest on M. O. Fund,	11.42	Gratuities to Shipmasters (Estimated),	415.61
		Transit Charges (Estimated),	3,741.53
	\$ 11,180.78		\$ 5,642.44

FOOCHOW.

1900.

RECEIPTS.	\$	EXPENDITURE.	\$
Sale of Stamps,	6,911.58	Personal Emoluments,	1,200.00
Unpaid Postage,	74.67	Incidental Assistance,	324.00
Profit on Exchange,	7.03	Incidental Expenses,	45.28
		Gratuities to Shipmasters (Estimated),	117.00
		Transit Charges (Estimated),	2,242.48
	\$ 6,993.28		\$ 3,928.76

Weight of Mails exchanged between London and Hongkong, &c., by British Contract Packets during the Month of May, 1899.

	Letters.	Papers.
Despatched to London :—From Hongkong,	374 lbs.	457 lbs.
the Agencies,	193 lbs.	408 lbs.
Received from London :—For Hongkong,	370 lbs.	3,665 lbs.
the Agencies,	356 lbs.	6,420 lbs.
	1,293 lbs.	10,950 lbs.