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THE F.M.S. IN 1910.

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THE F.M.S. IN 1910.

GOVERNMENT'S POLICY.

A YEAR OF FEDERAL SUPPLY.

The following is the full text of H. E. the High Commissioner's speech at Kuala Kangsar on Monday last.

With regard to the financial position, in December of last year a revenue of just under \$22,000,000 was anticipated. The actual receipts for the year amounted to \$25,246,863. The estimated revenue for 1910, as revised on the returns for the first half year, is \$24,742,721; the expenditure was estimated at \$26,985,005, and the revised estimate amounts to \$26,564,981, so that the year will probably show a deficit of \$1,822,260. For 1911 the revenue is estimated at \$27,096,421, and the expenditure at \$29,768,167, of which some five million dollars will be spent on Railway Extension and over four millions on Public Works, Special Services.

RAILWAY EXTENSION.

The Bahau Kuala Pilah Branch was ready for opening in February, and has yielded fairly satisfactory results.

The permanent survey for the East Coast Railway was carried out up to the Pahang-Kelantan boundary in May; earthwork is practically completed as far as Kuala Semantan, and the rails have been linked in to within nine miles of Kuala Semantan.

Information ^



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The Singapore Free Press and Mercantile Advertiser (Weekly)

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Wednesday Nov. 2, 1910.

Wednesday Nov. 2, 1910. Mr A. G. Crare is now manager of Kelemak Rubber Estate. The new steel

SPORTING NOTES.

SPORTING NOTES. Johore will be the scene of a decided novelty on Sunday next, Nov 6, for

THE F.M.S. IN 1910.

THE F.M.S. IN 1910. GOVERNMENT'S POLICY. A YEAR OF FEDERAL SUPPLY. The following is the full

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North of Semantan jungle felling has been completed for forty miles and one fifth of the earthwork required has been carried out. Preliminary surveys are being made for a line from Padang Java to Kuala Selangor, which it is proposed to construct in 1911. Good progress has been made with the new railway station at Kuala Lumpur, and it is hoped that it will be completed in readiness for the through night service to Singapore which it is proposed to inaugurate in July next.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The principal buildings under construction during this year are the Lunatic Asylum at Tanjong Rambutan, which it is expected will be opened in April; the Survey Offices in Kuala Lumpur, which should be completed in December; the Land and Survey Offices, Seremban, already completed; Barracks for the Police and Guides; House for the Judicial Commissioner at Ipoh, and Quarters for various officers and subordinates. The Quarantine Camp at Pulau Jerejak, which is being constructed by the Straits Government for the Federated Malay States, will it is anticipated be completed by the end of March.

Plans have been completed for the Water Supply to the Coast Estates in Selangor, the jungle has been cleared at the head works and everything is in readiness for the pipes which have been ordered from the Crown Agents.

In 1911 the principal works it is proposed to undertake include a preparatory School for Malays at Kuala Kangsar; a new house for the Resident General at Kuala Lumpur; a Hospital for Ipoh; Police Barracks, Post Office and Public Offices at Tapah; Post Office at Kuala Kangsar; Offices and Quarters in the N.W. Territory; extension of river Embankment, Kuala Lumpur; extension of Waterworks, Kuala Lumpur; reclamation of Batu Road swamp; and additions to various hospitals.

The programme of road extension includes roads from Changkat Lobak to Bukit Merah in Krian, Klian Intan to Muda River in Upper Perak, Lahat to Sungei Raia in Kinta, Telok Datoh to Bangi in Ulu Langat, Rantau to Ulu Sawah in Negri

Sembilan, and the Kuantan-Benta main road in Pahang with a cart-road to it from Lubok Paku.

TRADE.

Trade has been good throughout the Federated Malay States, and there have been considerable increases in both imports and exports. The cultivated rubber exported during the first six months of 1910 amounts to over five million pounds against under $2\frac{1}{2}$ million pounds for the corresponding period of 1909. The export of tin has declined somewhat in quantity but has increased in value. A sign of the increased prosperity is the fact that the import into Selangor of cycles, motor cars and accessories for the first six months of this year is greater than for the whole year of 1909.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

In 1909 there were no cases of cholera and but five cases of smallpox; this year, I regret to say, there has been a severe outbreak of cholera in the Pekan district, and a number of cases in Selangor, while there have been outbreaks of smallpox in Perak, Selangor and Negeri Sembilan.

Attention has been given during the year

to the drainage of swamps which might prove breeding places of malaria carriers; votes for the purpose will also be found in the 1911 Estimates.

A committee was appointed to consider the question of estate sanitation; legislation has been prepared to give effect to their recommendations, and it is proposed to constitute in 1911 a separate branch of the Medical Department to deal with public health.

LABOUR

The number of statute immigrants and unindentured coolies who came to the Federated Malay States in 1909 was 26,700; for the first eight months of the present year the number is over 45,000.

Satisfactory as these numbers are, the increased demand for estate labour requires that they should be supplemented from other sources, and Chinese labour is being recruited vigorously. Legislation for the control of this labour will be placed before you during the present session.

The condition of indentured labour in the Federated Malay States has received the attention of Government and the report of a Commission appointed to investigate will be laid before you.

PLANTING AND AGRICULTURE

The area of land alienated for agriculture during 1909 was about 140,000 acres; this year, apart from native holdings applications for some 300,000 acres for rubber and 36,000 acres, mostly in Lower Perak, for coconuts, have been approved.

The Department of Agriculture has been strengthened this year by the addition of two mycologists and a chemist, next year it is proposed to add an economic botanist and an assistant entomologist to the staff.

MINING.

The output of tin continues to decrease slightly, but it is hoped that the reduction in tin duty, better prices, and the decrease in working costs consequent upon the introduction of improved methods, will enable the less accessible deposits to be worked profitably. The Geologist, moreover, holds out hopes in a report which will shortly be published, that in certain localities a further deposit of ore may be found underlying the layers which have been already mined. The Raub Australian Gold Company continues to give good returns, and enquiries from influential quarters are being received as to the Rawang coal area.

LEGISLATION.

Six Enactments were passed by this Council in 1909, and three at the first meeting this year.

With the constitution of a Federal Council legislating for the four States of the Federation, it has seemed desirable that the earlier legislation of the separate States should, so far as possible, be re-enacted as a body of Federal laws. For this purpose a Commission has been appointed, with His Honour the Chief Judicial Commissioner at its head.

A joint Commission for the Straits and Federated Malay States has been appointed to consider and report with a view to the assimilation of the stamp laws of the two Governments.

GENERAL

The Development Agency in London, the establishment of which was advocated by the unofficial members of this Council, was opened on the 1st instant. The appointment of Agent has been accepted by Sir William Taylor and that of Deputy Agent by Mr Dykes, and, I think, both of these appointments will commend themselves to you. I have not yet received the names of the Advisory Committee, but I hope that places may be found on it for some of those who have served on this Council and have now left us.

A satisfactory feature of the year under review has been the increased interest taken in the Volunteer movement; the numbers of the Selangor Company have been largely increased and a Company has been formed in N. gri Sembilan.

Next year the only farms remaining will be the Gaming Farms. The abolition of the farm system was decided on in order to ensure to Government a more complete control of the opium and spirit trades, and so far as the spirit trade is concerned it is believed that a considerable improvement has already been effected, both in the quality of the spirits supplied and in the conditions of the places where they are consumed.

The position of its subordinates has had the attention of the Government, and a loan fund has been instituted, to which in cases of genuine misfortune subordinates may have recourse instead of to the professional moneylender.

A scheme has been introduced for the employment of Malays in the Public Service, which provides an incremental, and it is hoped not inadequate, scale of salary for boys of the vernacular schools, while it opens to those more highly educated a path to a satisfactory career in the Civil Service.

An officer has been deputed by the Colonial Office to enquire into the pay and prospects of officers of the Civil Service, as to which the dissatisfaction of the Service is shared in a large measure by the general community. It is the earnest desire of the Government that by some rearrangement and reorganisation any legitimate grounds for that dissatisfaction may be removed.

without adding unduly to the public burdens.

Steps have been taken to prepare for the Census next year; the Superintendent of Census has taken up his duties, and the necessary legislation will be laid before you at this session.

We propose to lay before you for consideration a lengthy list of Enactments, involving I fear an arduous session. But in a country expanding so rapidly as this,

with conditions constantly changing and in the life of which the Government necessarily has to take so large a part, new legislation is an inevitable necessity.

The drafts of the measures have been, as required by the Agreement which forms our Constitution, before the public for some time, and we look to you, gentlemen, who more especially represent that public, to assist us in placing them on the Statute Book in a form which will meet as far as possible the wishes of the public in regard to them.

That is the object for which you have been called to assist us in advising the Rulers in this Council, and I hope I need not assure you that your advice and criticism will be gratefully received and carefully considered.

Since this Council met here last year we have suffered the loss of the valuable services of Mr Harrison, who enjoyed in a special manner the confidence of the planting community; and also, though temporarily we hope, the services of Mr Osborne and Mr Robson.

We have lost also the services of Sir W. Taylor, whose intimate knowledge of the affairs of the country and extensive experience of Council work proved of inestimable value at that meeting. Owing to his quiet unobtrusive character I am afraid that the public in some measure failed to appreciate the great ability and many sterling qualities which he brought to the Public Service in which he never spared himself. I have lost in him not only a valued and loyal colleague, but also a very dear friend. His services will still be, I am glad to say, at our disposal in London, but I am sure that all those who had the privilege of knowing him intimately will feel with me that that

him intimately will feel with me that this is but poor compensation for the loss of his active services here.

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Last Updated 29 Oct 2019