

THE LUSHAI HILLS DISTRICT COVER

Mizoram State Library

17797



**THE TRIBAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE
GOVT. OF MIZORAM
AIZAWL
1980**

THE LUSHAI HILLS DISTRICT COVER

by
Major A. G. McCall O. B. E.
Indian Civil Service

| |
|---------------------------------|
| State Library, Mizoram, Aizawl. |
| Accession Number 27342 |
| Date of Receipt 15.4.94 |
| Supplier Tribal Research |
| Price |
| MARANATHA PRINTING PRESS |

on behalf of
THE TRIBAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE
GOVT. OF MIZORAM
AIZAWL

Mizoram State Library
17797



Printed and Published by
MARANATHA PRINTING PRESS
Aizawl, Mizoram.
on behalf of
THE TRIBAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE
Govt. of Mizoram
Aizawl.

First Edition : 1980.

Printed at
Sreeguru Press
Gauhati-781011.

A NOTE

For facilities of scholars engaged in research on various aspects of Mizo Culture and History, this book is printed by the Tribal Research Institute Aizawl, with the help of grants received from the Department of Education, Mizoram.

**Tribal Research Institute
Govt. of Mizoram,
Aizawl.**

***C. Laitanga*
Senior Research Officer.**

No. 7876G/1-8(a)

From :

The Superintendent, Lushai Hills.

To :

The Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh.

Dated Aijal, the 17th September, 1948.

Subject : LUSHAI HILLS DISTRICT COVER.

Ref : Your No. 1269 D/C/X-8 of 6.9.1948.

The Lushai Hills District Cover is a detailed review of standing orders, rules and policies applicable to the administration of the Lushai Hills and current at the time of its compilation.

Copy of letter No. 4720 g.s. of 7.11.1938 from the Secretary to the Governor of Assam to the Commissioner, Surma Valley and Hill Division and which was the finishing touch in the official recognition of the District Cover is sent herewith. It has been in force since the above date.

Sd/- L. L. Peters,
Superintendent, Lushai Hills.

Forwarded by :

Sd/-

Asstt. Superintendent,
Lushai Hills.

NOTE

The District Cover (of Lushai Hills) by Mr. McCall is a valuable official document prepared in 1938-39. It is reproduced for references.

Dated Aizawl,
the 16th June, 1972.

Research Officer,
Mizoram, Aizawl.

INDEX TO LUSHAI HILLS DISTRICT COVER

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| Section "A" Introduction and Dis- | |
| trict Formation | pp 1-11 |
| (a) Introduction | |
| (b) Formation of District | |
| Section "B" Legislation | pp 11-16 |
| (a) Introductory | |
| (b) Original and subsequent No- | |
| tification excluding and | |
| extending legislation to the | |
| territories constituting the | |
| Lushai Hills | |
| Section "C" General Administration | pp 16-48 |
| (a) General | |
| (b) Standing Orders under Gene- | |
| ral Administration | |
| (c) Chiefs | |
| (d) Standing orders re. duties of | |
| chiefs | |
| (e) Succession and Appointment | |
| of chiefs | |
| (f) Method of General Adminis- | |
| trative control by Circle System | |
| (I) Circles | |
| (II) Lushai Clerk | |
| (III) Duties of Lushai Clerk | |
| (IV) Duties of Circle Interpreters | |

Section "D" Civil Police **pp 48-64**

- (a) Policy
- (b) Administration
- (c) Standing orders for guidance of Civil Police
- (d) The Police Jurisdiction of all Thanas
- (e) Special instructions to be followed in drawing up proceedings against Police Officers

Section "E" Control of Foreigners **pp 64-78**

- (a) Policy
- (b) Strict Regulation of entry into Lushai Hills, controlled by Inner Line Regulation
- (c) Authors personal views on the question of non Lushai settlements

Chakma settlement in South Lushai Hills

Section "F" Personal Residence Surcharge **pp 78-87**

- (a) Policy
- (b) Authority for collection of personal residence Surcharge
- (c) Standing Orders for the working of this department

Section "G" Settlements which differ in circumstances from ordinary Lushai Hills villages under chiefs or Headmen **pp 87-117**

(iii)

- (a)
 - I. Aijal
 - II. Tree cutting
 - III. Jhuming
 - (1) Policy
 - (2) Rules to maintain policy
 - IV. Shopkeepers
 - (a) Policy
 - (b) Rules to support policy
 - V. Gardens
 - VI. Cattle
 - (1) Policy
 - (2) Rules to support policy
 - VII. General Orders
 - VIII. Orders Specially applicable to relations between public and Assam Rifles.
- (b) Champhai Settlement
 - I. History
 - II. Description of Champhai Reserve.
 - III. Standing Orders governing the conduct of the Champhai Settlement
 - IV. Headmen
- (c) North Vanlaipahi Settlement
 - I. History
- (d) Tuisenhna Leilet
- (e) Sairang
- (f) Kolasib
- (g) Mile 45
- (h) Lungleh
 - I. Policy
 - II. Standing Orders to support policy
- (i) Demagiri

Section "H" Taxes, Tribute and Labour pp 117-137

- (a) Policy
- (b) Taxes and Tribute levied under schedule District Act.
- (c) Legality and schedule of taxes
- (d) Special rate for Chaltlang
- (e) Standing Orders, House Tax
- (f) Gurkha Mauzadars Commission
- (g) Land Revenue and shop taxes
 - (1) Policy
 - (2) Standing Orders
 - (3) Exemptions
- (h) Grazing Tax
 - (a) Policy
 - (b) Standing Orders
- (i) Impress Labour
 - (1) Policy
 - (2) Regulations governing impressment
 - (3) Standing Orders
 - (4) Local exemptions

Section "I" Transport Department not printed.

Section "J" Arms and Ammunition pp 138-149

- (a) Policy
- (b) Application of Indian Arms Act.
- (c) Rules consequent on issue of above application
- (d) Standing Orders for control of weapons.
- (e) Standing Orders re. ammunition

Section "K" Judicial

pp 149-185

- (a) Criminal
- (b) Special orders to ensure required formalities in death sentence cases are observed
- (c) Rules for Superintendent of Jails in above connection
- (d) Standing orders governing appearance of Pleader
- (e) Standing orders in relation to criminal matters.
- (f) Civil Justice
- (g) General standing orders Civil Justice
- (h) Special methods for dealing with N.C.O's and Riflemen Military Police
- (i) General Standing orders judicial
- (j) Panchayats and Judicial jurisdiction
- (k) Border Meeting Courts
 - (1) Policy
 - (b) Basis of procedure

Section "L" Loans Department

pp 185-192

- (a) Policy
- (b) Grants to loans isolated Villages in distress.
- (c) Large scale loans
- (d) Standing orders
- (e) Method for repayment
- (f) General . . .

Section "M" Forest Department pp 193-213

- (a) Scope and Policy
- (b) Produce not exported via Karnaphuli
- (c) Produce exported via Karnaphuli
- (d) Lushai Hills Inner Line Forest Reserve bordering on Cachar
- (e) Orders concerning cultivation within one mile of executive reserve
- (f) Orders governing extraction of timbers for dugouts by Lushais for their own consumption
- (g) Orders to cover position of Assam Rifles and supply of Forest produce at Aijal.
- (h) Orders concerning orange gardens
- (i) P. W. D. Lands
- (j) General Forest Orders not covered by above
- (k) Orders for supervision of Forests
- (l) Orders for control of shoot-
ing of and preservation of game

Section "N" Agricultural Department pp 214-218

Section "O" Education pp 218-229

- (a) Policy
- (b) Salient points.
- (c) Chiefs sons rations
- (d) Construction of buildings
schools and masters **Author's Note**

| | |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Section "P" Pounds | pp 229 |
| Section "Q" Public Works Department | pp 229-241 |
| (a) Policy | |
| (b) Details | |
| I. History | |
| II. Constitution | |
| III. Functions | |
| IV. Verification, Bills, stores | |
| V. Communications | |
| (Melvengs, building, | |
| Awmpuis, Phaltus, | |
| roadside jhuming). | |
| VI. Building | |
| VII. Contracts | |
| VIII. Works Establishment | |
| IX. Relations with other Civil Officers | |
| Section "R" Office Administration | pp 241-250 |
| (a) Policy | |
| (b) Duties of the Head Clerk | |
| (I) Maintenance of General | |
| Cash Book | |
| (II) Remittance by Head | |
| Clerk to Treasury | |
| (III) Permanent Advance | |
| (IV) Executive duties | |
| (V) Budget | |
| (VI) Care of orders by superintendent | |
| Section "S" General | pp 250-289 |
| (a) General | |
| (b) Trade | |

- (c) Circuit House
- (d) Medical
- (e) Supplies
- (f) Boats
- (g) Outbreak of epidemic disease
- (h) Migration and Border Meetings
- (i) Registration on cultivation
- (j) Registration
- (k) Wild animal rewards
- (l) Political Reports
- (m) Allocation of duties of Officers
- (n) Treasury
- (o) Officers' recess
- (p) Religion in Lushai Hills
- (q) Relationship between
Missions, Lushai Church
and the Administration
- (r) Lushai Hills Cottage Industries

Section "T" Postal pp 289-291

Section "U" Welfare pp 291-306

- (a) Policy
- (b) Village Welfare Committee
Procedure

Author's Note on Motor
Road within Lushai Hills.

DISTRICT COVER

Introduction and District Formation.

(a) INTRODUCTION, :

On April 1st 1898 the tracts, formerly known as the North and South Lushai Hills, were amalgamated into the District of the Lushai Hills and, with the exception of the addition of a small tract of Cachar and the tract known as the Zongling area, the District had remained the same ever since.

On the formation of the District notifications were issued to remove all Government of India and provincial enactments applicable elsewhere within British India, from operation within the Lushai Hills, with the exception of certain Acts which were specifically introduced.

The District of Lushai Hills was, moreover, brought under the provisions of the Assam Frontier Tracts Regulation 1880 and notifications were issued under the provisions of this Act and the Scheduled District Act, 1874.

Under the rule-making powers of the Scheduled Districts Acts certain rules were issued with the sanction of the Governor-General in Council and the Chief Commissioner of Assam and further instructions were issued by the Chief

Commissioner amplifying the details of the manner in which the rules were to be followed.

Now after nearly 40 years of existence there are on record amplifications of the original notifications, alterations and omissions. moreover, there are over 1,500 standing orders, many redundant and obsolete, which have been passed from time to time by successive Superintendents to amplify control.

In order to consolidate existing conditions without omitting any unrevoked directions, an up-to-date set of instruments of instruction are conveyed in the ensuing pages.

Moreover, in 1936 by order of the King's most Excellent Majesty in Council, Lushai Hills was declared to be an excluded area under the Government of India Act by order 348Fr. dated April 15th, 1936.

The staff at Aijal is larger than that at Lungleh and moreover the Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh is away frequently on long tours when the station is left without an officer. In these circumstances care which is possible at Aijal cannot be compelled at Lungleh and against this loss of control by an officer at Lungleh must be set the economy occasioned by the employment of only one officer. Nevertheless, the principles enunciated throughout should be attempted, even at Lungleh, whenever this is possible.

It is clearly desirable to encourage uniformity of practice and, therefore, only that procedure or those orders which apply speci-

fically to Lungleh, and not elsewhere, have been included separately in the rules.

The fundamental fact that this district is run very greatly by the chiefs and Headmen exercising specific powers conferred by Government should never be lost sight of. The work actually done by the Chiefs is real and valuable and the existing system should not be weakened without very good cause, for the economy and success in running the district is due, very greatly, to the position the Chiefs hold.

It follows very strongly, therefore, that Government desires no changes to be made without full ventilation of the necessity, considered in full relation to the other existing factors.

It is not anticipated that changes will not be made and that further cogent orders for the better Government and control of the district will not be necessary from time to time but such orders, when under consideration, should be in pursuance of the principles contained in these rules and standing orders, unless there is strong reasons for departure.

This district is exposed to the danger of orders being passed merely because they have been successful elsewhere ; but the success of procedure elsewhere is no guarantee of success when applied in this district. The economic basis of the district has a bearing also which should never be forgotten. Though there may be resources of man power and staple crops which militate against any intense starvation, no means

at present exists to transform these resources into currency. The result is that economically the district is only sustained on its invisible import in the shape of P.W.D. payment, salaries, and Battalion disbursements. Consequently any direction, innovation, or currency levy, which entails the production of coin involves a scramble, immediate or protracted, for some portion of these invisible imports. Unless this elemental fact is appreciated intimately, energetic officers full of good intentions will be liable to impose calamitous and heart-rendering hardship on a generally most amenable and law-abiding folk.

However, in the the month of May 1936 the Lushai Hills Cottage Industries was first inaugurated with a view to directing the Lushai's indigenous talent for weaving into marketable channels. At the time of preparation of this 'cover' it is too early to presume the future. But within the first year's experience it can safely be said that given energetic direction and the will to work on the part of the Lushais the future holds a conception of material welfare which it has never previously been possible to have imagined. It should be possible to work up this industry so successfully that the regular national income should reach two and a half lakhs of rupees instead of the paltry half lakh which is obtained by direct sales under uncontrolled conditions of plains traders.

Any Standing Orders given below are not intended to extinguish the requirements of the

various Departmental Manuals of the Government of Assam which should invariably be followed, unless such a course is shown to be impossible. But so many of the requirements of the District administration find no parallel in these Manuals that the compilation of this record of practice and custom may be of great use to Officers serving in these Hills.

The practice of holding Hills Conferences in Shillong so wisely instituted by His Excellency Sir Robert Reid, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.C.S., at the instance of the Secretary to His Excellency Mr. J. P. Mills, I.C.S., will, however, mark a stage in the history of Hill Administration which in importance will only be rivaled by the very results which will surely accrue therefrom.

The ensuing volume may be, for want of any better name, termed the Lushai Hills District Cover and has been prepared to replace its inspiration, namely the original Rules and Standing Orders prepared by Major John Shakespear, C.I.E., S.D.O., I.A., duly approved by the Governor General in Council under Notification No. 978-P April 1st 1898.

It is to the existence of these above rules and orders that we owe that measure of preservation of the character of District Administration, which now exists today. But if such rules were then necessary they are trebly more necessary today. The ensuing District Cover has been amended to amplify those original rules and orders including the effects of all Notifications issued from time to time for all depart-

ments, together with all Notification No. 978-P mentioned above. The Notifications covered in this letter respect include the following :—

No. 12522 J dated November 29th 1906.

No. 5803 P dated July 27th 1915.

No. 4202 P dated May 28th 1934.

The very numbers of the above Notifications are in themselves sufficient justification for the production of the ensuing volume at a time when the position of this District under the Government of India Act 1935 has become more clear than at any time in its history.

Furthermore, the need for this District Cover has become specially necessary when it is realised that in its preparation well over 1,500 executive s'anding orders passed by Transitory District Officers have had to be examined - amplified - or replaced to find a concise and more final form under appropriate chapters of the Cover.

One further reason of great importance is to minimise the confusion and clash which can so easily arise when Departmental Heads, operating under a popularly elected ministry have, in addition, to advise and often prescribe measures for such Districts as the Lushai Hills in which entirely different standards, customs and Administration principles are involved.

There is one fundamental difference in the functions of a District Officer in any Hill District from those of his counterpart elsewhere. He has the opportunity, as well as the responsibility, for conceiving a policy on lines which

will not only offer the peoples committed to his charge conditions suitable for their natural development along lines appropriate to indigenous requirements but one which will also sustain the whole morale of the people at a healthy and high level.

The civil officers charged with the administration of the district have it, therefore, as their special responsibility the duty of ensuring as far as possible, the maintenance of indigenous custom and the cultural framework of communal custom as envisaged in the note of introduction to this cover.

The chief forces at work influencing the people away from their indigenous culture are the Missions and their staffs with individual exceptions working in the hills, education, and occasional contact with people and goods, which are not Lushai. There are thus bound to be some points of difference between the officers or Government charged with preserving the people against themselves in their rush to follow new ideas and the above forces which aim at, and are constantly at work on influencing the people away from their indigenous culture. While it is generally recognised that changes are inevitable, it is hoped that all who are engaged in the service of the people will so order their approach to their task as to ensure that when changes are sought or sanctioned that the change is one which comes from the people themselves and is not one which is the result of superimposition from a very few citizens with more advanced

views, acquired as a result of experiences which are not available to the masses. If this ideal is earnestly held in view, it would not appear beyond the bounds of hope that the people may benefit from a gradual equipment to meet changing conditions—but those at work must in true sincerity realise that superficial and spectacular innovations, superimposed from above, are unlikely to stand the test of time. Failure in this respect would surely result in the last state of affairs being sadly worse than the first.

Civil Officers are, therefore, commended to direct their energies to conveying by appropriate means a sense of confidence and pride to the people - especially in all that can be considered sound in indigenous culture, while keeping a watching brief to ensure that the people are not being subjected to superimposed influences running directly counter to custom which, if persisted in, might have a disastrous effect on the masses throughout the hills. It should always be borne in mind that there is a great difference in offering to a Hill people some measure of relief approved by Government - it being in the option of the people to accept or refuse - and offering to such a people a message or direction of God the refusal of which may be accompanied by a feeling in the minds of the people that they are in some spiritual danger or confusion consequent on their defiance of, or displeasure by, the "spirit".

The Lushais are mentally very agile minded, show considerable intelligence, but in character

are not as yet sufficiently tenacious nor far thinking enough for their statements of desires to be given the weight of more than a mere expression of transitory opinion. They are traditionally imbued with a spirit complex, together with a bias to excess in all things, factors which must warn the administrator of the pitfalls which may attend the launching of enthusiastic changes in their ordinary lives.

A people capable of such physical endurance and prowess cannot be said to be lazy but without belief in an enterprise nor a real desire for its attainment any effort usually made is not more than a mere make-believe. On the credit side it can be said safely that these people are endowed with a very high intelligence, great natural physical courage and endurance and if kept from constant changes of front and ideas have it in them to take their place with anyone.

As far as possible marginal documentations are quoted, and where these are not quoted it may be inferred that there are old standing orders providing a substantial basis or that the views are those of the author, in which case will, when possible, be made clear. But even though the details of orders may change as found necessary from time to time only a very radical fundamental change will remove the entire need for some such standing orders from time to time.

A District with such individuality as this has could not hope to survive without some form of codified acceptances any more than Government could hope to sustain continuity of

practice by scrapping the Multitudinous Manuals of direction now in use.

Two-thirds of the land is inhabited by Lushais but in the South especially modifications in ideas and principles will for many years be necessary in dealing the Pawi and the Lakhers who are almost racially, very different to the Lushai and who follow very different custom and communal living.

In the preparation of this Cover I am indebted to the Superintendent's Head Clerk, Pu Sainghinga Lushai, whose meticulous industry, unfailing co-operation, and often advice have made this presentation fairly accurate and complete. If it is half the use of succeeding Superintendents as Mr. Parry's excellent monograph on customs has been to the author (not to speak of his authoritative work on the Lakhers of the South Lushai Hills) the author's labour to present a book of reference to preserve the continuity of administration, which he inherited, for the good Government of the people and for the preservation of their vital interests, will not have been in vain.

(b) FORMATION OF DISTRICT

The present District has been composed by the amalgamation of the original Southern portion under Bengal with the portion originally occupied by Assam, both these areas being subsequently enlarged by the additions of portion from Cachar and Lakher land on the borders of Assam.

The Notifications governing the above are :--
Governor General in Council Proclamation No. 1697-E dated September 6th 1895.

Eastern Bengal Proclamation No. 591E.B. dated April 1st 1896.

Government of India Foreign Department Proclamation No. 1698-E dated 6th September, 1895.

Notification No. 592 E.B. Governor General in Council dated April 1st 1898.

Notification No. 1093-P dated 16th March 1904.

Notification No. 5232 A.P. dated 26 th August 1931 read with Governor General in Council Notification No. 475 X dated July 30 th 1931.

The whole boundary of the District was declared by Notification No. 2106 A-P dated March 9th 1933 and these boundaries were declared therein to be coincident with the Inner Line of the Lushai Hills.

The Lushai Hills was originally placed under the charge of a Superintendent by Notification No. 977 dated April 1st 1898.

SECTION B.

(a) INTRODUCTORY :

Given below (b) I is the Notification No. 920 P dated April 1st 1893 which was passed on the formation of the District in order to exclude all Government of India and Provincial Acts

from operation within the Lushai Hills with the exception of a few which were specially prescribe for application.

Logically, therefore a similar notification should have been passed yearly for legally it was found later that such acts passed subsequently to 1898 applicable within British India, were definitely and without compromise applicable to Lushai Hills, Lushai Hills being a part of British India. To remedy this incongruous position partially certain acts were again specifically excluded in 1934 and these are given below (b) XXI, XXII, XXIII. There are, however, a number of acts passed subsequently to 1898 which have not yet so far been specically excluded, but in the opinion of the author the trouble involved in remedyng this position may well be postponed until such time as situation arises which discloses any embarrassment to the Administration or hardship to the people.

For the future the provision has now been properly safeguarded under the Government of India Act 1935 by the provisions of Section 92(I).

It is unfortunate that the provisions of Section 92(I) were not operative in 1919 for, since the reforms then introduced, much legislation has been passed - often very properly suitable for conditions under the Councils but quite out of tune with conditions and the administrative equipment within the excluded areas.

The author commends that the provisions of Section 92(I) be taken as a fresh reminder that the simpler the administration is kept the

more efficacious and economical it will be for the Government - but to follow this ideal the accountancy department should undoubtedly contain that provision for understanding the excluded areas which has specially been made by the Government of India Act 1935. It is quite inconsistent to attempt to run a district on the lines provided for in the Act on the one hand while the accounts branches of Government on the other hand are permitted to make the most meticulous demands, not dissimilar to those made on the administration elsewhere which is often extensive and regulated to almost the last degree. For so long as the policy of cheap, efficacious, and speedy disposal of all administrative matters is desirable and followed a corresponding latitude must be provided for the accounts department in order to permit them also to adjust themselves to the conditions which are prevalent and peculiar to those pertaining in the excluded areas.

We now proceed to recapitulate the various notifications which govern the conduct of administration in so far as the purely legal aspect is concerned.

(b) Original and subsequent Notifications excluding and extending legislation to the territories constituting the Lushai Hills :

Exclusions of appropriate

- | | | |
|----------------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------------------|
| Acts on formation of District in 1898 | i. | Notification No. 920P Dated April 1st 1898. |
| Application of Scheduled District Act. | ii. | Notification No. 921P dated 1.4.1898. |

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Extension of Elephants Preservation Act. | iii. | Notification No. 923P dated April 1st 1898. |
| Extension of Certain Act. | vi. | Notification No. 922P dated 1.4.1898. |
| Further extension of Elephants Preservation Act and rules thereunder. | v. | Notification No. 1097 P dated March 16th 1904. |
| Extension of Assam Frontier Regulation. | vi. | Notification No. 592 E.B. dated the 1st April 1898. |
| Extention of existing Acts or added area of District. | vii. | Notification No. 1092 P dated 16.3.1904. |
| Criminal Procedure Code exclusion-and extension of in modified form. | viii. | Notification No. 3151 J dated 4.8.1898. |
| Exclusion of Legislation valid for Cachar on a portion being added to Lushai Hills. | ix. | Notification No. 1094 P dated 16.3.1904. |
| Extension of certain Acts to portion see Para IX above. | x. | Notification No. 1096 P dated 16.3.1904. |

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Further extension of Elephant Preservation Act to added portions of Lushai Hills. | xi. | Notification No. 1097 P dated March 16th 1904. |
| Extension of Agriculturists' Act to District. | xii. | Notification No. 2 A.G. dated 4.1.1910. |
| Invalidation of Indian Registration Act. | xiii. | Notification No. 1941 G dated 9.10.1911. |
| Extension of Chin Hills Regulation in a modified form. | xiv. | Notification No. 784P dated 9.10.1911. |
| Invalidation of Excise Act E.B.A. to Lushai Hills. | xv. | Notification No. 65 M.D. dated 10.11.1911 |
| Extension of Preservation of Cruelty to Animals Act in modified scope. | xvi. | Notification No. 5430 dated 9.9.1920. |
| Extension of Assam Land Revenue Regulation in modified Form. | xvii. | Notification No. 994 R dated 16.3.1929. |
| Extension of Indian Stamp Act in a modified form. | xviii. | Notification No. 15418 (a) dated April 10th 1930. |

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Extension of Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation. | xix. | Notification No. 9101 A. P. dated August 28th 1930. |
| Extension of Indian Arms Act in modified form. | xx. | Notification No. 4505 G. J. dated 26.5.1933. |
| Specific exclusion of Certain Acts. | xxi. | Notification No. 5868 A. P. dated 8th September 1934. |
| Application of Limitation to Non-Natives of Lushai Hills. | xxii. | Notification No. 5872 A.P. dated 8th September 1934. |
| Exclusion of Gladders and Farcy Act in modified from. | xiv. | Notification No. 5690, 5691 dated 11.6.1936. |

SECTION C.

(a) General :

No. 12522 J dated 29. 11. 1906 and Govt, of India (excluded and partially excluded areas) 1936, order.

- (i) The Administration of the District known as the Lushai Hills is vested in the Governor of Assam, acting under his Excellency the Viceroy and the Governor General in India, the District executive Administration being vested in the Superinten-

dent of the Lushai Hills, his Assistants and the Chief and Headmen of Villages.

The District is subdivided into two subdivisions-the North with Headquarters at Aijal and the South with Headquarters at Lungleh under the charge of a Subdivisional Officer.

These subdivisions are further divided into Circles comprising a number of villages for easy control.

(ii) Note : .

The position is now that a set of conditions have grown up within the framework of the original directions for the administration of the Lushai Hills as contemplated by notification 973 P dated April 1st 1898 and reprinted in full on page 6 of the Superintendent's copy of the District Cover. There have been slight alterations in points of detail since, but substantially the author is of the opinion that the District Cover constitute a record of conditions as they are today. It should, therefore, be taken as a consolidating influence for the continuance of a system of rule which has for 40 years proved very suitable for its conception a very deep insight into the indigenous culture of the land and its people.

This system may be described broadly as follows: Chiefs, subject to good conduct and reasonable efficiency, are in hereditary charge of lands which have been demarcated. In return for the right to levy tribute from the people according to custom they are vested with certain

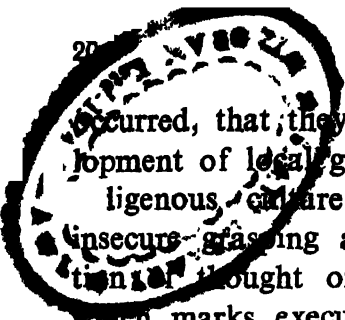
specific responsibilities for the good government of the people committed to their charge. They do not own the land and only have the hereditary right of cultivation and the use of forest produce for the people's own consumption.

Due to the wide area of the District and the fact that communication between the chiefs and Headquarters is only generally possible at marching pace a system of intelligence has been in vogue since the district was inaugurated by which the Superintendent can have some means for keeping within some form of touch with the chief. This system is the circle system and it provides for a staff of one Circle Interpreter and one chaprasi for each circle of 15 to 25 chiefs. This staff has no executive powers in relation to the manner in which the chiefs rule their villages and any executive duties they may perform are in accordance with orders specifically issued by the Superintendent, Lushai Hills, the Subdivisional Officer, Lungleh or the Assistant to the Superintendent acting on his behalf.

The cardinal principle is to administer the district through the chiefs - the circle staff forming the intelligence link between the Superintendent and the Subdivisional Officer, Lungleh and chiefs. Directions to the chiefs should, therefore, as far as possible be framed to enhance the position of chiefs rather than to weaken them. But in return for this consideration no effort should be spared to equip and guide chiefs into the ways that they should go. They must serve the people to continue to rule.

Enthusiastic local Officers should beware of any policies which are working, in effect, to abrogate from chiefs their powers at the price of ever increasing direct control by Government. Any such tendency would accelerate the downfall of the only system of its kind in Assam - a system of which it would do very well to perpetuate for many years.

The position of the chiefs is not always made easier by the executive staffs of the Missions working in the Hills. It is not possible to discourse on such a large subject as the methods employed by these executives to win the people to the way of their own thinking. But all district officers can do is to sustain custom until real, and not merely articulate, public opinion wishes, and is acting, a change - and to do this they must provide machinery of such a nature that it is suitable to indigenous conditions and one which, rather than taking the form of open conflict with the Mission executives, has for its object the equipment of the people for making their own decisions on mature and sober deliberations. Much useless misdirection of energy is spent by officers, in the opinion of the author, in regret that a people should make choices disrupting to communal integrity - but, in the face of spiritual and material attraction a people without confidence in the good which is already within them cannot but submit to changes. As was pointed out in the Introduction the duty of the administrator is to do all he can to ensure that where changes have to come, or even have



occurred, that, they should be the result of development of local genius within the framework of indigenous culture rather than the often too insecure grasping at some quite foreign conception of thought or worse the material glamour which marks executive association with Government as well as the Mission structures.

The author found that the best method of making contact with the chiefs for real work a day purposes was to call conference of chiefs on the routes for tour - no one being expected to attend these from further away than one day's march. This minimises discomfort and reasonable dis-satisfaction if, due to unforeseen reasons, the conferences have to be cancelled.

Such conferences would see from five to twelve or more chiefs present. Discussions are informal-sitting round as comfortably as possible. In this atmosphere it is more easy to ascertain what the troubles, hopes, or needs of the chiefs and the people are. At large gatherings the oratorical propensities of the Lushai are apt to get the upper hand when it is the oratory and not the objective which is the motive for the speech. Alternately some are too nervous or bored in a large gathering to be able to acquire any benefit. The author recommends the practice of these small conferences, for they do not involve any serious embarrassment concerning shelter, food etc., and they enable the Superintendent to deal at one sitting with a number of chiefs with any important matters a far more

satisfactory method than dealing repeatedly with individual chiefs while all are absorbed in marching from one bungalow, or village, to another.

For purposes of further collaboration, circles might be invited to select their chief or two chiefs, by vote among the chiefs themselves with a view to dealing with each representatives of exploratory conferences at Headquarters and as a preliminary to wide consultation of chiefs on any particularly burning problem.

The idea of such chiefs' conferences was first put to the author in any seriousness by Pu Makthanga, Khiangte chief and a holder of His Majesty's Jubilee Medal.

We may now proceed to the standing rules and orders - the aggregate result of experience over the last forty years, consolidated with the intention of further preserving of the system of rule and the general prevailing conditions and customs which have grown within the framework of the original methods introduced by Government on the recommendation of Colonel John Shakespeare.

The author has taken the view that the administrative machine should be adopted to fit conditions of liberty and enterprise rather than that it be permitted to cramp development. It is commended that where it is possible to encourage trade and development without avoidable clash with custom the administrative control should rather be adopted to support this than

to prevent it, a dangerous alternative and sometime the result of the desire for a comfortable uniformity - a condition which is unattainable in dealing with many communities with entirely differing ethics and conditions of living and culture.

(b) Standing Orders under General Administration :

AUTHOR (i) A copy of the whole of these instruments of instructions should be kept by officers as part of their working equipment when either in office or on tour.

AUTHOR (ii) Few of the General Acts are in force in the Lushai Hills. This imposes an additional responsibility on all officers to enquire that the absence of strict regulated control does not induce carelessness and ill-considered decisions ; rather must this condition demand more than ordinary care and consideration for the people in general. Where no direct conflict with custom arises, generally speaking, the principle of the General Acts should be followed when need arises.

Last para of Notifica- In the matter relating to
tion No. 2530 (a) A.P. Non-Lushais, who have not
dated 25.3.1937 accepted settlement under
Lushai custom, it is the
wish and policy of Government that Laws and
regulation applicable within the jurisdiction of

the popular Legislature be followed as far as possible without prejudice to the condition under which such parties are situated within the Lushai Hills and the orders contained in the Lushai Hills District Cover.

(iii) When cases and proceedings outside the realm of Lushai custom have to be taken up the principles of the Indian Penal Code and Criminal Procedure Code should be followed to ensure general simplicity and uniformity of procedure but nothing done contrary to these Act will be held Col. Shakespeare's original Notification reasserted as necessary. to vitiate proceeding unless specific injury has been suffered unfairly by a party or less an officers has failed to act in good faith.

(iv) Officers on tour should when necessary take out diaries of previous visits for reference and check-inspect the circle books that Circle Interpreter have to maintain, examine chiefs to see if they are conversant with their own duties and those of their Khawchhiars, check the number of houses in the villages from time to time, consider in what ways the material condition of the people can be improved, by improvement of earning power, water supply, health, communications etc.

(v) No officer may pass any standing orders without approval of the Superintendent, Lushai Hills who when he approves will enter in the District Cover, notify by publication, and include in an annual return to the Secretary to His Excellency through the Commissioner in the first week in January.

(c) CHIEFS

Govt. Notifi- The Chief and Headmen of vill-
 cation No. ages are held responsible for the
 2530 (a) A.P. behaviour of their people and the
 dt. 25.3.1937. Superintendent and his Assistants
 will uphold the authority of the
 chiefs to the best of their ability.
 All litigation should be discouraged and appeals
 should not be admitted against the orders of
 chiefs in petty casses.

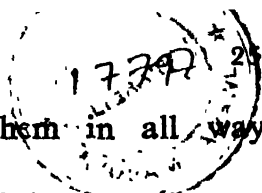
Chiefs are appointed by Government for
 the good government of the people in return
 for which they enjoy the privilege
 AUTHOR of cheftainship. Chiefs are res-
 ponsible for bringing to the notice
 of the Superintendent any distress
 AUTHOR or difficulties, no matter what the
 cause, under which their villagers
 may be suffering. In any case of doubt it is the
 duty of the chief to consult the Superintendent
 or the Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh.

(d) Standing Orders re. duties of chiefs.

All standing i. Orders concerning litigation will
 Orders con- be found under the head below of
 solidated by "Civil Justice".

Author. ii. All chiefs are responsible for the
 control of their villages in every way.

iii. It is the personal duty of a chief to
 know his villagers intimately, understand their
 lives, the difficulties of each of his villagers, and
 to do all in his power to raise their standard



of living and to encourage them in all ways possible.

iv. The chief is responsible for allotment of cultivation and for taking those measures which are necessary to ensure that the villages will be able to support themselves from year to year.

v. The chiefs will dispose off litigation in accordance with the District Rules for the disposal of Civil and Criminal justice, a copy of which Rules the chief is responsible for maintaining in his own language in such a way that he thoroughly understands his responsibilities and the rights of litigants.

vi. The Chief is responsible for supervising the work of his village Khawchhiar and that this officer is maintaining all the books and records required by the District Standing Orders for observance by Khawchhiars, which orders the chief is responsible for seeing are pasted in the Khawchhiar's book in a language he can understand.

vii. The chief is responsible for control of all matters which the Khawchhiar has been directed to manage on the chief's behalf.

viii. The chief is responsible for compliance with all district standing orders which have been communicated to him, copies of which he will keep properly filed for ready reference by himself or his Khawchhiar.

ix. The chief is responsible for maintenance of inter-village paths and the communication through his ram is possible throughout the year

unless calamitous floods or slips have created temporary difficulties beyond his control.

x. The chiefs must sign the House Tax assessment register prepared by the Circle Interpreters in token that they accept this as complete and accurate.

No one not in possession of a written slip signed by an officer may be left unassessed, chiefs are personally responsible that only those persons are recommended for exemption of house tax who come within the terms for exemption publish under the rules for assessment of house tax.

Exemption slip may only be issued after sanction has been given by Superintendent or Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh.

xi. It shall be the duty of the chiefs and Headmen of villages to report to the Superintendent or his Assistants all epidemics, heinous crime, violent deaths and serious accidents occurring within their jurisdiction, and all the inhabitants of the Lushai Hills are bound to give aid, when required to do so, for the maintenance of order or the apprehension of offenders.

In the case of any death which may be open to any suspicion that it is the result of foul play the chief, without any further orders, will at once without delay, cause the body to be sent to Headquarters for a Post-mortem examination accompanied by a detailed report. Where death is caused by accident unaccompanied by any suspicion of foul play, the body may be buried as usual.

xii. Chiefs are responsible that their Khawchhiars maintain a list of all gun - holders in their village and chiefs must report all variations for which the authority of the Superintendent or his Assistants is not clearly visible.

xiii. Chiefs outside the Surcharge areas are responsible for reporting the presence of any foreigner within their villages whether the man stays a night only or a few hours, provided that should the foreigner hold a pass from the Superintendent or his Assistants which he finds no reason to doubt no action need be taken by the chief beyond reporting as a routine matter to the Circle Interpreter at the first convenient opportunity.

xiv. Chiefs may not levy "Dawvankaina" no longer a customary due, which has for its object a Tax by chiefs on commercial transactions within their villages.

A chief is at liberty to stop the sales of foodstuffs from his village due to general shortage provided he reports his decision to Headquarters and is consistent once he has made the decision.

xv. Chiefs must not raise subscriptions from their villagers to build corrugated iron roofed houses. The villagers must, however, according to custom build the chief a large Lushai house and repair it free of cost.

If a chief wishes to erect a corrugated iron roof's house, he must pay for all the iron and screws etc. himself the villagers will erect it and make the dap, posts etc. according to custom.

In return for house building labour by the villagers it is desirable that chief should feed their villagers.

xvi. If a chief and his villagers decide to collect a cash subscription in the village for building a bridge or for any other purpose of public utility in the village, the money collected must be kept with the chief or Khawchhiar either and both of whom will be jointly responsible for its safe custody. The Khawchhiar will keep an account of all monies received and expended.

Once a man has subscribed to any such fund no complaint from him that he subscribed unwillingly and wants his money back will be entertained.

In villages where there are Welfare Committees it is desirable that all such village funds be maintained in one Village Welfare Committee account and duly accounted for by that member who has been elected Honorary Treasurer.

xvii. Description of the term "Hnatlang" or the customary duty of every citizen to village and chief.

(1) "Hnatlang" to be done for the village :— Building and repairing the Zawlbuk and Pum; building and repairing the School and Teacher's house; clearing all jungle in and around the village; clearing and fencing the water supply; clearing inter-village roads and building bridges over rivers crossed by village roads and various other works of this nature.

(2) If a chief wants his villagers to help him on other private work he will invite them in the usual way according to custom and those who are ready to work will do so and those who are not willing to do so, need not.

It is the custom in Lushai villages for all people to help each other and also to help the chief. This is known as "Inpui". This is a very good custom and should not be given up. Villagers should always do all they can to help each other and to help their chief and it is very shameful if people refuse to help.

xviii. FATHANG :

(1) The maximum rate at which chiefs may levy Fathang from ordinary villagers is six snowflake kerosine oil tins of unwinnowed paddy fully filled. The chief is at liberty to demand less.

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| People who have first choice of jhum- land. | Ramhuals may be given on mutual arrangement with chiefs by customs Fathang paid on jhum covers subsi- diary cultivation such as Leipuis. |
|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

(2) No Fathang may be levied on cotton cultivation provided the cultivator has a rice jhum capable of supporting him ; if he has not, chief may levy Fathang on cotton of one maund.

(3) No chief may allow an outsider to cultivate cotton within his land.

(4) Anyone not cultivating due to having sufficient foodstuff must pay Fathang at the usual rate of Rs. 2/- on demand by chief.

xix. Chiefs are responsible for seeing that the incidence of impressment falls evenly on all the villagers and on none more than others.

Chiefs may only nominate persons for Kuli Awl in accordance with the scale laid down under Impressment page 118.

The Chief has no gift of Kuli Awl within his power and breach of this renders the chief and the party both liable to punishment.

xx. Chiefs are responsible for the maintenance of Zawlbuks in proper condition. Government supports the custom of the Zawlbuk and do not desire its abandonment.

xxi. It is the Government's desire that chiefs of the Lushai Hills should do all in their power to support all Welfare Schemes.

xxii. With a view to assisting the people of the Lushai Hills to develop their indigenous genius along sound and sincere lines and to afford them some measure of protection against ill-considered and rapid disintegration the following village Code will be read out by the chief and explained where necessary to all village leaders once every month :-

1. We desire to maintain a wholesome respect for all that is best in our indigenous culture which bears the stamp of the hardly learned experience of our brave forefathers over time immemorial.

2. We desire to inspire in our people an ambition to maintain a true sense of proportion as to what wants and desires are reasonable in relation to our own natural resources and industry.

3. We desire to maintain strict loyalty to our chief in all things lawful and in all his efforts on behalf of the welfare of his people, in return for which the chief will serve the interests of his people so that he may continue to rule.

4. We desire to inculcate into one and all that we should display the same loyalty to our whole village community as we desire to practise towards our own families.

5. We desire to do all in our power to foster the indigenous spirit of **Tlawmngaihna** in our midst.

Public Spirit

6. We desire to integrate into our daily village lives, within the indigenous framework of our social system, what modern sciences and knowledge have discovered by strengthening and safeguarding our characters, and

Health

Homes

Crops

Industry

Possessions.

7. We desire to seek all useful channels for the greater use of our leisure time so that by our industry we may bring advantages to our families and our village as a whole-making

increasingly sincere efforts so to arrange our lives that we may relieve our womenfolk of some of the harder work, that we may spare them in the hope and belief that they will in their turn take increased trouble to rear finer children and make better food, clothes and happier and more united homes.

8. We desire to unite all in contesting our common tendency to be "mi hlema hle" (A form of Lushai conceit) while retaining just pride in their sincere achievement of all manly and courageous feats especially those undertaken for the protection of our community, as well as in the industrious successes of our wives and families in their homes and in their Schools.

9. Those of us who are Christians agree to recognise that we should bow to the authority of those who introduced us to Christianity and that we shall be disloyal to them if we do not submit to the discipline which it is their prerogative to demand.

10. We desire to inculcate into all our community the need for self-control and the avoidance of all excesses - a fault to which so many of us are subject and in the achievement of this self-control we desire further to inculcate a true spirit of willing service and discipline into the youngmen who are the nation of the future, recognising that without such proper and temperate discipline we cannot hope to be of any use to our clans, our families, or to any employers, or even to the faith which we may profess.

(e) Succession and appointment of chiefs.

Note—In former days the land now contained within the boundaries of the Lushai Hills was held by some 60 odd chiefs. The number has since grown to nearer 350 despite the warning of colonel Shakespear, the first Superintendent. The present condition is due in some degree to more permanent conditions of peace and settlement, but is also greatly due to the difficulty which has persisted in refusing chiefs with good records their desire to see their trusted sons established in villages before their death. Each division so made—establishes as new small dynasty separated from the main line and clearly is a practice that could not have continued indefinitely in the face of the general fecundity and comparative prosperity of the people of these hills.

To remedy this condition of affairs or atleast to prevent a continuance of this unsatisfactory tendency, His Excellency the Governor of Assam has passed the following instructions under Government of Assam letter No. 1505 G.S. dated 18th. August 1937 to the address of the Commissioner, Surma Valley and Hill Divn. :-

1. The succession to village lands of Sailo chiefs and clans will be regulated by the following rules :-

(i) The eldest legitimate son of a ruling chief will, unless debarred by youth or serious

physical or mental disability, inherit the lands of his Father's village.

(ii) If the eldest legitimate son be minor the Superintendent may, according to the circumstances of the case, either appoint the minor's mother and the customary council as guardians (provided that the mother observes such customary rules of chastity and other rules as are incumbent on a widow by Lushai custom), or may cause the succession to pass for life to the nearest male heir, who will ordinarily be the eldest surviving brother of the deceased chief or the eldest legitimate son of such a brother. The nearest male heir to whom a chieftainship passes on account of the youth of the legitimate heir shall hold the chieftainship for life only, and it shall then pass back to the original line.

(iii) If the eldest legitimate son of the deceased chief suffer, the opinion of the Superintendent, from such permanent mental or physical disability as to make him incapable of holding a chieftainship, the office shall pass to the next nearest male heir, but shall return to the original line after the death of that heir if there be a male heir of the original line capable of holding it.

(iv) Youngest sons will inherit their father's property according to custom.

(v) If and eldest son settled in an independent village dies without male issue the land and chieftainship of his village will revert to his father.

If the eldest son dies with male issue the succession will follow the rules of succession to the present chieftainship.

(vi) If a chief dies leaving only "Hmeifa" or illegitimate sons the succession will be considered on the merits of each individual case the above rules operating to debar claims by the deceased's younger brothers until the merits of claims by "Hmeifa" have been decided.

(vii) It is open to a chief to move the Superintendent to disinherit a son who would normally succeed him, in which case the Superintendent is required to call a Panchayat of fellow chiefs of the same clan. The Panchayat will consist of five members, of whom two will be nominated by the chief, two by the son and one by the Superintendent. The Superintendent will come to a finding and after setting out the relevant factors in the case will submit his recommendations to the Commissioner for orders.

II. His Excellency is of opinion that the partition of existing, and the formation of new, villages has already gone too far. He is therefore pleased to direct that until further orders no chieftainship is to be divided without his express consent, and to say that he desires the Superintendent to take every reasonable opportunity, such as the failure of heirs, gradually to abolish the smaller, newer chieftainships and to cause them to be reabsorbed as may be convenient in chieftainship of larger size.

III. His Excellency considers that it is of great importance to maintain the status and influence of the chiefs and considers that the experiment of Village Welfare Committees under the presidency of chiefs should be given a full trial.

IV. In order to implement the above instructions and guard against their disregard the following standing orders are framed :--

1. When it is necessary to allow a chief to place houses in an area far distant from his main village in order to cultivate land not easily accessible from the main site the following conditions should figure in the order.
2. Period should not exceed three years in first instance the pass to be invalid after three years unless specially renewed on an annual basis.
3. The establishment of the Camp village or Thlawhbawk will on no account lead to the establishment of a sub-village permanently.
4. If the chief concerned places a son or brother in charge of this Thlawhbawk this delegate will be subject to the direct control and authority of the chief and will have no claim whatever to permanency. If he makes any attempt on these lines the Superintendent should remove him at once in favour of a trusted Upa to be appointed by the chief.

5. Any such sub-settlement without the orders in writting of the Superintendent or the Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungeh is ultra vires and invalid and should be treated as an offence.
6. In cases where Thlawnbawks are near the main village, houses should not be of a main village type but Camp houses. If the Thlawbhawk is far distant in a large ram it would not be unfair to allow proper houses to be built subject to the above conditions of authority under Pass.
7. Special care should be taken to see that all such orders figures in the Circle Interpreter's temporary registers and that the Circle Interpreter makes a note mentioning the year when the Thlawhbawk is due to rejoin with the main village.

(f) Medhod of General Administrative control by Circle System.

I. CIRCLE

Author and standing orders Lushai Hills being an area of some 8,000 square miles sparsely populated by people living in villages dotted all over the area under chiefs and Head Men it was necessary to devise some means for keeping in touch with chiefs and for creating an intelligence machinery.

The system of grouping a number of villages into Administrative units, termed circles, was inaugurated by Colonel Shakespear and has remained to date. There are in all 13 circles in Aijwal and 7 in Lungleh.

Officers of the rank of Circle Interpreters, each aided by one Circle Chaprasi, have been placed in charge of circles and have been given various and varying instructions through the ages.

On the whole the system has been of use, but as a means of collection of intelligence and fact of political importance the personnel, generally speaking, have let the system down. The Lushai has yet to learn that if he is prepared to draw pay from Government he must in honour bound be prepared to render unto Ceasar that which is Ceasar's, or in short put Government's interests before his own popularity.

The system has great potentialities for good and with the selection of better educated and more responsible men it will prove progressively possible through the ages to induce from chiefs and villagers a very much higher standard of unity.

II. Lushai Clerk.

The post of Lushai Clerk is filled from the ranks of Circle Interpreters and has a great measure of responsibility as the smooth working

of some of the more troublesome sides of the Administration such as impressment and supplies, greatly depend on this officer. One with a flair for foresight and endowed with natural tact and sincerity can relieve the public of much inconvenience as well as needless and unfair trouble.

III. Duties of Lushai Clerk.

1. He is ex-officio President or Member of the Thakthing Panchayat, see page and he exercises the functions of chief in relation to control of Thakthing and Kulikawn at Aijal.

The Lushai Clerk at Lungleh is the President of Rahsiveng Panchayat and is responsible for the control of Rahsiveng. He is also responsible for the assessing and collection of Personal Residence Surcharge in Lungleh Station.

The residents of Lungleh non-Government servants will pay him "Sachhiah" irrespective of the ram where the animal is shot and chiefs of other villages will not be entitled to claim his due if any animals are shot by Rahsiveng resident in their ram.

2. He is responsible for calling in supplies as required on demand by Government Officers (Gazetted) and Members of the Mission.
3. He is responsible for the smooth working and control at all impressment, that demands are fair and spread.

4. He is responsible for the issue of all case and routine parwanas, for their writing and issue after initial of the clerk of the department concerned is taken that he accepts responsibility for the correctness of the parwana prepared.
5. On occasions when Lushai rice is required for issue the arrangements for calling this lie with him, acting on the general instructions of the Superintendent or the Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh from time to time.
6. He is responsible for the general control of Circle Registers.
7. He receives and compiles monthly vital statistics from Circle Interpreters and does this primary work for the statistical clerk who is responsible for the correctness of the final figures.
8. He is responsible for keeping a running check on all circle staff Travelling Allowances, and all proposed tours are first endorsed by him after watching Travelling Allowance grant and expenditure.

IV Duties of Circle Interpreters.

The duties of Circle Interpreters are numerous and far reaching but if taken intelligently and keenly are neither excessive nor arduous. Their performance depends on an intelligent and

unfailing application to duty, coupled with a methodical control of record and use of all important orders concerning any part of person of his circle.

Before recording the orders for Circle Interpreters it is as well to observe that some of their directions have a permanent significance and some are merely transitory. It is clear, therefore, that the permanent records should be encumbered with transitory materials as little as possible. Circle Interpreters are provided, therefore, with a lightly bound register for use within each current year, in which all orders of a purely current nature are to be recorded any notes the Circle Interpreter sees fit to enter. This register is handed in to the Lushai Clerk to be kept by him for a period of three years only when it will be destroyed. Before handing in their current registers Circle Interpreters extract orders and notes which still have a further temporary significance and these are taken up in the new register for the following year.

Permanent and standing records are entered in the Circle Interpreters' permanent registers described below.

The specific duties of the Circle Interpreters are as follows :—

(1) Preparation of House Tax Assessments.

He will prepare the village assessments in accordance with the Standing Orders under the head House Tax below at page.....

(2) Preparation of Vital Statistics :

1. The Khawchniar of each village will maintain a Birth Register in which the names of each child born, sex and father's name, will be recorded, with exact date of birth. The name must be entered as soon as the child is given a name.
2. He will record any deaths stating cause, class, and age, including still born children with details.
3. The Khawchhiar must submit reports of details less names monthly to reach the Circle Interpreter without fail by the seventh of the month succeeding that for which statistics have been compiled.
4. On receipt of all the returns the Circle Interpreter will incorporate these in his monthly return and submit as early as possible to the Superintendent or Sub-Divisional Officer to reach those officers not later than the 15th of any month.
5. Irregularities or delays may involve the Khawchhiars the payment of a fine of Re. 1/-.
6. The Khawchhiars' Registers should be examined when opportunity permits by the Vaccinating Inspection Staff, Circle Staff and Officers on tour.

(3) Maintenance of Circle Books, Permanent and Temporary.

A. Permanent :

1. This book shall contain copy of Boundary Paper of every village in the circle.
2. A copy of every order which is of permanent -importance concerning anything or anyone within his circle.

The Permanent Book should be divided up to show a number of pages for each village, under which handing every permanent order must be entered, also one portion of a number of pages must be set aside for orders which effect the whole circle.

Viz.-- Compounder sanctioned (to be shown under village as well).

Ammunition men sanctioned for a circle.
Other such matters of a CIRCLE GENERAL NATURE.

B. Temporary :

1. A record of all parwanas received, with a short note of their import and what action was taken.
2. Any orders of a purely transitory nature relating to jhumming, the creation of Thalw-bhaws, Khawpers, and road side cultivation.

3. Orders regarding village paths.
4. A record of each village actually visited on any and all tours together with the signature of the chief or Khawchhiar concerned in token of his having visited the village.
5. A copy of the annual rice compilation report, with village prices of Dhan for year.
6. Records made for purpose of checking and controlling chief's vital statistics reports.
7. List of executive duties required of Circle Interpreters (see page 28) to be pasted in annually to temporary registers, front page, for constant reference in use by Circle Interpreters.
8. Date when village was last visited by Vaccinator. These temporary registers should be divided up into spaces, a space being allowed for each village for entry of all and everything affecting each village for the year. Several pages must be left blank for entry of all subject matter which concerns the circle as a whole. All points will remain outstanding at the end of a year on December 31st will be taken up by Circle Interpreter in office by red ink writing for surveillance during the ensuing year.
9. Copy of House List of every village in his circle.
10. Supervision of duties of Village Writers or Khawchhiars which are given below :—

(a) The Village Writer is the Chief's Secretary and as such bears only a secretary's res-

possibility, which is discharged when he has read all communications to the chief correctly and brought to the notice of the chief all matters coming within his knowledge which require the chief's attention, and when he has written as directed by chief.

(b) He will maintain a book in which will be recorded the following vital matters .—

(i) Village house list, with details of Revenue exemption, and specially exempted Kuli-awls.

(ii) List of all persons holding guns with license number.

(iii) Record of all orders received for supply of impressed labour.

(iv) Copy of Village Boundary paper.

(v) All orders of a permanent nature affecting the village or the people.

(vi) All orders of a temporary description for one full year from the end of the year in which the order was issued.

(vii) Khawchhiars are responsible that a copy of the duties of chiefs laid down in the District Cover page 17 is entered in the beginning of the Village Register and the Khawchhiar is responsible for inviting the attention of the chief to these orders from time to time when need arises. Chiefs are in no way relieved of responsibility by this direction but nevertheless a chief has a right to expect the full assistance of his Khawchhiar, who is appointed always only on the recommendation of the chief himself.

11. On arrival at a village - routine duties of a Circle Officer are as follows .—

(a) Check of village Khawchhiars Book to see that this contains a list of duties of Khawchhiars as given above para (10) and a list of chief's duties. Take each instruction and satisfy himself that the Khawchhiar and the chief each understand exactly what the instructions imply and whether these are being followed. If not the Circle Interpreter should explain the position and note that he has done so in his Temporary Register.

(b) Take his Temporary Register and check up all orders under the particular village to see that effect has actually been given to the orders, enquiring into and reporting on any case where orders have not been acted upon. Take similar action with the Permanent Register.

(c) The figures recorded by the Khawchhiar for births and deaths should be verified and enquiries made to ascertain that no cases have been overlooked. The compilation of vital statistics is a matter of great importance to the administration as affording a useful guide to the general condition of the people.

(d) He should check that the village has not received more than its fair share of demands for impressed labour.

(e) He should inspect the water supply and record any matter in which it can conveniently be improved, and if he does not get orders from the Superintendent he should address the Superintendent through the Lushai Clerk.

(f) Discuss with chief any matters affecting inter-village paths repairs or improvements and should tactfully obtain the chief's agreement to affect remedies required.

(g) Make enquiries concerning epidemics among people and animals or poultry. Any suspected cases of syphilis or Leprosy should be reported.

(h) Make enquiries concerning any death accident or occurrences of an abnormal or violent nature.

(i) Enquire concerning presence within chief's jurisdiction of any foreigners or persons of a suspicious nature.

(j) Observe and report any unauthorised settlements outside the main village, with special reference to Chakmas, Tripura, and Nepalis whose settlement is only permitted under express written sanction of the Superintendent and the Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh.

(k) Observe whether there is any oppression or any cause for a feeling of insecurity among the villagers or anything which is affecting the villagers detrimentally.

(l) Make any suggestions for improvement of trade or conditions of the people generally.

(m) Submit a diary giving short notes on the result of his enquiries and observations on

each of the above points, numbering his paragraphs A to L.

SECTION D.

CIVIL POLICE

(A) Policy :

Author & old standing orders. To maintain Civil Police force and to use it as little as possible may seem at first sight to be paradoxical, but in the peculiar nature of the district lies the reason. Police are necessary for certain work but the functions of the Police in the interior are carried out by the chiefs and Circle Staff except in very special and rare occasions.

The police are stationed at Aijal, Lungleh, Kolosib, Sairang and Demagiri, their chief duties being the control of all non-Lushais when they are within the jurisdiction of the various outposts. Within their actual jurisdictions, the Civil Police attitude laid down at page 106 in relation to members of the Battalion. All Lushais come rather under control of the Superintendent through the Chiefs and the Circle Staff at Aijal and through the Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh in a similar way at Lungleh.

The Civil Police, therefore, will ordinarily not be employed in connection with Lushais except under the direct orders of an officer.

Any tendency to use the Police for revenue or allied executive functions should be avoided as far as possible as this conflicts with Government policy.

The internal administration is carried on as far as possible and applicable in accordance with the Police Manuals, a special Police Clerk being employed.

Every effort should be made to continue the present policy of recruiting the best educated products of Lushais for service in Police. Latterly it has been possible to fill vacancies with Matriculates and the condition that arose at one time when there was no Constable fit to take the examination from Constable to Assistant Sub-Inspector should be remedied in due course. It has been little opportunity in Lushai for a go ahead constable who passed his examination to Asstt. Sub-Inspector to learn Bengali or Assamese without which he can never be a Policeman of any value outside the Lushai Hills. To remedy this defect, as soon as the constable passes his examinations for promoting to Asstt. Sub-Inspector application should be made to the Inspector-General for this constable to be posted to the plains for a period of two years in which to learn a language, Sylhet or Assamese. When he passed a language examination it should be useful for him to be posted as an Asstt. Sub-Inspector for 3 years in the plains after which he should return to Lushai Hills when he will be equipped to read

and work up for his examination for promotion to Sub-Inspector he should then be re-posted to the plains as Asstt. Inspector, and confirmed when found fit as Sub-Inspector for service in the plains or in Lushai Hills as considered desirable by the Inspector-General.

A measure of agreement on the above lines with the Inspector-General of Police has been secured at the time of writing vide Inspector-General of Police's No. F. 7686 VIII-R/29-38 dated 19.5.1938. The author's view is that if the procedure above can be followed it will enable the Police Department to give good men a chance and will remove the language disability which is the main bar to the use of the Lushai within the regular Police. If he cannot be so used it is logical that he should be re-classified on lesser pay for his lesser responsibility for life-long service in the Lushai Hills, a proposition which, however, has not found favour with the Government. But it is wrong that a limited Officer be classed as an Assistant or a Sub-Inspector when his ability and knowledge have no degree of similarity to his plains counterpart.

If the costs of giving Lushai constables, who have passed the examination to Assistant Sub-Inspector, 2 years in the plains to learn Bengali or Assamese embarrass the Inspector General, which is not impossible it should, the author thinks, be considered in relation to the large expense which the Province should incurring by maintaining a Police Training College.

This aspect of the Lushai Police "Higher Command" in laboured because it is a problem that will always persist.

(b) Administration.

By Notification No. 6161G.J. dated 20th November 1936 the following instructions issued :-

The Superintendent shall exercise the powers of a Superintendent of Police and the Sub-divisional Officer, Lungleh and Assistants to the Superintendent at Aijal the powers of Assistant Superintendents of Police.

(c) Standing Orders for guidance of the Civil Police.

- (1) So far as is possible the Police shall be guided by the Police Manuals.
- (2) The jurisdiction of each Thana is described at the foot of these orders.
- (3) Within this jurisdiction all non-Lushais come under the jurisdiction of the Force. As regards Lushais, these being under the primary control of Chiefs and the Circle Staff, the attitude of the Police should be that no action should be taken on the initiative of the Police unless it is to prevent or stop the commission of a serious offence or to protect the public in general from being subjected to annoyance or mischief as is laid down at page 127 concerning the attitude of the Civil Police to Members of the Assam Rifles.

- (4) The Police will take no independent action outside their jurisdiction either against Lushais or non-Lushais except with permission from an Officer. When such permission is given the Police should endeavour to go to work with the assistance of the Chief and as far as possible according to his wishes.

The orders here below have been passed to remedy defects in routine but Officer Incharge Thanas which has suffered in the past through negligence to follow procedure now directed.

- (5) Sub-Inspector, Aijal will send a return once a month in the first week of each month to the Gurkha Mauzadar showing the number of new permanent settlers who have been allowed to come to Aijal in the previous month and those who have left permanently.

Sub-Inspector, Lungleh will submit this monthly report to Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh for office check.

- (6) Sub-Inspector, Aijal and Lungleh will visit all villages within the Aijal Reserve and the Lungleh Residence Surcharge area once a month and bring to notice of authority any irregularities observed. A report of the result of the visit must be made by the 16th of each month. Special attention should be paid to presence of unauthorised houses of foreigners or others, illicit cutting

of timber and jhums, gardens not being properly maintained, points concerning sanitation which require remedy and all general points of interest and importance.

The Officer Incharge Thana is at all times responsible for drawing attention of Superintendent or Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh of any breaches of members of the public of any of the duly published orders contained in the District Cover published from time to time.

- (7) Sub-Inspector of all Thanas should keep a look out for any newspaper or Book publications which may be notified as undesirable from time to time or which they are of opinion are undesirable.
- (8) The Civil Police are authorised to take up any cases of manufacture of Rakzu by Lushais or non-Lushai within five miles radius of Aijal or Lungleh provided the enquiry is made by an Officer not below the rank of Asstt. Sub-Inspector of Police and provided the cause of action does not lie within the linen of the Assam Rifles.
- (9) Officers in charge of Thanas must note that any casualty affecting pay, rations, leave, in connection with the Thana Force under their command must be brought to the notice of the Superintendent in charge, Civil Police with a note as to what action is necessary to avoid overdrawal of pay.

rations, due to death, improper absence or leave.

If this is not done and loss of Government occurs, Thana Officers will be held personally responsible.

- (10) Any ration concessions enjoyed while on duty do not extend to members of the Force on leave.
- (11) Officers in charge of Thanas are personally responsible for the accurate compilation of Ammunition Accounts. No over-writing is allowed on any account.

Consignments to Thanas outside Headquarters must be opened by Officers in charge Thanas personally and checked detail, surpluses or deficiencies being reported to issuing Office—a note of details of receipt being made by Officer Incharge Thana personally. Consignments to Headquarters Thana must be treated according to Police Manual Rules.

- 12.(i) An order will be made in the clothing Committee Register on each occasion when the tailor is to be ordered to make up any clothing. Before any such order is passed the Officer signing the Register will satisfy himself the proposed clothing is really necessary.
- (ii) At the time when such an order is recorded a statement will be made to show exactly

how the cloth is to be used and will contain the following information attested and certified by the Sub-Inspector, Aijal Thana—
Details of clothing required Scale per article and total amount.

Number of reels for sewing required based on scale per article concerned.

Only this amount of cloth and reels should be issued.

(iii) The Sub-Inspector is personally responsible for the correctness of all clothing, cloth and stock.

(iv) On no account will any payment be made to the tailor till the Sub-Inspector certifies he has found by actual check that no surplus cloth or reels or other articles remain with the tailor. Purchases and make up must be confined to one financial year and on no account will any transaction commencing in one year be carried on into another.

13. Government clothing must not be used by Police personnel when engaged solely on private duties, fire-wood cutting etc.

No one may in future destroy kit except either Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent.

Regularly each quarter— April 1st

July 1st

October 1st

January 1st.

Officer in charge of the Thana will have a kit inspection specially for the purpose of reporting that clothing which remains for an Officer to condemn and destroy. This will be dealt with as soon as possible. Personnel negligent in care of upkeep will be held partially or wholly responsible for replacement.

14. All Thanas will submit a monthly return of furniture and stock on charge to Reserve Officer, Aijal who will check each list with the Reserve Stock Book reporting any discrepancies to the Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent of Police.

On December 1st each year, Reserve Officer Aijal will submit a composite return of all furniture and stock on charge of Thanas to Superintendent of Police who will send this for check by the Police Clerk with the Police Officer Stock Book preparatory to submission of Annual Stock Return Inspector General of Police.

15. Purchase of kerosine oil is sanctioned as following :

Thanas other than
Lungleh and Aijal :-

| | | |
|--------------------|-----|---------|
| April to September | ... | 1½ tins |
|--------------------|-----|---------|

| | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----|
| September to March | ... | 2 „ |
|--------------------|-----|-----|

For Aijal and Lungleh :-

| | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----|
| April to September | ... | 2 „ |
|--------------------|-----|-----|

| | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----|
| September to March | ... | 2 „ |
|--------------------|-----|-----|

Oil should be purchased on the dates below:-

April 1st

July 1st

October 1st

January 1st

And Police Clerk will exercise a check of purchases as above.

16. Travelling allowances bills of the Force must be submitted by Officer In Charge of Thanas not later than two weeks from the completion of a journey for which a claim is admissible.

Bill not so submitted will be rejected. Officer in charge Thanas will be held responsible for reimbursing any losses occasioned by personnel on event of non-submission or to neglect of an officer In charge Thana.

17. In Thana jurisdictions where Pounds are situated Police are authorised to impound cattle found straying within the Station without a Herdman.
18. When animals are to be buried the Officer in charge Thana should depute a constable to ensure that the burial is sufficiently deep to guard against its being dug up for consumption by any of the public.
19. Attention of all Officers in charge Thanas is directed to provisions under the Rules for control of Arms and Ammunition in the Lushai Hills and all Ammunition shops must be inspected by the Officer In charge Thana concerned not less than once quarterly, a benot negi recorded and submitted to the Superintendent, Lushai Hills or Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh.

A surprise visit must be paid monthly to each Vendor's shop to see that nothing irregular is taking place.

20. Officer In charge Thanas in whose jurisdiction there are private medicine sellers authorised under valid Pass to keep medicine for sale should inspect the stock and Stock Ledger in each case once a quarter and submit a report on the condition in which he finds the practise. It is to be noted that none who is not a registered medicine practitioner of a recognised Medical College may issue prescriptions. A Compounder is not so authorised. The following orders apply specially to Police Clerks :--

21. Debit notes for indents on Government Store departments are chief cause of clothing Budgets being exceeded. Special care in their handling is necessary therefore.

A Subsidiary Register will be maintained in which detail will figure of all orders placed with Departments payment to which will subsequently be effected by Book Transfer by Debit notes from Comptroller's office and addition being made in each case to approximate cost of the special extra charges made by the Department concerned.

No ink entry will be made in the clothing Contingent Register till actual receipt of Debit

note which will be entered up in the Contingent Register within the month directed in the Debit note. Debit note which will be entered up in the Contingent Register within the month directed in the Debit note. The Debit note when entered in the Contingent Register will be struck off the Subsidiary Register.

No totals of monthly expenditure may be inked in the Contingent Registers till the last debit note has been received. Till then totals must be kept in light pencil only.

The above procedure will enable the exact total clothing commitments incurred to be valued reasonably accurately at a glance, will thus prevent over ordering due to loss of account of debit notes due, and will finally present the accounts to balance without conflict with those of the Comptroller.

22. Pay, Travelling Allowance and other bills not entered in Contingent Registers must be entered up in the receipt side of the Cash Book before they are passed for payment by an Officer.

The subsequent date of encashment of the bill at the Treasury will be entered in red ink below the first entry.

Undue delay in encashment must be avoided.

When Police Officers are on tour a list of bills to be signed must accompany the bills and Officers can then check up receipts from these lists on return. The object of this is to avoid

any necessity for Cash Book to be sent on tour and to avoid any Officer other than the Officer in charge Police having to do Police Department work.

(d) The Police jurisdictions of all Thanas is recorded here below :

(1) AIJAL THANA

The area in which Personal Residence Surcharge is levied (see page 85-86).

(2) LUNGLEH

The area in which Personal Residence Surcharge is levied (see page 90).

(3) SAIRANG

The boundaries of Sairang Thana jurisdiction are fixed as follows :—

WEST : From Tlawng River rapid called KUNUMURA the boundary runs along the precipice of Lengpui Tlang slope to SAILUNGNAWH and then to CHIAHLUI CHHUAH (a feeder of Tlawng river) and crosses Tlawng to UILUPHUM.

SOUTH : From UILUPHUM it runs in South easterly direction along the extreme limits of orange gardens and meets Aijal - Sairang cart road at SAKEI

FAL and follows cart road upto the road junction at 7th Furlong of 11th milestone.

EAST : From road junction it runs in northerly direction crosses SAILUNG LUI at NGHATAN and then running along the slope of KANGTEK TLANG to CHENGKAWL LUI NGHATAN and ZAWNGTE LUI NGHATAN ; running in westerly direction it meets CHANGSIL ROAD at BINOTA LUNGCHHUN.

NORTH : From BINOTA LUNGCHHUN it follows a short range of TLAWNG-KUAL TLANG and meets again TLAWNG RIVER at KUNUMURA.

The Kolasib Station will consist of the area enclosed by $\frac{1}{2}$ mile North and $\frac{1}{2}$ mile South of mile 52 and an area and West of this road up to two furlongs on either side.

Each chief is personally responsible for cleanliness of that part of the above Station Limits which falls in his Ram.

No jhuming will take place within these Station limit and no trees on any account may be felled.

(5) DEMAGIRI

From the 40th mile post Phivokhui Lungleh Demagiri main road across the Karnaphuly to

its opposite bank and then to a point opposite Goala Basti across Karnaphuly to the mouth of the Chengkol stream and up to this to its source on the Demagiri Range, thence North-East along the ridge to the Philoklui and thence Westwards down this stream to its junction with the Demagiri - Lungleh road and Karnaphuly.

The above boundaries will be known as Demagiri Station limits.

(e) Special instructions to be followed in drawing up proceedings against Police Officers.

The relevant letters governing these instructions are Inspector General of Police's letter No. 10119-32 F dated 20.10.1921.

Inspector General of Police Circular No. 6 C.P. dated 19.2.1936.

Inspector General of Police's letter No. 2031-43 dated 9.2.1937.

Only relevant extracts are recorded below for the sake of brevity but contain all important points :-

- (1) Proceedings should follow and be guided by the instructions issued by Notification No. 6752 H dated 1st November 1937, and recorded as an amendment to the Assam Police Manual.
- (2) Joint proceedings should only be drawn up against two or more individuals if and when the charges relate to the same incidents

occurring on the same dates in which all the individuals proceeded against are concerned severally or jointly. In all other cases drawal of joint proceedings should be avoided.

- (3) The Officer charged must be allowed to be present at the enquiry and given an opportunity to cross examine the witnesses. If it is not desired to cross examine a note should be recorded accordingly.

A written statement (Other documentary evidence such as extracts from records etc) by a witness shall only be admissible when circumstances render it impossible to obtain his presence without undue delay or dislocation of work.

- (4) The charge should be clear and precise --
- (a) Specific charge to be recorded.
 - (b) Actual nature of offence, insubordination, absence without leave etc.
 - (c) Section of law, Manual rule or order of superior authority which has been violated.
 - (d) Specific details of the act which constitutes the breach of the rule or order.
- (5) The accused must be permitted to produce his witnesses subject to Para 3 above. All statements in support of the charge and for the defence must, subject to Para 3 above, be recorded - and information held by the Courts must not be withheld during the proceedings only to be used in the findings.

In the case of voluminous or vernacular papers of length precis or translations may be transcribed into the proceedings, the papers themselves being filed in the same page.

- (6) The finding and order will invariably be written by the Superintendent of Police, but some other Officer may draw up the proceedings, the Officer completing evidence and defence sections. The findings should contain an appreciation of the defence case.

On no account should any Officers recommend to the Superintendent of Police what punishment should be awarded or what orders should be passed.

- (7) All attached papers, documentary evidence and statements will be numbered and filed in the appropriate page of the proceedings form. An index will be given on the blank fly leaf at the beginning of the appropriate form.
- (8) In the case of appeals the Superintendent of Police will invariably note his remarks against each paragraph of the petition.

SECTION E.

CONTROL OF FOREIGNERS.

- (a) Policy :

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Author and Standing Orders. | Since the inauguration of the District Government's Policy has been to prohibit the residence of persons who are not natives of the Lushai Hills within the District, except in very |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

special circumstances. The largest communities to whom it has not been possible for refuse completely permission to reside include Nepalis and traders from Bengal or Assam. The majority of Nepalis are descendants of discharged military policemen of long service with good conduct in the Battalion, discharged men originally recruited in Lushai Hills, and milk sellers. Traders from Bengal and Assam include those who were originally permitted to open shops within the Hills for meeting the requirements of petty trading demand or those who have succeeded them, including the salaried employees necessary to the owners for ordinary trade purposes.

The majority of such foreigners reside at Aijal, Sairang, Vaulaiphai, Lungleh, Demagiri, or around mile 45 Dwarbond Road.

There are also a very few who have married Lushai women and who have been permitted to settle in chief's villages on their agreeing to abide by Lushai custom and the chief's control.

Various measures to control residence have been introduced and these include an enhanced house tax, the Inner Line regulation, and the Personal Residence Surcharge system which includes a system of Passes on varying conditions to those non-Lushais permitted to reside permanently or temporarily. Where permission to reside can not but be allowed to non natives who have not married Lushais settlement is confined to certain areas only as named above.

The various measures to deal with control of foreigners' settlement may now be given.

(b) Strict Regulation of entry into Lushai Hills controlled by Inner Line Regulation.

(1) See Notification No. 2107 A.P. dated March 9th 1933.

(2) For description of said Inner Line see Notification No. 2106 A.P. dated March 9th 1933.

(3)(a) Responsibility for control of entry rests chiefly with Officer in charge Thanas at Kolasib, Sairang and Demagiri but chiefs are all responsible for control within their own areas, vide page 17.

Inhabitants of the above jurisdictions who do not report immediately any parties not in possession of a pass to the Officer In charge Thana will have to answer for harbouring a person without a pass contrary to Government rules vide page 71.

(6) Non-Lushais, except those covered by rule page 212 who are found at the above Thana jurisdictions without a Pass will be held on P. R. by Officer In charge Thanas, not exceeding Rs. 50/- to report daily to the Thana to the satisfaction of the Officer In charge Thana, who will immediately report in writing to Headquarters full particulars asking for orders.

If the party pays the cost of a telegram the report may be sent by Officer in charge by wire.

(c) In the case of Lungleh where Sub-Divisional Officer is often on long tours the Senior Ministerial Officer may allow party to report at Lungleh Thana. This Officer at once reporting the full circumstances to the Superintendent, Lushai Hills and Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh.

(d) While it is the desire of Government to control entry and settlement of Non-Lushais within the Hills every possible care must be taken by Officer in charge Thanas to ensure that no possible needless obstruction or inconvenience is placed in the way of travellers.

(e) In the case of Circle Interpreters circles 8 and 5 they are authorised to order any non Hill men without a Pass or credentials to return to Burma or in default to arrest him with the help of Lushais, when costs of feeding will be paid till produced as early as possible at Aijal.

(4) Owing to the necessity of the Commandant recruiting personnel for the Battalion the Superintendent has, while retaining personal responsibility for the results delegated to the Commandant the control of all persons actually connected directly with the Battalion by the orders which are set out below :--

The powers conferred on Superintendent, Lushai Hills, under Assam Government Notification No. 2017 A.P. of 9.3.1933 will be in the interests of smooth working and speedy disposal

of routine matters, exercised by the Cammandant, 1st Battalion Assam Rifles, on the Superintendent's behalf in the cases of those employees of the Battalion covered by the following classes of individuals.

- A— All public followers employed by the Battalion.
- B— All private followers employed by the Battalion.
- C— All private servants of British Officers serving in the Battalion.
- D— All private servants of Indian Officers and ministerial Officers serving with the Battalion.

Furthermore

1. The Commandant will also issue passes to Bona Fide relatives who wish to visit relatives serving with the Battalion, such passes are limited to three months residence in the Lushai Hills.
2. The names of all men granted passes will be published in Battalion orders at the time of their appointment and all passes issued will be registered in an Establishment Book to be divided into sections according to their employments.
3. Immediately on discharge of a Pass Holder the fact of discharge will be published in Battalion Orders. The pass will be withdrawn and leave struck off the Establishment Book.

At the same time a copy of the discharge order will be sent to the Superintendent to ensure that the man does not remain in the District.

4. All provisions of this order (except para 2) apply equally to Lushais employed and for the purpose of checking residential surcharge the Establishment Book may be examined by the Superintendent, or an Officer deputed by him at the time of Annual Assessment to Personal Residence Surcharge on occasions when the case of any individual is in doubt.

5. All previous orders on the subject of passes for Battalion personnel are cancelled.

6. Individuals enjoying the privileges conferred by the Commandant under section I will not be permitted to take up employment except as a combatant member of the Battalion or under the heads A,B,C,D, above.

Individuals employed under section A,B,C,D, will not, save in exceptional circumstances, be permitted to leave the Battalion on discharge to take up Civil employment in the Hills.

(c) Orders to govern the practical application of control of entry of non-Lushais, who are additionally liable to enhanced House Taxes and Personal Residence Surcharges in certain areas.

(1) No non-Lushai may remain in the District without a pass signed by the Superintendent or

the Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh. Such passes will only be given when it is not possible to refuse, and even then they should generally only be given when another pass has been cancelled. Before shopkeepers are allowed to bring in fresh servants steps should be taken to ensure that the old servant leaves the District. Only in this way it is possible to control settlement. Likewise when an Officer entitled to a servant or servants dispenses with his or their services a report should be submitted to the Superintendent forthwith, when the Superintendent will inform the Officer In charge Thana who will then become responsible that the servant leaves the District.

(2) Temporary passes for a period not to exceed two weeks will be given to anyone giving bonafide reasons for visiting the District unless for special reasons the applicant is an undesirable persons. Such passes may be issued by the Officer in charge of control of non-Lushais and a note should ordinarily be made that employment or settlement is not permissible in the District except with special permission of the Superintendent.

(3) A pass issued for a servant on application by an Officer entitled to employ him will be endorsed "valid for so long only as the Pass Holder is in service of....." This is necessary to stop a pernicious practise whereby a non-Lushai may purchase settlement by rendering free or nearly free service to his employer, only

to break with him in due course to seek a change of service, a practise that results in indicipline and vagabondage among Officers' servants as well as uncontrollable increase in settlement.

Relaxation of the rule re-entry to Lushai Hills without a Pass has been made in certain circumstances vide Forest Rule C(3) page 180.

(4) The Officer In charge Thanas at Aijal and Lungleh are personally responsible for supervising control over parties for whom Passes have been issued, temporarily or Permanently, and to this end will follow the procedure below :--

(a) Bring to the notice of authority cases of any non-Lushai residing in the District without a Pass.

(b) In cases where a temporary Pass only is issued, Officer In charge Thana will check up the departure on expiration of the Pass.

(c) In cases where permanent Passes are issued will be check up Pass Holders once a quarter submitting a report that Passes are in order or bringing to notice of authority any case where any conditions of a Pass are being abused or where a Pass Holder has left the District.

(d) Officer In charge Thana is responsible for obtaining acquittance of Officer In charge Demagiri, Sairang or Kolasib as the case may be that the party has left the District, when he

will at once inform the Foreigner's Clerk that the Pass Holder has left the District.

(e) In case of non-Lushais, who are not Nepali actually from Nepal, enquiry slips must be issued and submitted to authority for endorsement and acceptance.

(f) Officers In charge of Kolasib, Sairang and Demagiri are responsible for reporting all arrivals at once and will submit a monthly return of all Foreigners entering the District to Officer In charge Thana at Aijal and Lungleh, and a duplicate copy to the Superintendent, Lushai Hills, and Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh for check by the Foreigners' Clerk.

Before such arrivals are permitted to enter the interior Officers in charge of Thanas are responsible that they are first medically examined by the Doctors in charge of Dispensaries to ensure only that they are not afflicted by any infectious or contagious diseases.

The settlement of Chakmas, Tripuris or Nepalis is prohibited except with the permission of Superintendent, Lushai Hills which, if given at all, should normally be confined to authorising settlement at main existing Lushai village site. Permission for such settlement in Lungleh given by the Subdivisional Officer, Lungleh should in all cases be submitted for approval by Superintendent, Lushai Hills.

In the case of settlement within Surcharge areas the rules for those areas must be followed in detail.

Chakmas and Tripuris have not proved useful settlers. Their presence is inclined to produce litigation for which the Police Force and Magisterial staff is inadequate.

Occasions, however, might considerably arise when on a temporary 3 years basis on Forest village or similar settlement basis temporary settlement might be permitted in the low riverine areas near main large rivers in return for Forest road making or inter village path construction. There are large areas in which Lushais will never wish to settle and which remain therefore as extensive blocks of unpenetrable jungle specially in the areas adjoining the TUT, TEIBEI and LONGAI rivers.

(5) NOTE

Author's personal views on the question of non-Lushai settlement bearing in mind that the above constitutes present custom and procedure.

It is difficult to foresee in any near future an universal change throughout Lushai. Even with the advent of a motor road along one main line into the interior it would not be advisable to allow free access into all Lushai territory by non-Lushais. There seem to the author to be two factors here—one the consideration of the people themselves and the other the right of the general tax payer, if any, because he is assisting the people by subvention.

It need hardly be argued that it will be many years before the hill man of the interior will be equipped to match himself against the non-Lushai inhabitants of the plains of India with their countless years of freer self expression and along tried culture, influenced as it has been from time to time which the ever persistent march of time. If this is not contested we have it that to open up the interior to non-Lushai would result in wholesale exploitation and probable extinction of the indigenous people of Lushai.

If the Hills require a general tax payer's subvention is this ground for claiming absolute ownership to the extent of a right to penetrate the interior at will ? The only reason that there may be such subventions is that the general tax payer had at the first to make such provision to be saved from the incursions of these hill men into their preserves. If free entry into Lushai preserves were permitted, against the wishes of the Lushai people, might not general discontent prevail, in their turns ?

There is one very great hitch in any idea of a forward movement towards the Legislatures and that is that the people of Lushai have absolutely nothing culturally in common with that large majority which will always form the bulk of Assam's legislatures. In truth to make such a union possible Lushais should now be subsidised heavily to take education among the plains people on a very wide front so as to commence to foster friendship and understanding without

which affiliation would be a travesty. Union with the Legislatures of Burma on the other hand might in many years become a practicable proposition. But it is that same distance from cultural India which actuated the people of Burma to disassociate themselves from India that will in the author's opinion persist among these people when the question is pressed of their surrender from the charge of the British Parliament in favour of affiliation with the local legislatures with the members of whom they have absolutely nothing in common. As the author sees it therefore, it is difficult to admit, the general taxpayer's right to exploit Lushai even in the face of subvention necessitated by the need for keeping these people at bay, and we have already found that unrestricted competition in the face of uncontrolled access to the hills by non-Lushais would probably result in their extinction. There does not seem any case for relaxing control of foreigners - especially any willing affiliation with the legislatures must it seems, first be preceded by an association with the plains which would in itself be nothing more than an artificial superimposition of the Lushai.

The fairest way to deal with these people in the author's view in the long years ahead is to create for them some form of semi-independent local administration, generally bound by the wider control of the Government of Assam but left to work out their own genius in their own way. This would preserve the people and enable

them to develop consistently with their own resources. If the general taxpayer dislikes the subvention he will equally dislike the Lushais getting any special share of revenue beyond their own resources.

The result of these musings leads the author to feel that we should recognise that Lushai could not stand up to the free access of non Lushais to the hills till the Lushai has had much longer at the game - and that if ever such a question became in any way, for some reason, compelling a slow start should first be made on conditions capable of reversal operative in the first instance within a limited area only. The result of any such experiment might give the answer to any controversy arising out of the subject Lushai for the Lushais ?

It is by no means impossible that moves may be made at any time by individuals attracted by the glamour that attaches, all the world over to the position of a representative of the people. But it would not be possible in fairness to the Lushais to sustain such a move unless the motive was to achieve for the Lushais something which they were being denied. Would the need necessarily be satisfied by affiliation with the Legislatures of Assam ? Could not the need be satisfied more appropriately within a machinery more applicable to Lushai ? His Excellency the Governor of Assam takes the place of the Maharajah in a native state and if assisted by a recognised Durbar of representatives, chiefs and other could not Lushai the better work out its own salvation.

We should beware we do not super impose an unnatural affiliation where a more rebellions or stronger race might be able to demand partition.

At the present state of affairs I feel we should be taking advantage of the Lushai if at any rate we relaxed in favour of the non-Lushai at least for 25 years when the position might be renewed again.

The whole question is also intimately bound up with finance. The expenditure through the years on the Government's part has been that minimum expenditure necessary for Government's own major purposes of stragic control rather than on equipping the Lushai to stand on his own against the march of events. To some extent this is culpable though understandable but nevertheless it will be long before the Lushais take to accepting the non-Lushai as one of themselves. But considerable money has been poured into the country by the Missions which had been used in altering the Lushai and his social system and incidentally stimulating a rate of development which, in a strong sense, is local in incidence and in advance of the country's own resources. Such a move by financiers other than Government may result in threatening the whole social fabric of being autocracy at the hands of hereditary ruling chiefs - and then many ships but no captains. The author is still of firm opinion that this is creating a problem which might easily embarass Government. The only

safe method in the author's opinion is to decide the average expenditure - charge this to Assam - and place the duty of Administration within the hands of a representative Durbar responsible through a Political Officer to His Excellency the Governor of Assam - it being recognised that when real necessity arises development requirements be met by the Government of India on a contribution basis from Lushai resources in labour or produce. The Lushai would then have nothing to quarrel with on any account whatsoever and the field would be set for him to develop as best he would within the resources which were his and which he himself by his industry might create.

The alternative seems to the author to be inclusion in the Legislatures which if so fact would at once recognise the right of practically unrestricted access for all within the Lushai Hills - indeed a heavy price to pay.

SECTION F.

PERSONAL RESIDENCE SURCHARGE.

(a) Policy :

The object of the system is to control and discourage settlement around Aijal and Lungleh by any who are not in the employment of the Government, the Mission or the employees of either. The amennities officered by

Author and
Standing
Orders.

such areas in relation to those of distant areas are such as to make settlement very popular. There being no industry which brings wealth into these areas the population not included in these classes mentioned above has to be maintained by the produce of the soil. It is the usual hope of jhuming cultivators to jhumland not more than once in ten years, whereas around Aijal and Lungleh the area of jhum land is far too small to permit of any such safety and comfort. Moreover, what little land there is available is clearly necessary for those persons who, by the nature of their employment, must reside in the area. But to aggravate the position there is the existence of a large population living on land entirely inadequate to meet requirements and this involves excessive destruction of trees and forest, not only in the scramble for cultivation but for ordinary domestic requirements. It is well known that the destruction of tree forest results in a decline of rainfall and further that denudation is also accelerated by forest destruction. Thus the soil is increasingly unable to retain natural moisture. Such conditions operate progressively to reduce the value of the jhuming which may still be left.

Furthermore, it has been found that whenever there is a serious shortage of crops resources has to be made to loans from Government. This would possible be tolerably if such loans were ever repaid. But most of the loans have eventually to be written off at great loss to Government which shows that after crop shortage

when conditions are favourable the population is not in an economic state to repay the loans. If the population can not consistently maintain itself over a period it is clear residence is one purely artificial basis.

It was to meet all these conditions and to avoid resorting to direct eviction, even if legally justified, that this system has been introduced to attempt to remedy the accumulation of over settlement during many years. Even if the settlers do not quickly move out the yield from the taxes is a set off in favour of Government against the losses that have to be sustained during crop shortages, to avoid starvation from time to time.

The actual orders for the prevention of and reduction of, settlements may be seen under the rules for control of settlement round Aijal and Lungleh.

(b) Authority for collection of Personal Residence Surcharge.

(1) Aijal :

Notification No. 6418 A.P. dated July 9th 1936 superceded original Notification No. 2297 A.P. dated 10.3.1932.

(2) Lungleh :

Notification No. 6762 A.P. dated July 21st 1936.

(c) The Standing Orders for the working of this Department are as follows in relation to Aijal.

1. The chiefs of Aijal, and Tlangnuam and the Lushai Clerk are responsible for collection of Personal Residence Surcharge from all males except Gurkhas, over 18 years of age and all women owing houses within their jurisdiction.

2. Each chief must prepare a register showing name all persons veng by veng for assessment, a copy of this list being sent to Superintendent not later than 1st of October yearly. This list constitutes the Tauzi. These Tauzi will all be checked by Circle Interpreters or Officers specially deputed by Superintendent and such Officers will check and report by October 31st at latest.

3. Receipts must be issued to payees by these chiefs for all money they collect and counterfoils must be filled in for check by Superintendent. Receipt books will only be issued in return for old counterfoils.

4. Chief will at their own expense maintain Cash Books to show running record of receipts and details of lumpsum payments made over to the personal Residence Surcharge Clerk twice a month on the 15th and last day monthly.

The Personal Residence Surcharge Clerk will initial chief's Cash Book when receiving

payment by chiefs. The P.R.S. Clerk is responsible for making over these collections to the Head Clerk on the day of receipt or as soon as possible.

5. The Vengs in which residence is subject to payment of Personal Residence Surcharge are as follows:

- | | | |
|------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. Maubawk | } | Chief of Tlangnuam. |
| 2. Tlangnuam | | |
| 3. Rasi Venghlui | } | Chief of Aijal. |
| 4. Bara Bazar | | |
| 5. Chhingaveng | | |
| 6. Chanmari Veng | | |
| 7. Patharkhana | } | Chief of Aijal. |
| 8. Vaivakawn | | |
| 9. Sriman Tilla | | |
| 10. Survey Tilla | | |
| 11. Khatla Line | | |

12. Chaltlang villagers in the Reserve who do not pay enhanced House Tax.

- | | | |
|------------------|---|---------------|
| 13. Mission Veng | } | Lushai Clerk. |
| 14. Thakthing | | |
| 15. Kulikawn | | |

6. Residence free of Personal Residence Surcharge is permitted only up to a total of one month in any one financial year.

The Tauzi is prepared by October 1st yearly and no exemption in favour of an indivi-

dual who joins Government service will be allowed after December 31st of that year in which the Tauzi is prepared.

7. Any householder found harbouring an individual liable to Personal Residence Surcharge who has not paid this within the year it was due will be liable to eviction from the precincts of Aijal as covered by Para 5 above.

8. The following persons are exempt from the levy of Personal Residence Surcharge :--

- (a) Government servants and their servants according to the scale below,
Gazetted Officers, as desired.
Salaries of Rs. 120/- and over, 3 servants.
Salaries of Rs. 80/- and over to Rs. 119/-, 2 servants.
Salaries of below Rs. 80/- and not less than Rs. 30/- one servant.

Government servants in receipt of less than Rs. 30/- may, however keep a father, or an adult son, free of personal Residence Surcharge on the responsibility of the Personal Residence Surcharge collector that these males are of actual direct blood connections and not adopted.

- (b) Members of the permanent staff of the Welsh Mission as enumerated below.
- (c) Women possessing no houses of their own.
- (d) Exemptions as specially allotted in the case

of paupers or cripples but great care is necessary in this respect and exemptions should usually only be allowed where there is no heir and where it is clearly expected that the house will be for removal on the death of the party.

(e) Chiefs who are responsible for collection of personal Residence Surcharge and their Khaw-chhiars are exempt.

Chiefs will be held responsible personally for all cases of non assessment of Personal Residence Surcharge which is due and will forfeit commission as set out below accordingly at the rate of Rs. 3/- per case.

9. Commission on actual collection effected by the chiefs responsible will be payable at the rate of Rs. 15/- percent only when the full demand has been actually paid up. This will be paid by deduction from the last payments prior to final credit to the Treasury.

10. The Gurkha Mauzadar is responsible for the collection of Personal Residence Surcharge and he will follow the same procedure and maintain similar books as for chiefs set out above, drawing the same commission.

11. The Personal Residence Surcharge due from personel serving under the Commandant 1st Assam Rifles is collected and credited under arrangements made by the Commandant.

Orders delegating powers of control of all such personnel may be seen at page 69(4).

12. The Government Notification No. 6418 A.P., dated July 9th 1936 states members of the Permanent staff of the Missions are exempt from payment of Personal Residence Surcharge.

The Permanent staff of the Welsh Mission at Aijal has been fixed by mutual agreement in Superintendent's letter No. 2487-G dated 12th December 1931 and reads as follows but exemption is contingent on residence actually within the Mission Compound.

| | | | | |
|-------------|--------------------------------|-----|-----|----|
| Maximum | Pastor | ... | .. | 1 |
| number of | Assistant | | . | 1 |
| shops allo- | Assistant for Teacher Training | | .. | 1 |
| wed but | Compounder for Dispensary | | . | 1 |
| these must | Bible Women | ... | | 1 |
| pay P.R.S. | Press Foreman | . | . | 1 |
| | Printers | .. | ... | 8 |
| | Book sellers and binders | .. | . | 2 |
| | Sub-Inspectors of Schools | | .. | 2 |
| | Teachers for Boys Schools | | ... | 10 |
| | Teachers for Girls Schools | | . | 4 |
| | Itinerant Preacher | .. | ... | 1 |
| | Carpenter | . | ... | 1 |
| | School Chowkidar and Sweeper | | ... | 1 |
| | Coolies | ... | ... | 15 |
| | Servants, 3 for each Bangalow | | ... | 9 |
| | Shopkeepers | ... | ... | 10 |
| | Widows, cripples | ... | ... | 8 |

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----|----|
| Village Crier | ... | ... | 1 |
| Village writer | ... | ... | 1 |
| Press Chowkidar and Sweeper | ... | ... | 1 |
| Teacher at Kulikawn School | ... | ... | 1 |
| Teacher at Tlangnuam | ... | ... | 1 |
| <hr/> | | | |
| Total | ... | ... | 82 |

13. The Salvation Army has been permitted to build a large Church at Aijal and can claim consideration in relation to their needs for purposes of maintaining their work and the following exemptions have accordingly been granted :--

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|-----|---|
| Adjutant | ... | ... | 1 |
| Crops Officer | ... | ... | 1 |
| Circuit Visiting Officer | ... | ... | 1 |
| One pony keeper | ... | ... | 1 |

(d) Standing Order for Lungleh :

1. The same procedure exactly as for Aijal will be followed at Lungleh with the following exceptions only :--

- a. The collecting Agency is the Lushai Clerk, on same system of accounting and commission.
- b. The Vengs covered are as follows :--
 1. Rahsi Veng
 2. Bawng Veng
 3. Bazar
- c. The Officer Commanding Detachment

Assam Rifles will carry out the collections for the Rifles under arrangements made by the Commandant Assam Rifles.

SECTION G.

Settlements which differ in circumstances from ordinary Lushai Hills villages, under chiefs or Headmen. These include the following.

| | |
|--------------|-------------------|
| In the North | Aijal |
| | Champhai |
| | North Vanlaiphai |
| | Tuisenhnar Leilet |
| | Sairang |
| | Kolasib |
| | Mile 45 |
| In the South | Lungleh |
| | Demagiri |

(a) Aijal

1. Of all these Aijal differs most conspicuously and presents the need for the greatest care in administration so let Aijal be taken first.

The need for special treatment may be seen described in the paragraph on page 83 dealing with the necessity for a personal residence surcharge on certain sections of the community. The actual measures that have been

found necessary in addition are set out in the standing orders below. But as these orders refer to the Aijal Reserve particulars of the Reserve are first recorded for convenience as except for Tlangnuam and Maubawk which are just outside, the Aijal Forest Reserve enclosed that area generally known as the Aijal settlement.

The existence of the Aijal Reserve is recognised by the Assam Forest Manual page 167 within the rules for Forests within the Lushai Hills.

The boundary of the Forest Reserve may be seen in the copy of the Superintendent's District Cover. This Reserve is not a reserve for commercial extraction at all. The Aijal area contains so many people for such a small area that the strict preservation of the forest is essential to avoid loss in rainfall, to conserve water that has fallen, and to avoid ruthless extraction of building requirements and firewood. Extraction should only be allowed in the case of dead timber, special Government requirements, or other very exceptional demands.

II. Tree cutting :

- (1) No timber within the Aijal Reserve will be cut without authority of the Superintendent.
- (2) When permission is granted the forest clerk will note particulars in the auction book

maintained by him. This auction book is open to the public within office hours and is maintained to enable the public to know exactly what timber there is to be extracted.

(3) All timber for extraction will be auctioned regularly on each Tuesday morning starting at eight O'clock at the tree which is nearest the office of the Superintendent. At this tree an auction will be held and the tree given to the highest bidder provided it is at a rate in excess of the usual royalty, pending final approval of the bid by the Superintendent.

(4) Unless specially ordered trees will be auctioned singly and not in bulk.

(5) The Forest Officer conducting the auction is responsible that the timber is adequately measured and order to ensure that the price realised in auction is equal to or not below the royalty value. It must be remembered in this connection that the labour of cutting and removal is borne by the buyer.

(6) Passes authorising permission to extract are only valid for three days the date of approval of the bid by the Superintendent.

(7) All trees so extracted must be cut to the level of the ground and the successful bidder is responsible this is done.

III. Jhuming :

Policy

(1) It has been the intention from Author & time immemorial that Government Standing Order. be favoured by easy access to the jhums in the vicinity of Aijal. But the large number of persons who have gradually established themselves in such numbers and to make the personal residence surcharge a necessity has resulted in ever increasing difficulty for those whose duty compels their residence around Aijal and its precincts. Government and Mission employees are themselves, however, to blame to some degree as public opinion and support have not assisted the task of the authorities as much as they could have done. The following orders have been passed for the preservation of the rights of the permanent staffs of the Government and Mission.

(2) To maintain this policy the following orders have been passed :-

(a) The maximum number of jhums permitted in addition to the jhums of Government servants is limited to 30 only, for Thakthing and Kulikawn to be allotted by Lushai Clerk.

(b) Pu Makthanga chief of Aijal, or his successor, may allot only 20 jhums

in all, preference being given to servants of Government Officers.

- (c) In allotting jhums preference must be given to those who are servants of Government of its Officers.
- (d) Members of the Mission staff jhum only in the Tlangnuam land under arrangements made by the chief of Tlangnuam, who is responsible for giving them preference over any other residence of Aijal.
- (e) The Lushai Clerk is entitled to get fathang, and sachhiah from all cultivators except Interpreters, chaprassi, process servers, forest guards, vaccinators and probationers.
- (f) All jhumming on whatever account will be outside the Aijal Reserve, jhumming within being treated as a serious offence.
- (g) The bamboo plot below Sedai Kawn in Tlangnuam land may not be used for jhums ; it is to be kept as a reserve for bamboos for use for building and such other purposes at the discretion of the Superintendent, but these will not be ordinarily used for purposes other than Government's requirements when other arrangements have proved impracticable.

IV. Shopkeeper :

Policy :

(1) The growth of shops dates from the return of men from France and the War - rich in gratuities and savings. Much of this wealth was used to start up shops from which a great fortune was hoped, but due to inexperience, the vagaries of prices, and the general property of the internal economic conditions of the District much of this money was lost. Products of sales were used as current expences gradually resulting in an increase of mere hollow frameworks unsupported by either stock, credit, or ingenuity. The inevitable result was that a tendency arose to make a petty living by an hotel business, subletting surrepticiously, or from the accomodation of many extra families from the interior.

Many of the shopkeepers are in debt to the larger non-Lushai firms. The main assets of these would be presented as the saleable value of the shop site, but this is an empty asset because shop occupancy is not, in accordance with the whole land tenure system of the District, a transferable or occupancy right. The site is Government's own property and the policy being consistently followed and advocated in recent years is the gradual reduction of such buildings

the presence of which is in part the inspitation of the policy of the personal residence surcharge which has for its aim the reduction of population by the least objectionable methods possible. Thus when shops fail the owner should be made bankrupt and in return for his freedom from perpetual debt he should be prevented from trading for a period of years and compelled to go out to the District to take up cultivation to rehabilitate his self respect and general economic normality.

Vacant sites thus vacated should not be resettled on any account, except under very special circumstances.

Author & (2) The following Standing Orders
Standing have been passed to support
Orders. the above policy :--

- (a) When a pass issued to a person for a shop or house in the Aijal Station only the Pass holder and his family may occupy the shop or house.
- (b) Passes are not transferable and no pass holder may sell or sublet or otherwise dispose of his shop without the permission of the Superintendent.

Breach of this rule will entail liability to cancellation of the pass. Persons who had

sublet their shops in 1924 were given the opportunity of getting their passes regularised. Subsequent subletting is, therefore, illegal unless supported by authority.

- (c) The issue of such a pass conference permission to enclose land or make a garden for which separate written permission is always necessary.
- (d) Shopkeepers are bound by all the rules for residence within the Aijal Reserve and for compliance with the orders re-jhuming.
- (e) Shopkeepers have been allowed passes for shops for trade only and not for residence only and as they should be able to support themselves by trading or leave the area they are strictly prohibited from jhuming or employing servants for jhuming. Chiefs concerned will be severely dealt with if they permit any breach of this rule.
- (f) Shopkeepers are personally responsible for the cleanliness of roads in front of their shops. If shops are situated opposite each other each is responsible up to the centre of the road.
- (g) No shopkeeper anywhere within the Aijal Reserve may erect any additional fence or building or alter his building

in any way without permission from the superintendent.

- (h) All buildings within the Bara Bazar must have corrugated iron roofs, not thatch, as a protection to all against fire.

v. Garden :

Author and Standing Orders. The following standing orders control the subject or gardens.

- (1) The making of gardens or terrace cultivation has always been encouraged subject to the provisions that their making does not involve cutting of timber within the reserve without special permission in writing and that no jhuming is recorded to within the Aijal Reserve.
- (2) No gardens may, however, be made without permission in writing.
- (3) The sale of gardens without written permission is invalid. Before giving such permission enquiries will be made concerning the right of parties to sell or buy, due regard being paid to the rules for controlling settlement around Aijal and Lungleh pages 65 and 27
- (4) Gardens are made at the risk of owner and their possession will not be accep-

ted as any ground for protection from any rules or orders passed from time to time concerning control of settlement around Aijal and Lungieh.

- (5) Rules for the control of gardens in areas other than Aijal and Lungieh may be seen under Forests chapter.

vi. Cattle :

Policy

Author As in many other town area settle-
and old ments the subject of cattle presents
Standing great difficulty. It is clear that no
Orders. avoidable brake should be exercised
against the encouragement of milk
cattle. Yet uncontrolled grazing in an area
where there is little grazing and less water is
bound to be a potential source of great trouble
and loss to all property and garden owners.
The drastic remedy of clearing the result to
accomodate cattle is untenable as to Govern-
ment and the Mission are both irretrievably
weeded to Aijal and such a drastic action would
it react through dangerously on the rainfall and
water supply to say nothing of the danger of
soil erosion. The Lushai has not as yet any
idea of housing his cattle in communal sets in
suitable out places in charge of communal
business place rules, to be out grazing between
the hours of morning and evening. But in the en-
couragement of such practices, only, since to lie
any hope of any general increase in milk cattle,

which will not further aggravate the local town cattle missions. For the immediate remedy of neglect cases of neglect the idle pound exists, but this is retaliatory and in no way constructive or acure from the real problem.

Author and (2) The following Standing Orders old Stand- have been passed to support the ing Orders. policy :—

- (a) All cattle not actually stable at night in communal sheds must be tighted up near the owner's house, but no cattle may be tighted up in front of shops or the Government road.
- (b) Cattle trespassing and doing damage to vegetables and gardens are liable to be impounded and the public may seize them and impound them without permission.
- (c) Cattle found wandering on the Government roads or compounds are liable to immediate impounding. This specially applies to cattle straying into the bamboo reserves or Government garden at Dhobi Nullah and such offences are liable to involve fines in addition to pound fees.
- (d) Chiefs are personally responsible that they report at once any cases of the

disease known as PHAR, or suspicious symptoms common to this disease. Such cattle will usually be immediately destroyed and attempts made to segregate other cattle, under arrangements to be made by the Veterinary Assistant Surgeon.

vii. General Orders :

Author and (1) The following Standing Orders
old Stand- are binding :--
ing Orders.

The South road between the Married Line Bazaar and Maubawk will be maintained like other village paths by Maubawk. The North road is closed permanently to the public.

(2) Houses within the Vengs of the Aijal Reserve will not exceed seven hlams in all in length and three hlams in breadth. Cook houses shall not exceed three hlams in length and two in breadth. Shop owners are responsible that all roofs of cook houses are made of corrugated iron, as a preventive against fire.

(3) The practise of allowing a chief to retain half the dhan of a man leaving his village at the village market rates is no longer permitted within the Aijal Reserve.

(4) No resident within the reserve can acquire any right to the site on which his house rests

and no Government servant has any right to occupy any such site after he leaves Government servant except that this rule does not apply to any Government servant in service prior to 1.1.1934, who prior to 1.1.1934 had already a house of his own.

(5) No shotting is permitted within the Aijal Reserve except at vermin destroying of attempting to destroy property of any kind.

(6) The selling of dried fish or rotten flesh in the District Bazdaars is prohibited.

(7) Milk for sale must be carried in fly proof cans with tight fitting lids, and on no account may open receptacles be used.

(8) Government servants buying residence in or near Aijal are hereby warned that they will be allowed to own these houses while actually in Government service and that on retirement they will have to settle in their native village or in a village elsewhere. This order is necessary because it has come to pass that available sites for houses have nearly all been absorbed and many Government servants are being put to great inconvenience due to non-availability of house sites. Many sites are now occupied by retired servants who have settled in Aijal, on the strength of previous Government service, as opposed to their old villages from where they originally came. Due to lack of space this can no longer be allowed. Government servants obtaining permission to occupy sites do so on the above understanding.

(9) (a) Within 5 miles radius of Aijal anyone found in possession of distilled Zu on his person or in his house or of any apparatus used for distilling will be prosecuted and severely dealt with.

(b) The practice of conveying ordinary Zu from one village to another anywhere within the 5 miles radius of Aijal for any purpose whatsoever is prohibited and contravention of this order is punishable-except in the case of one bottle for personal consumption only.

(c) The owners of houses in which any breach of the peace arises as a result of drunken brawls will be held personally liable and chiefs who have permitted such a state of affairs without taking steps to hold the party concerned responsible will themselves be held to be liable.

This area is a artificially populated one with a concentrated population and the above orders are passed for the purpose of preserving the general peace of the community and to emphasize the need for temperance and moderation. The Lushai would dislike being called uncivilised. In all civilised countries drunkenness causing a breach of the peace and a nuisance, not dinking of alconol-is an offence punishable with Jail. There is no ban on persons making Lushai rice Zu for their own personal consumption.

(10) On no account will any of the villages mentioned herein be permitted to increase their houses and chiefs are personally responsible that this is not permitted, further villages will

be reduced as soon as feasible by the natural process of Pemmors not being replaced and no fresh settlers being allowed within the number shown against their names :

| | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Thakthing | 150 | |
| Kulikawn | 50 | |
| Katlaline | 10 | |
| Bara Bazaar | 30 | |
| Chhing Veng | 25 | |
| Chandmari Veng to be cleared in due course naturally. | | |
| Rasi Venghlui | 30 | |
| Sriman Tilla | { | No Lushai house- and by a natural process to be concentrated in one place only. |
| Dokhama | | |
| Survey | | |
| Vaivakawn . . | | |
| Thangphunga Chaltlang | 75 | houses |
| Nikhama Luangmual | 50 | „ |
| Paliana Tlangnuam | 50 | „ |
| Buala Hlimen | 50 | „ |

Zemabawk to be discontinued by natural process unless for any specific reasons.

| | |
|----------|-----|
| Durtlang | 100 |
|----------|-----|

Rangvamual to be discontinued by natural process. If chiefs are found not to be carrying out his policy individual villages not at present within the notification may have to be brought on to a surcharge basis which might be disastrous to any particular village.

The same principles may be applied to those villages similarly placed at Lungleh viz.

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|----------|
| Pukpui | ... | 125 | maximum. |
| Lunglawn | ... | 80 | maximum. |
| Zotlang including Zohnuai | | 125 | maximum. |

VIII. Order specially applicable to relations between the public and personnel of the Assam Rifles.

Author & (1) Within the Surcharge areas
Old Standing of Aijal and Lungleh or else-
Orders. where in the Lushai Hills any

Gurkha householder giving retreat to serving personal of the Assam Rifles not in possession of a Pass signed by an Officer of the Assam Rifles authorising entry to any such householder's house will be personally liable and such action will be treated as an offence. Ignorance of validity of Pass will not be accepted as a valid excuse.

(2) No one may sell or introduce for sale liquor of any kind into any areas occupied by the Assam Rifles or into any defined station, within which any Assam Rifles Detachments may be stationed, except under valid Pass signed by the Superintendent, Lushai Hills, or Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh.

(3) Furthermore no member of the Assam Rifles, dependent or employee agent or resident within any area occupied by any detachment of the Assam Rifles may manufacture or sell any form of liquor except under a Pass signed by the Commandant 1st Battalion Assam Rifles.

(4) No married member of the Assam Rifles not specifically allotted quarters by the Comman-

dant 1st Battalion Assam Rifles may reside within an area where the House Tax is higher than Rs. 2/- per house except with special permission in writing signed by the Commandant. (5) Conduct of relations between Civil Authorities and personnel of the Assam Rifles is also governed by rules under criminal jurisdiction page 144.

(b) Champhai Settlement

1. History.

Champhai is now a flourishing settlement consisting of a large area of wet rice surrounded by a number of hamlets varying in size situated on the foot hills which enclose this fertile valley. Wet rice was originally introduced here by the efforts of Colonel Shakespear, in about 1898, but Major Cole, Mr. Dundas and Colonel Loch also encouraged this very much. The Lushais probably got busy about 1901.

By January 1907 it was necessary to disallow the formation of any more village sites and in 1909 Major Cole laid down for the first time certain rules for strict compliance by the Head-man then in charge who were the following :—

Singbir Jemadar
Vanhnuaikhuma
Lalsanga
Lalluia
Butpawla
Laitea

Sanga
Hlawncina
Thangthiauva.

Singbir Rai Jamadar died in 1912 and his son Sridhan Rai was permitted to succeed to the holding and is still in charge.

Vanhnuaikhuma is a Hualngo by clan and has his own village now at Mualkawi which is supported by jhuming but his son Pakeia, a P.W.D. Mohurir, has a village at Ruantlang and he enjoys jhuming rights as well as some wet rice holdings.

Lalsanga Sailo a descendent of Sailova of ancient fame is now established at Ngur and the wet rice holdings are held by his son Thanghlianga Sailo and cultivated from the hamlets of Tlangsam Zote and Bungtlang. Incidentally the Khawbung Ram which had been, up till then, preserved as Sirkawi was settled by Mr. Parry in May 1925 with Thanghlianga with the reservation that he was not to establish a khawper or independent village. Lalluia came to grief in 1927 it being found that he had attempts to bribe a Chap-rasi resulting in his being sentenced to six months imprisonment and the transfer of his holdings to one Lusheia mentioned below. Mr. Helme gave Lalluia's son Zawnglinga a chance to re-establish his father's hamlet but up to date he has attained little success.

Butpawla carried on well established, in his village till his death in April 1936 when he was succeeded by his eldest son Thansiamas as

there was no reason to remove the Headmanship. The village is Zotlang situated within Pakeia's land. The succession was made provisional for three years, however, as recently this village has been abandoning large Leilet areas and has allowed Colonel Loch's water course to become dry and disused.

Leitea was a Hmar at Zote but on his death in 1911, when, he was killed by a tiger, the land was given by Colonel Loch to Thanghlianga Sailo. This man has done very well in many ways and had been to the Abor expedition also.

Sanga still carries on, well established, and due to his diligence in cultivating all his fields in 1925 Mr. Parry gave him the opportunity of extension by retaining any extra fields abandoned by others. His hamlet is Hmunhmeltha.

Hlawchina carried on till he died in about 1910, when his brother Nunkhara succeeded. Nunkhara established himself in the Zonglign area of Lungleh and Thanghlianga was again lucky getting the Bungtlang holding.

Thangthiauva is a Chawngthu by clan and is established on the Chawnnchim ridge. He is a cousin of Lushaia's.

The only addition to this list of Headmen is Lusheis, Chawngthu by clan for some years Head Interpreter at Aijal, and he was placed in charge of the Melvengs at Chawnnchim and Chhungte by Mr. Mackenzie and in view of his long record of good service Mr. Parry in 1927 appointed to take over Lalueia's holding,

see above, and allowed him to make a village on the Chawnchhim ridge.

Thangtea sometimes known as Thangvela is also an addition. He and Lusheia are half brothers and hold the inheritance from their father Chingaia through his wife Lianmawni who died in 1922.

Thus we have here in 1956 the following established hamlets grouped around the valley none having any right to jhum except Ruantlang, Tlamsam and Zote.

| Hamlet | Headmen | House |
|---------------|--------------------|-------|
| On Chawnchhim | Lusheia Chawngthu | 65 |
| „ | Thangtea Chawngthu | 40 |
| „ | Thangthiauva | |
| | Chawngthu | 48 |
| „ | Sridhan Rai | 27 |
| Hmunhmeltha | Sanga Hmar | 47 |
| Sawntlang | Zawnglinga Zahau | 11 |
| Ruangtlang | Pakeia Hualngo | 94 |
| Zotlane | Thansiamama Hmar | 48 |
| Tlamsam Zote | | |
| Buangtlang | Thanghlianga Sailo | 15 |

It has been very necessary from time to time to lay down strict rules for the management of this settlement to avoid constant destruction of the jungles with the consequent danger to the cultivation through shortage of rainfall, the constant moving of hamlet sites so popular with the Lushai, and to enquire the fields are

fully cultivated and not left fallow. Under the head administration of Justice will be found the rules for the Champhai Panchayat in relation to judicial matters. This Panchayat should be used more and more as an Administrative unit because a single headman specially appointed to control the hamlets has no real authority. Authority can only be maintained if all the Headmen take collective action at once and this is best achieved through the medium of this Panchayat.

11. Description of Champhai Reserve.

Starting from the gate of the below Lusheia's village it crosses the road and follows a stream down to its confluence with Nikang Tuikbur, it follows the old road towards the west up to the point where Rodailova made Seluphan and where it meets Chhungte road. It follows the Chhungte road up to the Government road, along the road up to Tuala Tuikhurlui, up this Tuikhurlui to its Western most tributary which it follows up to the source. From this to the western side of Dardhlalang Tlang at a point where the ground is level near Thangthi-auva's village garden and across this it follows the fence of Mulukbahadur and up the northern fence across the saddle near the Zawlbuk of Sridhan Rai's village, down a stream to Ma vngchiah lui and down this stream to its junction with Bawngdailui, up the Bawngdai lui to its junction with a stream below Kaphnuna's garden, up this small stream to its source and to the starting place.

No one can make any leipui within this boundary.

III. Standing Orders governing the conduct of the Champhai settlement.

1. So long as a man lives in one of the established hamlets named above without jhuming his right to cultivate leilet is hereditary, provided it cannot be established that the field has remained fallow two years in succession when all such rights are automatically extinguished. If a man pems to jhuming village his rights are automatically extinguished and the field lapses with his house to the chief, the land for re-settlement to a successor at no charge to the new-comer.

2. If a field owner dies without heirs his holdings lapse to the chief. If he leaves an heir, the heir has the choice of taking over house and field of deceased or abandoning it in favour of the chief, free of all charges to the chief, for re-settlement as in rule 3.

3. Every villager is due to pay fathang to the chief within whose boundaries he cultivates fields up to a maximum of six Kerosine tins per year and no more.

Fathang is not claimable by a chief for leipui or cotton or vegetable cultivation but a chief can disallow such cultivations if he has valid grounds.

4. Litigation arising within this settlement comprising Vengs named above should be disposed of by the Panchayat in accordance with the provision of Section K(e) page 138.

IV. Head-men

1. Head-men do not acquire any permanent heritable or transferable interest in the lands within their boundaries except in relation to that land which they themselves actually cultivate to which they have the same rights as the ordinary cultivator.
2. Head-men are entitled to fathang up to a maximum of six kerosine tins of dhan per year and to nothing more.
3. Head-men are responsible for the demarcation of their lands and boundaries.
4. The Champhai Panchayat is responsible for repairing damage by cattle to Government roads and Champhai station roads and will make steps to apportion among themselves convenient areas for this purpose. Failure to comply with this instruction may involve repair by Government at a cost divided among the Head-men.
5. Head-men are responsible for the improvement of cultivation within their lands by the application of manure, digging and enlarging, where necessary, the water channels. Schemes involving general benefit not appropriate to anyone Head-men personally should be dealt with by the Panchayat at a special meeting convened for the purpose and all the questions discussed should be recorded with the findings minutes of dissent being noted.
6. Head-men are responsible that no burials take place within the Champhai station and no

grave will be made nearer than 50 hlams from any house in any of the above hamlets of the Champhai settlement.

This order is especially important as present hamlet sites are expected to be permanent and not changed.

7. Head-men are responsible that leipuis are only cultivated in those areas laid down for each village which will be found in the Circle Interpreter's house tax list with the Circle Interpreter, each Head-man having a copy.

Lusheia Chawngthu chief has been permitted to us one area only for cotton viz. Southward from where Saikahlui meets Tuipui not more than 1 mile from Tuipui.

8. There is a local Forest Reserve laid down by Mr. Parry to preserve forest with a view to conserving water supplies vide para (b) above.

9. On no account should building be permitted outside the existing Vengs except for very special reasons.

10. The Hospital at Champhai has been placed there for the good of the people. The vicinity must be kept clean. The following four Vengs in turn will provide $4\frac{1}{2}$ maunds of paddy monthly to a Sweeper who will be appointed to keep the Hospital vicinity clean. In default of the Champhai Panchayat setting this arrangement properly it would be necessary to levy a sanitation Tax in cash for paying a permanent Sweeper $4\frac{1}{2}$ maunds of paddy is an adequate allowance for any Sweeper.

(c) North Vanlaiphai settlement**1. History.**

The first man to be placed in charge here was one Bila who was given full charge of the results of the early opening around 1904 or so. He held charge till 1915 when the settlement passed to another family. Bila for one thing left no one and the Superintendent saw no reason to settle this area with any who was not a direct descendant of the famous ruling chief namely Vuta. This was a decision of clear rectitude and resulted in Sairuma Sailo son of Laibuta Sailo. In 1924 Sairuma left the leilet to take over a village in his father's ram, Saihnuna a hmeifa son of Lalbuta taking over the leilet. Since then Sairuma has again taken over the leilet and it is doing well.

The conditions and control differ in no way to those of the Champhai Settlement and do not therefore need repeating. His tenure is governed in the same way. No need for a special Panchayat has arisen. There would any suitable site near Vanlaiphai not nearer than one miles from the station itself.

(d) Tuisenhnar Leilet.

This is a still smaller leilet settlement. There were originally two Head-men Joybahadur and Nipuia when the leilet was started about 1925. Joybahadur held his till he died in 1932 when his land went to Tawnga Sailo chief of Khawzawl on condition that it remains cultivated

and that he maintains not less than 5 lwmpuis for the Tuisenhnar Bungalow. This leilet may be cultivated to its limit of production.

Nipuia still remains in charge and runs his small holding with credit. He is the son of Buangtheuva Sailo.

The same conditions apply as for the Champhai leilet.

Note.

There are no doubt will be other leilet cultivation which are small and fail from time to time. As new Superintendents come applications are filed with assurance that the applicant will now surely make a success where others failed. My experience has been that the applicant's intention was to acquire the status of chief or Head-man with a view to bringing himself to public notice with ulterior motives, relying for success on satisfying his villagers with jhums often in others lands, or by leipui, cultivation, much the same thing.

Such application should not be granted without the very closest scrutiny and then only provided it is made a condition that the villagers must be supported by the Leilet fields only and that success within three years alone will lead to any further extension.

(c) Sairang

The boundary of Sairang is laid down at page 60 and contains an area contiguous to the

lands of three chiefs viz. Thangphunga chief of Chaltlang, Saikunga Sailo chief of Luangmual, and Khama Palian chief of Hmunpui. Litigation from this settlement is disposed of originally by a Panchayat operating in accordance with the rule vide page 137.

There would be no objection to increasing settlements here provided they were extensions of main village groups. The jungle now operates to create great unhealthiness. Settlers are chiefly induced to stay here because of orange garden work and the availability of a little casual labour.

At present Sairang is the river head for Aijal and is connected thereto by the only cart road in the District. There is consequently a small Bazaar but increase of shops is hardly possible or very advisable either. Trade has been accelerated by the operation of the concessions detailed on page 195.

The chief administrative importance of Sairang lies in its position as a check centre for the entry and departure of Non-Lushais in compliance with the Inner Line Regulations, and this work is performed by the Asstt. Sub-Inspector in charge of Sairang Thana.

Any finance which may fall available for combatting disease or rural uplift could well be spent in improving the water supply, clearing of jungle, and permanent bridging of the main adjacent rivers.

If communications with the plains are ever improved by a cart road to Changsil or a Motor road ex-Aijal to Silchar, Sairang will lose much if not practically all of its importance.

For the burning ghat of Foreigner settlers of Sairang the place just beyond the Bhati nullah on the right bank of the river Tlawng is allotted.

(f) Kolasib

The jurisdiction of Kolasib is laid down at page 45. Here again a Panchayat operates to settle original litigations between the contiguous lands of Ngurliana Sailo of Kolasib, Van-khuma Chenkual of Village Kolasib and Van-hnuaiia Sailo of Thingdawl, in accordance with the rules at page 137.

The chief function of Kolasib is to control the entry of non-Lushais from the plains and discharge a very important obligation through the Asstt. Sub-Inspector in charge of the Thana.

(g) Mile 45.

This is the area where settlement is allowed to non-Lushais who by exceptional services or work in the Battalion can claim special consideration for permanent settlement in the Hills. But if such parties were directly recruited from house already permanently established around Aijal it is not feasible to compel settlement at mile 45 merely because the party retires ex the Assam Rifles for such a practice would at once constitute an unfair hardship.

The inhabitants at miles 45 are, however, administratively under Vanhnuaia Sailo chief of Thingdawl. There is a Panchayat for disposal of original litigation between non-Lushais only which operates in accordance with the rules at page 141

(h) South Lushai Hills. .

LUNGLEH

1. POLICY

Lungleh is not yet so oversettled as Aijal but the same principles are being applied as at Aijal and it is hoped that these will be effective in preventing over settlement.

The area of Lungleh is that described at page 60 the area in which the personal Residence Surcharge is applicable.

II. Standing Orders specifically applicable to Lungleh :-

1. To preserve the jungle around the Theiriatic water supply no jhuming will be allowed in the Tlarum land or on the spurs running Northwards and in a Westerly direction from the Theiriatic peak, within one mile of the Theiriatic water supply.
2. Bathing or washing clothes near the Civil water supply at Lungleh is strictly prohibited.
3. In the absence of a specifically created station Forest Reserve which would require a deficit Forest defective staff control of the cutting timber rests in the Sub-Divisional Officer,

Lungleh who should as far as possible follow the principles laid down for the Aijal Executive Reserve read with the current rules for the use of unclassified State Forests.

Owing to the poverty of the District the only building which is done by the contractors is that which is done on Government account or on account of those who are entitled to extract for their own consumption. But any produce extracted by a contractor or any one else at all for export, or sale after manufacture ex the Lushai Hills is liable to royalty which should be collected and credited to Government as usual.

When any Forest staff is stationed at Lungleh the same methods of auctioning and control of all station timber should be adopted.

4. The rules for control of shopkeepers at Aijal will similarly apply.

5. Cattle will be governed by the principles laid down for Aijal.

6. The general orders for Aijal will where applicable cover Lungleh also.

7. The orders governing relations between the public and personnel of the Assam Rifles at page 102 will also apply.

8. The maximum number of houses permitted in the following Vengs around Lungleh is as follows :—

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----|-----|----------|
| Pukpui | ... | 125 | maximum. |
| Lunglawn | ... | 60 | „ |
| Zotlang including | | | |
| Zohruai | ... | 100 | „ |

(i) Demagiri.

The jurisdiction of Demagiri is laid down at page. 61 There is a Panchayat which deals with original jurisdiction vide page 142-143.

The chief administrative function of Demagiri is to regulate, through the Officer in charge Thana and the Doctor in charge of the Dispensary, the entry of non-Lushais into the Hills. The rules under the Inner Line Regulation see page 66 must be strictly followed.

SECTION H

Taxes, Tribute and Labour.

(a) Policy

Author. The District suffers from economic disability and a reference to the introductory note at page 3 will explain the reasons for the ensuing details of taxes and Labour by impressment is a part of the people's reasonable contributions to the Government in return for services provided and on account of the almost insurmountable difficulty that would attend any attempt to create communications through the Hills capable of sustaining mechanical Transport.

The cash which is available locally to meet these demands is very scarce and is the dominating factor against any possible enhancement.

It follows that for many years the chiefs aim of the Administration must be the provision of means by which the people can raise their general standard of living rather than any in-

crease in the tax burden. The latter will follow naturally in the achievement of the former.

Impressed Labour can not in equity to the general Tax payer be done away with until the yield of increased taxation is sufficient to maintain a very large standing Transport company. Thus increased taxation under present conditions would only be justified in return for a service directly benefitting the people who are paying.

(b) Under the Schedule/District Act see page 13 Taxes and Tribute shall be levied at such rates and in such manner as the Governor may prescribe.

Govt. Notification
No. 2530 (a) A.P.
dated 25.3.1937.

(c) In 1934 the Government took steps to place the collection of existing taxes in the Lushai Hills District on a legal foundation by the issue of Notification No. 4973 A.P. dated July 16th 1934 later modified by Notification No. G.S. 1527 dated August 1937 the full details of which are included in the Superintendent's District Cover.

(d) In the case of one village Chaltlang near Aijal the house tax was raised from Rs. 2/- to Rs. 4/- in view of the fact that in normal and prosperous times the villagers had shown themselves incapable of repaying loans taken from Government in times of distress. It is hoped that this poverty stricken people will migrate to easier conditions or if they remain will become more industrious and therefore be

able to pay this enhanced rate of tax, which will reduce any future irrecoverable losses sustained by Government.

See Notification No. 4336 A.P. dated 5.6.1936.

(e) Standing Orders, House Tax.

1. The following are exempted from the payment of House Tax :—

(a) Cripples, widows, old men having none to look after them provided no exemption is permitted if the total number of inmates of the house in the aggregate should be able to pay the small tax of Rs. 2/-.

(b) Village Khawchhiar.

(c) Men of the Lushai Labour Corps.

(d) Men of the Army Bearer Corps who served in the War.

(e) The wife of any Lushai serving with 20 Burma Rifles provided she is not declining to join her husband on his request.

2. The Standing Orders for assessment of House Tax are as follows :—

Author and (a) The Circle Interpreter will old Stand- make assessment in the village ing orders. Register, Assam Schedule X Form No. 2 New. The chief will sign the list prepared by the Circle Interpreter in token that he accepts responsibility that the list is full and accurate and has his full approval and that the name of no assessee is withheld from the Government.

(b) This list when passed by the chief and the permanent Circle Interpreter and when it has been checked independently it will be submitted to the Superintendent who will sign this list as approved.

(f) In accordance with the Government of Assam's letter No. 1578 R Revenue Department dated 21.5.1932 the appointment became effective of a Gurkha Mauzadar at Aijal for the purpose of exercising some administrative co-ordination over the Gurkha inhabitants within the Surcharge area and for the purpose of collecting foreigner's taxes on a commission basis of 15%. the Mauzadar providing all necessary stationery.

(g) Land Revenue and Shop Taxes.

(1) Policy.

Author and No land can be exclusively owned
Old Stand- by any party and any revenue derived
ing Order. from holdings other than those
covered by House Tax is really a
holding tax. The only revenue paying bodies
at present in the Hills are the Welsh Mission
at Aijal, London Baptist Mission at Lungleh
and Lakher Pioneer Mission at Serkawr in the
South Lushai Hills.

Shops are from time to time permitted in areas where a real demand exists and are assessed according to the area they occupy subject to minimum charges named in the Notification page 85. New shops, should not, however,

be permitted except in very special cases because these generally prove a failure and provide a large house for many non-trading inmates. Shops within the town area, of Aijal and Lungleh are assessed higher than those in the interior.

There are also certain stalls on which higher rates have to be paid because it is held that small stall with no upkeep are in a more advantageous position to trade than the larger houses with an expensive staff and upkeep to maintain.

It is undesirable that any new stalls should be permitted unless economic conditions change so much as to justify an increase. There are sufficient now to cause healthy competition while additions would result in unhealthy price cutting.

(2) Standing orders

Author and (a) Circle Interpreters concerned will
Old Stan- perceive all increaecs and will compile
ding Orders. a list in the village Register showing
names of the house tax assessments.

Names will be shown in the House Tax Registers in a different column to ordinary village house owner's names.

(b) On completion of this list he will take the list to the chief upon whose land the parties are settled and after careful check the chief will sign this taking responsibility for the correctness of the assessment. The Circle Interpreter will also sign the list.

Interpreter will be returned to Superintendent not later than December 1st yearly.

(d) On receipt of this list a Tauzi will be made in Office in exact detail.

(e) All money due as Land Revenue will be paid by the assesses to the chiefs concerned who will pay into the office to the House Tax Clerk showing details of the names on account of which the payment is being made.

(f) At the time when the lists are passed the detailed must be entered up in the House tax Tauzi, an Officer signing the village Register.

(g) The entry in the Tauzi should be completed by December 1st at latest and the House Tax Clerk will report on December 1st yearly exactly how many villages remain unassessed.

(h) The assessment lists when once passed by the permanent Circle Interpreter and the chief will be checked by another Circle Interpreter before final acceptance for the Tauzi.

(i) House Tax Clerk will grant receipts for all monies received. He will open a Register of running receipts with a running total.

(j) At the end of the days transactions he will take his running receipt register to the Headclerk and handover his receipts. The Register will be signed by the Head Clerk in token he has received the sum as shown. The totals of receipts will then be posted to the Cash Book.

(k) As soon as possible after this the money will be remitted to the Treasury through the Treasury Remittance Register.

(l) The House Tax Clerk will submit to Superintendent personally a Progress Report of all House Tax collections totalled from time to time according to his running receipt Register on January 1st, and subsequently bi-monthly till the collection is complete.

(m) No alterations may be made in the Khawchhiar Registers without an Officer's signature.

(n) Due to the extremely low assessment rate of Rs. 2/- per house, only the most pitiable cases should be allowed exemptions.

(3) EXEMPTIONS.

In accordance with orders contained in Commissioner Surma Valley's letter No. 1480 R dated 29.6.1936 the practise of permitting exemptions from House Tax up to a maximum of 10% for any one village, which has been followed from the early days, has been discontinued. Under the former system chiefs in consultation with Circle Interpreters allowed the most pressing cases remission of house tax within the permitted limit. From June 29th 1936 no one who does not possess a written slip signed by the Superintendent or Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh may have remission of house tax.

A slip in the form below will be issued, after full enquiries have been made, and after both the chief and Circle Interpreter concerned can certify that the party has none to support them, lives in a house in which no grown up and strong adult lives, and that the party is unable to maintain themselves without the assistance of charity.

These certificates will form part of a separate case for each grant of remission and touring Officers will from time to time make a note on the record whenever they have been able to make a personal check locally.

Issue Slip

... .. Khua
I vengin chhungin
Sorkar leiman ka awl a che. Kan thu lovin
tuman an phut thei lovang che.

Circle Case No.

ENGLISH.

Circle is allowed remission
of House Tax.

Permanently vide Circle case for the year.
No. and no one may demand
this without my orders.

Certificate to be given first.

Certified cannot pay
Rs. 2/- House Tax per year without undue
hardship and that is not

heir to any property and has no dependents who can maintain. The following lines of enquiry and practise are advised in connection with grants for permission of leiman.

1. The man who eats woman's price should be made to pay the leiman for the woman if she occupies a separate house.

2. The heir should be called on to accept responsibility unless exceptional cases of poverty compel leniency.

3. If a woman is living in a village in a separate house just because she has a married daughter the man who khawmed her husband's property should pay her leiman unless the woman declines his assistance in which case her son-in-law must pay.

The object of the above approach in these matters is to discourage disintegration of Lushai families and to curb any desire to cast off old woman who are no longer capable of bringing wealth to the family.

(h) Grazing Tax.

(l) Policy.

Until a situation arises in these Hills which results in the serious loss of Government capital and resources the first considerations are to place no reasonable obstacle in the way of the resident who wishes to maintain cattle for his own domestic use and the resident who contribute to the public good by the sale of Dairy produce at reasonable prices.

The rates to be levied are regulated by Notification No. 4973 A.P. dated July 16th 1934 page 85.

(2) Standing Orders for Grazing Department.

Author and (a) Circle Interpreters will assess Old Stand- Grazing Tax assesses when they ing Orders. make their village House Tax assessment and will obtain the countersignature of chiefs in case of all assessable cattle within the chiefs own Rams.

(b) Assessment will be made at rates prescribed by Govt. rules in force from time to time, signed by the chiefs and Assessment Lists.

(c) Circle Interpreters' lists will be submitted by Circle Interpreters to Superintendent by December 1st yearly and these will form the Tauzi for grazing dues.

(d) Collections of grazing dues according to Tauzis will be made by chiefs who will hand in such collection with their House Tax.

(e) Any objections to assessment to Tax will be heard by the Superintendent only up to within one month from the date of payment of the dues to the chief by assesses.

(f) Clerk in charge of grazing will issue receipts to chiefs.

(g) Cash received will be entered in the running cash receipt book to be maintained by grazing Clerk and all such receipts will be made

over to the Head Clerk daily who will initial running receipt cash book as token of receipt.

(h) The Tauzi must be marked up on the satisfaction of each demand -

(i) **Impressed Labour**

Govt. Notifica- Every chief and Headman shall
tion No. 2530 be bound to supply labour on
(a) A. P. of requisition of the Superintendent
27.3.1937 or his Assistants at such rates
of payment as may be fixed by
the Superintendent with the sanctions of the
Governor.

(I) **Policy**

Impressed labour is exacted from the inha-
Author. bitants of the Lushai Hills as part payment
of taxation by Government, the only other general
tax due to Government being house tax, the
details of which may be seen at the appropriate
part of these standing rules and orders.

The scale of impressed labour is a maxi-
mum of 10 days per year per house. A Lushai
house generally contains 4 to 6 members of
whom two may be males. There are at the
time of writing some 22500 houses. From
these figures it will easily be seen that even
the maximum liability is very small and when
it is realised further that the maximum has
never yet had to be exacted the incidence of
hardship can be said to be infinitesimal. On
the other hand due to the fact that it is

not possible to cover an 8000 square miles tract with motorable communication, within any reasonable cost, administration would not be possible without this reserve power for emergencies.

A palliative might one day be achieved if the people were desirous of, and, what is still more important, capable of, paying additional taxation for the maintenance of greatly increased standing labour corps as a means of reducing calls that now come within the purview of emergencies. But even then in the absence of a very net work of motorable roads emergencies would arise, from time to time, which would still render the need for impressment, if only on a reduced scale. In such circumstances with the continued reduction of impressment and the very low incidence of hardship it would not pay the Lushai to contribute annually a sum necessary to maintain a large standing labour corps in order to reduce impressment further.

Government maintains a small Transport Corps which has done much to reduce impressment and which has enabled Government to cease impressment for private parties even in this very isolated area. Provided Officers insist on the use of Transport personnel before resorting to impressment the existence of this, apparently onerous, liability by the individual need hardly, if at all, be felt.

Provisions exist for various exemptions and for a responsible measure of tact and consi-

deration to be exercised by the Lushai Clerk on behalf of the Superintendent vide page 39 in the case of the individuals who may be concerned from time to time. Such provisions are covered in the Rules as set below.

(2) Regulations governing

Govt. letter No. impressment of labour in the
Immgn. No. 59/ Hills District and Frontier Tracts
1022-25G.J. dated of Assam.

15.3.1937 received Impressment for the purpose
with Commissi- of transport facilities.

oners Memo No. (1) Porters shall only be
228-30 P. dated impressed for the purpose of
30.3.1937-1-15. facilitating the movements of
officials on duty, for the trans-
port of Government stores or, in cases of urgent
necessity, when other means for securing trans-
port facilities are not possible, for the transport
of persons other than officials.

(2) The impressment of porters shall be made
in all cases by or under the general or special
orders of the district, Sub-divisional or Political
Officer.

(3) The person employing porters shall be
responsible for seeing, as well as he can that
they are fit to carry loads, ordinarily, impress-
ment shall be confined to persons who are
accustomed to physical labour. No porters
should be taken from the villages where infec-
tions diseases such as small-pox or cholera are
known to exist. Women may be employed
where permissible by local custom; but their

employment should, as far as possible, be discouraged. No person should be called up for work on any day on which religious custom prohibits him from leaving the village or from carrying loads.

(4) A day's march for a loaded porter shall not exceed fifteen miles except in very special circumstances. The load to be carried by a porter shall not exceed 60 lbs.

(5) Porters shall not be required to travel more than two marches from their starting point except in very special circumstances.

(6) A porter's wage for a march not exceeding fifteen miles on any one day shall not be less than the normal daily wage prevailing in the locality. This rate will be fixed by the District, Sub-divisional or Political Officer according to the conditions of the locality and other circumstances. For a daily march exceeding fifteen miles the rate of wages shall be double the ordinary rate. Porters carrying loads more than thirty miles from their village shall be paid, in addition to the daily wages, a subsistence allowance at the rate of three annas for every thirty miles or part thereof.

(7) The number of days of employment per person every year shall not exceed the maximum fixed by the District, Sub-divisional or Political Officer having particular regard to local conditions.

(8) In the case of both impressed labourers and voluntary workers, personal inquiry by accident or sickness arising out of their employ-

ment as porters will be dealt with as if the Workmen's Compensation Act applied, sickness being treated as occupational disease.

(i) No compensation will be paid if there is a suit for damages pending in any Court in respect of the accident or sickness.

(ii) The amount of compensation will be calculated in the manner laid down in section 4 of the Workmen's Compensation Act.

(iii) For the purpose of this rule and for the application of section 4 of the Workmen's Compensation Act, the monthly wages will be taken to be the monthly rate of wages prevailing in the locality for work similar to the work on which the porter is employed, as may be fixed by the District, Sub-divisional or Political Officer.

(iv) Employers of impressed labourers or voluntary workers are bound to report to the District, Sub-divisional or Political Officer all cases of sickness, personal injury or death by accident. The District, Sub-divisional or Political Officer on receiving the information and on making such inquiries as he may consider necessary will fix the amount of compensation, if any, to be paid and will take necessary steps for ensuring payment if the amount is payable by any person other than Government. If compensation is payable by the Government he will report the amount with particulars of the circumstances to the Local Government.

(v) Compensation on account of personal injury or sickness will be paid by the District, Sub-divisional or Political Officer or the employer

to the person concerned or his agent. Compensation on account of death will be paid by the District, Sub-divisional or Political Officer to the nearest heirs of the deceased or to their representatives after such inquiry as may be necessary.

(3) District Standing Orders consequent upon the above general conditions read as follows :—

Impressment

Author, Old Impressment for the purpose of
Standing Orders Transport facilities.

and Govt. 1. Porters shall only be impressed

Directions. for the purpose of facilitating
the movements of officials on duty,

for the Transport of Government stores or in
cases of urgent necessity, when other means
for securing transport facilities are not possible,
for the transport of persons other than officials.

Officials shall not impress when the Transport corps personnel is available unless they, by using the Transport Department would be using transport required for parties on whose behalf impressment is not permissible.

2. The impressment of Porters shall be made in all cases by or under the general or special orders of the District or Sub-divisional Officer.

3. The person employing porters shall be responsible for seeing, as well as he can that they are fit to carry loads. Ordinarily impressment shall be confined to persons who are accustomed to physical labour. No porters should be taken

from the villages where infectious diseases—such as small-pox or cholera are known to exist. Women may not be impressed in the Lushai Hills. No person should be called up for work on any day on which religious custom prohibits him from leaving the village or carrying loads harvesting and feasting, illness or difficulties do not occur in every village at the same time. Villages under a temporary disability should be omitted until conditions have become more normal. But in the case of Officers or troops travelling in accordance with joining time rules or any special or urgent instructions the matters must be treated as exceptional and the above order will stand as waived.

4. A day's march for a loaded Porter shall not exceed 15 miles except in very special circumstances. The load to be carried by a Porter shall not exceed 50 pounds.

5. Porters shall not be required to travel more than two marches from their starting point except in very special circumstances and every effort must be made by Lushai Clerk to give chiefs as long notice as possible demands on the Superintendent not usually been acceptable under 10 days' notice.

6. A porter's wage for a march not exceeding 15 miles on any one day shall be 8 annas a day except in the case of the stages below Kolasib when 12 annas a day will be paid.

If the daily march exceeds 15 miles on any bridle path the rate of wages will only be doubled

if this march involves the passing of an established halting stage.

Porters carrying loads more than 30 miles from their village shall be paid in addition to the aforesaid wage a subsistence allowance at the rate of three annas for every thirty miles or part thereof.

7. The number of days of employment per person every year shall not exceed the maximum of 10 days in any one year.

8. In this case of both impressed labour and voluntary workers personal injury by accident or sickness arising out of their employment as Porters will be dealt with as if the workmen's compensation Act applied sickness being treated as occupational disease.

I. No compensation will be paid if there is a suit for damages pending in any court in respect of the accident or sickness.

II. The amount of compensation will be calculated in the manner laid down in section 4 of the Workman's Compensation Act.

III. For the purpose of this rule and for the application of Section 4 of the Workman's Compensation Act the monthly wages will be taken to be at a rate of Rs. 15/- per month.

IV. Employers of impressed labours or voluntary workers are bound to report to the District or Sub-Divisional Officer all cases of sickness, personal injury or death by accident. On receiving the information and on making such inquiries as he may consider necessary the above officers concerned will fix the amount

of compensation, if any, to be paid and will take necessary steps for ensuring payment if the amount is payable by any person other than Government. If compensation is payable by the Government he will report the amount with particulars of the circumstances to Local Government.

V. Compensation on account of personal injury or sickness will be paid by the District, or Sub-Divisional Officer or the employer to the person concerned or his agent.

Compensation on account of death will be paid by the above officer concerned to the nearest heirs of the deceased or to their representatives after such inquiry as may be necessary.

9. The Lushai Clerk is personally responsible for all District arrangements under these rules.

He will submit requisitions for impressment to the Superintendent, Lushai Hills at Aijal or the Senior Assistant when Superintendent is on tour and to Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh at Lungleh. If Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh is on tour and the matter can not wait the Head Clerk may sign the impressment order sending a copy at earliest opportunity to Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh for approval.

The officer signing the requisition is responsible that all factors contained in the rules have been taken into account and the Lushai Clerks are primarily responsible for this.

In the event of any casualties among a transport or labour force enroute the officer

or party for whom the transport has been provided may call on the nearest chief in writing to replace the casualty by supplying the equivalent Transport in man power for not more than one day after which the next nearest chief may similarly be called on to supply portorage. Abuse such privilege would involve liability to a fine in addition to a compensatory payment of double wages to the portorage called out.

Chief supplying portorage in such unofficial requisitions will report at once with requisition to Superintendent, Lushai Hills for check.

10. Any one may at anytime address the Superintendent, Lushai Hills if any case of undue hardship appears to arise in connection with compliance with these rules and in any cases of doubt such hardship would be represented to His Excellency the Governor of Assam whose constant desire is that the people and residents of Lushai Hills should be permitted to pursue their lawful business with the least possible inconvenience to the Lushai and to themselves.

4. Local Exemptions

Author and (1) Men who went to France in Old Stand- the War. This does not cover ing Orders, any relations vide Chief Commissioner's Note dated 3.7.1920 in Political Order No. 15 of 3.7.1920 (Lungleh).

(2) Government servants.

(3) Those in possession of exemption slips granted for reason of physical deformity or other reasons.

(4) School masters.

(5) Chiefs with the following Upas on scale herewith :—

Awl to cover man himself and his children but not their relatives.

Upa Awl Dan List.

| Khua in zat | Khua in zat tling in | Lal Upa | Thir- deng | Pui- thiam | Tlan- gau | Khaw- chhiar. |
|-------------------|----------------------------|------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|------------------|
| 10 | 30 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 40 | 60 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 60 | 100 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 100 | 150 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 150 | 200 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 200 | 250 | 10 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| 250 | 300 | 12 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 300 | 400 | 14 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 4 |

(6) Certain members of the Salvation Army filling Billets as follows .—

District Salvation Army Head ... 1

Sub-divisional Salvation Army Head ... 1

5 Circle visitors in all

15 Central and Circle Officers.

This is on account of their industrial work and not in connection with any Religious aspect of their calling.

1

2

Sadawt or Tlapawis must be nominated by chiefs as one of the Upas allowed to him if he desires such appointment.

1. Chief's official priest.

2. Assistant priest.

SECTION J

Arms and Ammunition.

(a) Policy.

Author Certain rules have been published under the provisions of the Arms Act application to the Lushai Hills and these were published under Notification No. 7782. G.J. dated 14.8.1933 see below page 192.

It was originally laid down that there should not be more than one gun per 15 village houses, and this condition should be aimed at continually.

But due to gun holders moving from one village to another and to sales of guns and to the periodic gravitation of local wealth the distribution is often apt to become out of gear. It is not easy to prevent. If a man who has been allowed to buy a gun wished to leave his village and neither the chief nor the villagers have money with which to buy the gun it is almost inevitable that the gun will go elsewhere. Though it is not always possible to prevent such a man migrating the next best thing is to take a condition of his migration that he should join a village short of guns. Even this is not always possible for there may be special reasons for his having to go to a village which happens to have its allotted quota. But for all these reasons the Superintendent has been given latitude under the above rules.

Another source of danger to the unaware is the introduction of guns from neighbouring

territories, the ground sometimes put forward being that a due can not be paid in cash and, therefore, the acceptance of gun instead is prayed for. The introduction of guns by such means must be stoutly contested for this constitutes the most dangerous of gun increase and maldistribution as well as unfair incidence of gun possession.

The ability to control the position, and the number of guns, depends, like so many matters in these hills, purely on the care the Superintendent and his Officers are prepared to exercise.

While on tour the tour Clerk should be made to keep a record of all such changes made initialled by the Superintendent at the time the license is altered. On return from tour it is a simple matter to initial the permanent registers, when the transactions are closed.

The original orders contained no provision for those guns which would be held outside villages by some of the very large number of Government servants employed in the District. Over a period of 40 years it would have been impossible to refuse continually guns to such employees for special reasons from time to time, but as far as possible such grants should be resisted or effected by means of a corresponding withdrawal elsewhere. The guns held by these employees operate to conflict with the allowance of one gun to 15 village houses. It is undesirable, however, that guns intended to protect village crops should be concentrated in the hands of centralised Government servants.

Detailed Standing Orders to deal with the practise of the above policy are given below.

The system of keeping guns in Circle Registers for easy and immediate check and reference has been done away with by Commissioner, Surma Valley vide his letter No. 601 P dated 12th June, 1936.

(b) The Indian Arms Act was made applicable to Lushai Hills by Notification No. 4505 G.J. dated May 26th 1933, later amended by Notification No. 7781 G.J. dated August 14th 1933 and this connection Notification No. 4202 A.P. dated May 25th 1934 may also be read.

(c) Consequent upon the above Notifications certain rules were passed by the Governor in Council which may be seen by reference to Notification No. 7782 G.J. dated August 14th 1933.

Copies of all these Notifications appear in the District Cover of the Superintendent for easy and immediate reference.

Consequent upon these general rules certain Standing Orders were necessary for District guidance and these are given below.

(d) Standing Orders.

Maintenance of Control of Weapons.

Author and Licenses are generally renewed Old Standing yearly and this is a most important Orders. matter affording an opportunity for officers to check the actual weapons, owners, and licensed with the records

shown in the Registers and this must be done very carefully indeed more so since the abolition of the old system vide page 91.

In these Hills it is necessary to keep a close record of the number of guns in a village at any moment otherwise the practise of Transfers will quickly result in a chaotic maldistribution of the available guns. This necessitates Circle Interpreters keeping records of guns held, village by village, arranged according to circles.

Author and Standing Orders. The following are the District Standing Orders passed in accordance with the provisions of Rule 12 of the Rules published under Notification No. 7782 G.J. dated August 14th 1933.

1. Original and new licenses may only be issued on authority of Superintendent, Lushai Hills, Sub-divisional Officer, Lungleh, is authorised to issue new license to replace old ones provided always no increase results. Licenses will run from January 1st to December 31st yearly and are renewable with no abnormal charge up to January 31st following the 31st December of the year in which the validity of the license expires. License are renewable by Sub-divisional Officer, Lungleh, and Assistant to the Superintendent, Lushai Hills.

Licenses will be numbered as follows :—

Number of gun licenses allotted in respect of forms for Aijal and Lungleh Sub-divisions will be as follows :—

1. Aijal Sub-division :

- (a) For Form XIX from 1-2,999
- (b) „ „ XVI „ 3,000-3,999
- (c) „ „ XVIII „ 4,000-4,999

2. Lungleh Sub-division :

- (a) For Form XIX from 5,000-5,999
- (b) „ „ XVI „ 6,000-6,999
- (c) „ „ XVIII „ 7,000-7,999

This cancelled previous orders on the subject.

2. Licenses in form XVI held by members of the Assam Rifles with previous agreement of Deputy Commissioner, Cachar the following procedure has been adopted to reduce as far as possible labour entailed in maintaining control over these weapons :-

All weapons so held by members of the Battalion will be registered by the Superintendent the licenses being made valid for Silchar and the Lushai Hills and will be maintained in a separate Register.

On September 1st yearly details of all weapons will be sent to Commandant 1st Battalion Assam Rifles with the request to cause renewal of the licenses and to carry out the prescribed check for renewals and to report by December 31st yearly at latest the result of his inspection and that renewals have been carried out by an Officer not below the rank of Assistant Commandant, bringing to notice of Superintendent any and all changes.

In the case of any European license or licenses member of the Battalion leaving the jurisdiction of the Commandant, the Commandant should report the case to Superintendent, Lushai Hills, to ensure check of the weapons concerned.

3. The following practise will be followed in renewing weapons :--

(a) Gun must be checked for safety.

(b) Gun itself must be checked against the description of the license.

(c) The license must be checked to see that if the gun were lost its exact description would be forthcoming in every detail. To this end it shall contain the following informations :--

1. Number of gun License.

2. Licensee.

(1) Name

(2) Occupation of rank if any.

(3) Father's name.

(4) Village.

3. Description of weapon.

(1) Type.

(2) Maker's number where shown on weapon.

(3) Number of gun as stamped on the barrel in cases of weapons where maker's name and number are not available.

(4) Bore.

(5) Any special identifying marks.

(6) Maker's name and residence or residences.

4. Annual allowance of ammunition.

5. Extent of validity of license i.e. throughout India, Provinces, District of individual Rams.
6. Column for annual renewals.
7. Retainer, if any, and his address.
8. Remarks.

(d) The license should also as far as possible be checked with the Office Register. When on tour the particulars of the license should be noted and a check made with the Registers in return from tour and the Register initialled by the Officer making the renewal.

(e) Licenses not renewed by January 31st are subject to payment of double fees or in cases of license renewable without fee to a miscellaneous fine of Rs. 10/- more in the discretion of the renewing Officer.

(f) No revolver license may be renewed on any account without the weapon being produced before the Officer renewing the license vide Chief Secretary's letter No. C.P. 1804-10706-07 G.J. dated 15th December 1931 to address of Commissioner.

4. Exemption from licenses or the payment of ordinary dues is governed by the orders and rules under the Indian Arms Act, no special exemptions being given.

5. Malkhana Registers.

Author and Standing Orders. All guns withdrawn permanently or temporarily will be taken up by the Arms Act Clerk in his Malkhana Register and will be disposed of in accordance with the Magistrate's order, a

brief reference to the order being made in his Register.

All weapons which have to be sent to the Malkhana for custody of the Officer in charge Aijal Thana will be handed over to Sub-Inspector by the Arms Act Clerk who will obtain the signature of the Officer in charge Thana in the Magistrate's Malkhana Register in token that he has received the weapon or weapons. The Officer in charge Thana will take up this weapon in his Thana Malkhana Register and will be responsible for the safe custody of all such weapons or their disposal in accordance with the Magistrate's order.

No Weapon should be destroyed except in the Presence of a Magistrate.

The Officer in charge Thana is responsible no weapon leaves his custody except on a written order of a Magistrate.

7. All Government guns or guns issued temporarily should be issued under license in Form XVIII, the name of license being shown as Government. The name of the individual will only appear in the Register.

An endorsement in accordance with Rule 7 of the rules issued under Government Notification No. 7782 G.J. dated 14th August 1933 will be made in each license have had to pay the license he received been a new one.

9. Muzzle loading weapons not held in Form XIX are subject to an issue fee of 8 annas and a renewal fee of 8 annas.

10. Assam Rifles guns being lethal weapons are not open to possession without license except in any case where specially exempted in writing by the Superintendent.

11. Any Government or Mission licenses changing his station within or without the Lushai Hills or retiring on pension is responsible for reporting the change to the Superintendent so that his weapon may be checked up. Failure to comply with this order may entail cancellation of the license.

12. Double Barrel Breach loading guns should ordinarily not be issued except to responsible Government Officers drawing over Rs. 100/- a month or specially famous shikaris or members of the public who have rendered outstanding service to the country or the District.

13. Guns are not hereditary and are always liable to sale on the death of the licensee each case being decided by the Superintendent or Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh, in his discretion. Guns issued to individuals on the strength of a necessity due to their being Government servants will ordinarily be disposed of to other Government servants or to the villages on the licensee ceasing to be employed.

14. For the purposes of the proper compilation of the Annual Arms Act Return a casualty Register will be maintained at Aijal and Lungleh. Every arrival, departure increase or decrease, will be entered therein. In the case of weapons sent to the Malkhana the Arms Act Clerk must

take special care that confusion does not arise by ascertaining exactly what has happened to all the guns sent to the Malkhana.

A Malkhana Register will be maintained in 3 divisions the guns being classified as follows :-

Category No. 1. Government serviceable guns.

„ 2. Guns on deposit under Court Orders.

„ 3. In temporary custody pending destruction by a Magistrate personally.

15. In the case of guns which are to be sold for redistribution the sale proceeds being due to the license, heirs, or others such guns should be auctioned on a date proclaimed well ahead but settlement allowed only to approved bidders. The shopkeepers and rich men are likely to bid high but it is the duty of the Superintendent to ensure weapons reach villages and that the proportion laid down by rule viz. one gun per fifteen houses be maintained.

16. Due to dangerous frequency of deaths by shooting within Lushai Hills cases of negligence or carelessness should ordinarily involve imprisonment in addition to confiscation of the weapon permanently by Government.

17. A Lushai chief has the right, by Government custom, to buy or cause the purchase of a gun held by a party short, or if the gun concerned is an expensive one of a specification in excess of the customary muzzle or flint loader.

18. No parts of guns or ammunition may be made up without a pass and any breach of this order is punishable as an offence.

19. Special endorsement on licenses in the case of guns presented or allowed to be purchased on the occasion of the Jubilee of His Majesty King George V are made which read as follows :

Jubilee Licenses will be endorsed as follows :
 Pu _____ Lushai
 having given Rs. _____ towards his
 Majesty's Silver Jubilee Fund has been
 permitted to purchase this gun which will
 be permitted to be kept by him or his
 legal heirs and successors for all time,
 specially, except in case of any serious
 criminal act dislocating homicidal ten-
 dencies or moral turpitude or act of dis-
 loyalty against the Govt. in power in
 which case only should this license be
 considered liable to cancellation or appro-
 priation for debt etc.

(e) **Standing Orders re. Ammunition.**

1. The scale ordinarily to be allowed through-
 out the Lushai Hills has been fixed, due regard
 being had to the fact that the area is notori-
 ously jungly, has wide tracts sparsely populated
 and that wild animals abound as follows :—

| | |
|----------------------------------------|-----------|
| Breach loaders Double barrel | 100 caps. |
| Muzzle loaders $\frac{1}{2}$ lb powder | 60 „ |
| Breach loaders single | 50 „ |

The scale in case of D. L. licensees who wish to make their own cartridges is fixed at $1\frac{1}{4}$ lb. gun powder, 100 caps ten pounds small or buck shot per 100 made up cartridges allowed, in accordance with Government letter No. G.P. 10261-2772-23 G.J. dated 24th June 1935 to address of Commissioner.

| | |
|--------------------|-----|
| Revolver | 25 |
| Rifles (Maniature) | 250 |
| Other Rifles | 25 |

Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh is at liberty to restrict the above allowance in his discretion but increases upto 50 %-

1. Licensees are responsible for safe custody of ammunition in their charge and issues or losses which find their way to "mau silais" if traced will usually involve gun confiscation in addition to any punishment demanded by the circumstances of the case.

3. Where Licensees are permitted to make up their own ammunition for smooth bore guns the scale equivalent to 100 cartridges will be as follows :-

- $1\frac{1}{4}$ gun powder.
- 10 lbs. buck shot or small black shot.
- 100 caps.

SECTION K

Judicial

(a) Criminal

Government I. Criminal justice shall ordinarily be
Notification administered by the Superintendent
No. 2530 (a) and his assistants with the exception
A. P. dated that Criminal offences which lie within
27.3. 1937. Lushai Hills customary Law shall ordi-
narily be disposed of originally by
chiefs and Panchayat.

II. The Superintendent shall be competent to pass sentence of death, transportation or imprisonment up to the maximum amount provided for the offence, of whipping and of fine up to any amount : provided that all sentences of death or transportation shall be subject to the confirmation of the Governor of Assam, and provided that all sentences of imprisonment of seven years and up-wards shall be subject to the confirmation of the Commissioner of such officers as may be specified from time to time.

The Governor of Assam, Commissioner or Superintendent may call for the proceedings of any officer subordinate to him, and may reduce, enhance or cancel any sentence passed or remind the case for re-trial, but no offence shall be punished by sentence exceeding that awardable under the Indian Penal Code.

Provided that the Commissioner's power under this rule shall not extend to any case in which a sentence of death has been passed by the Superintendent, the proceedings in such cases being sent direct to the Governor of Assam and only a copy of the judgement being sent to the Commissioner for information.

Assistants to the Superintendent shall exercise such powers as they may be invested with by the Governor of Assam, not exceeding those of a magistrate of the first class, as defined in Criminal Procedure Code.

III. An appeal shall lie to the Superintendent against any order passed by any of his assistants.

No appeal shall lie as a matter of right from any sentence passed by the Superintendent involving less than three years' imprisonment.

An appeal shall lie to the Commissioner against sentences of three years' imprisonment and upwards and to the Governor of Assam from all sentences of death or transportation.

In respect to magisterial decisions of the Commandant of the Military Police, the Superintendent shall exercise the appellate and revisional powers conferred upon the Court of Sessions or the District Magistrate by the Code of criminal procedure in the case of decisions of the class of Magistrates, with the powers of which, the Commandant of Military Police has been invested.

The Governor General reserves to himself the prerogative of revising the proceedings of the Governor of Assam and his subordinate and passing such orders as he may deem fit.

IV. All appeals must be presented within 30 days from the date of the order appealed against, excluding the time taken in procuring a copy of the order; provided that an appeal from sentence of death shall be preferred within 7 days from the date of the sentence.

V. The procedure of the Governor of Assam, Commissioner, Superintendent and all Magistrates shall be in the spirit of the Code of Criminal Procedure as far as it is applicable to the circumstances of the Lushai Hills and consistent with these rules.

VI. The administration of justice is always to be conducted in the most expeditious and

most simple manner compatible with the attainment of the object in view.

VII. A note of the substance of all the proceedings in cases tried before them must be kept by the Superintendent and all magistrates in the form prescribed by Act IX of 1898 except in cases requiring a sentence exceeding three years when a full note of the evidence and proceedings must be kept, examination and proceedings shall ordinarily be recorded in English only.

VIII. No pleader shall be allowed to appear in any case except with the special permission of the Superintendent. The term "Pleader" includes Mukhtiar or any other professional agent recognised by the Court.

IX. The Superintendent and all magistrates shall keep such registers of criminal cases and submit such returns as the Governor of Assam shall from time to time prescribe.

Note :—Methods of maintaining registers and submission of returns are dealt with below within Standing Orders for judicial matters.

X. (i) When the Superintendent passes sentence of death, the proceedings shall be submitted to the Governor of Assam and the sentence shall not be executed unless it is confirmed by the Governor of Assam. Special rules for conduct of proceedings subsequent to confirmation of death sentence are given at length after Para. (b) below.

(ii) The Superintendent shall inform the accused of the period (namely, 7 days) within which, if he wishes to appeal, his appeal should be preferred.

(iii) In any case submitted under clause (I) the Governor of Assam :—

- (a) may confirm the sentence or pass any other sentence warranted by law, or
- (b) may annul the conviction and convict the accused of any offence of which the Superintendent might have convicted him, or order a new trial on the same or an amended charge, or
- (c) may acquit the accused person.

Provided that no order of confirmation shall be made under this clause until the period allowed for preferring an appeal has expired, or, if an appeal is presented within such period until such appeal is disposed of.

XI. When a sentence of death passed by the Superintendent is submitted to the Governor of Assam for confirmation the Superintendent shall on receiving the order of confirmation or other order of the Governor of Assam thereon, cause such order to be carried into effect by issuing a warrant in the form given in Schedule V, No. XXXV, of the Criminal Procedure Code, or some similar form, or taking such other steps as may be necessary.

The Superintendent shall fix the time and place of execution, and the time fixed shall not be less than 21 or more than 28 days from the date of issue of warrant.

Explanation :—This rule does not affect rule 853 of the Assam Jail Manual.

(1) (a). The Governor General of the Governor of Assam may, either upon conditions or without conditions suspend the execution of any sentence or remit any punishment.

(b) If any sentence has been suspended or remitted upon conditions, and in the opinion of the Governor General or the Governor of Assam as the case may be, those conditions are not fulfilled, the Governor General or the Governor of Assam may cancel the remission and order the sentence to be carried out and, thereupon, the person in whose favour the sentence had been suspended or remitted, may, if at large, be arrested by any police officer without warrant and remanded to undergo the expired portion of the sentence.

(ii) The Governor General or the Governor of Assam may commute any one of the following sentences or any other mentioned after it :-

death, confiscation of property, imprisonment, whipping, fine.

(b) Special orders have been passed by the Government of India vide their letters No. F 450/36/ Judicial (Govt. of India) Home Deptt. dated 17.3.1937/24.6.1937 to ensure that the procedure for formalities in case of prisoners under sentence of death is strictly complied with - and these rules are fully recorded in the Superintendent's District Cover for safety and easy reference.

(c) Rules for Superintendents of Jails were also published vide Government of India Home Department No. F/497/32 Judicial, dated 4th September 1933 and these have been fully recorded in the Superintendent's District Cover.

Author, Govt. (d) **Standing Orders on the appearance of Pleader in the Lushai Hills District.**
Rules and Standing Orders.

In accordance with the principles enunciated in Government of Assam letter No. 78-80 P.T. Political dated July 19th 1916 and Rule (a) VIII above at page 160 the following considerations will be weighed in relation to the granting of permission to Pleaders to appear in a Court in the Lushai Hills.

- (i) Unless there are strong reasons for refusal persons who are not natives of the Hills should be granted permission to employ Pleaders in Criminal cases.
- (ii) If the party is accused particularly strong reasons would be necessary to justify refusal of permission to employ a Pleader in criminal cases.
- (iii) In the case of natives of the District similar principles should be followed in criminal cases, though it is not anticipated that the practise of employing Pleader would often be resorted.
- (iv) More discretion may be given in case of employment in Civil cases but care would be necessary to ensure fair play for a Hill man who is a party in serious suit in which the other party is represented by a Pleader.

- (v) When requests for appearance by Pleader are refused the reasons should be given in writing.

Author and (e) **Standing Orders in relation to**
Old Stand- **Criminal matters in the Lushai**
ing Orders. **Hills.**

(i) No case which is decided by Lushai custom not being an award under the Indian Penal Code, will figure in the registers of Criminal cases.

(ii) The Indian Penal Code is in force (see Notification No. 922 P dated April 1st 1898 page 14, above) but nothing done contrary to this Act will be held to vitiate proceedings unless specific has been suffered unfairly by a party or unless an officer has failed to act in good faith.

(iii) In cases in which non-Lushais are concerned it is the intention of the Government that parties shall be treated in a legal sense as they would be treated in regulation districts and it is not the intention of Government that such parties should acquire privileges that would not accrue to them elsewhere or alternatively be deprived thereof.

(f) **Civil Justice.**

Govt. Noti- (i) The administration of Civil
fication No. Justice in the Lushai Hills is en-
2530 (a) trusted to the Superintendent and
A.P. of his Assistants, who shall take
27.3.1938. special cognizance of well-established
Lushai custom.

Ditto (ii) No stamp shall be acquired in any suits brought by house tax paying natives of the Lushai Hills district before the Superintendent or any of his Assistants, and the parties, if house tax paying natives of the Lushai Hills district, shall be put to no cost further than their own actual expenses. All parties other than house tax paying natives of the Lushai Hills district shall pay fee according to the scales fixed in the Court Fee Act 1870. No Pleaders or Mukhteers are to be allowed in any matter between villagers or villager and in all cases where the chiefs are personally concerned, they are, as far as possible to be personally dealt with. Agents are only to be allowed when the personal presence of the chief is inconvenient or impracticable. But chiefs should not be called for appeals of no great importance when a proper record of the chief's orders, with reasons, is before the Appellate Court.

Govt. Notifi- (iii) There shall be no imprison-
cation No. ment for debt, except in cases
2530(a) A.P. where the Superintendent is satis-
of 27.3.1938. fied that fraudulent disposal or
concealment of property has taken
place.

(iv) The Governor of Assam, Commissioner, or Superintendent may, on application or otherwise, call for the proceedings of any case decided by any officer subordinate to him and pass such orders as he may deem fit.

An appeal shall lie to the Superintendent against any decision of any of his Assistants, and to the Commissioner against a decision of the Superintendent, original or appellate, if the value of the suit involves a question of tribal rights or customs or of right or possession of, immovable property; Provided that the petition of the appeal accompanied by a copy of the order appealed against and by a clear statement of the grounds of appeal be filed within thirty days from the date of decision, excluding the time required for obtaining a copy of the decision. An appeal which lies to the Commissioner may be presented to the Superintendent, who shall if it be in order and presented in due time, endorse upon it the date of receipt and transmit it with the records of the case to the Commissioner.

The decree of the appellate Court shall be transferred to the Court passing the original order for execution as a decree of its own.

V. The Courts of the Governor of Assam, Commissioner, Superintendent and his Assistants shall be guided by the spirit of the Code of Civil Procedure, so far as it is applicable to the circumstances of the Lushai Hills and consistent with these rules.

(g) General Standing Orders for the conduct of Civil Jurisdiction in the Lushai Hills.

Author and (i) All Civil Cases between Lushai's Old Standing should as far as possible be decided by Orders, chiefs and according to Lushai custom, and litigation should be strenuously resisted.

The Jurisdiction of chiefs and Panchayat covers all original cases criminal or civil except the most grave such as murder, grievous hurt, suicide or attempted suicide, rape and any specially heinous crimes.

(ii) Cases between parties in the same village should invariably be heard by the chief and Upas of the village, and a clear order with a brief statement of the reasons for the order should be recorded in the village register and signed in the village case order book by the chief or Khawchhiar. Representations by a chief that he can make no decision in any particular case and, therefore, desires an officer to try the case should be declined.

(iii) Orders passed by chiefs should be entered in the village order book at the time of decision of the case.

(iv) Neighbouring chiefs should make every endeavour to sit together as a bench to decide any disputes between their villagers, Petitions filed by such individuals to Officers should be referred back, therefore, to the two chiefs concerned for original disposal when the parties resided in adjacent villages.

Where the villagers are far apart such procedure is not easily practicable.

(v) Original Civil cases between parties of different villages should ordinarily be disposed of by Assistant to the Superintendent but all appeals from Panchayats and chief's orders should ordinarily be heard by the Superintendent, as he is the final local authority.

The hearing of appeals by officers whose decisions are open to appeal to the Superintendent constitutes an unnecessary stage in litigation and results often in much needless waste of time.

(vi) Appeals from orders of Panchayats and chief shall lie only up to three months from the passing of the order appealed against.

(vii) Villagers must settle their cases with co-villager before they pem. Villagers bringing cases against their late co-villagers to the Head-Quarters' Courts will ordinarily be referred back to their late Chief.

Similarly parties should bring any cases they may have against those about to pem before the pemmers leave. If they do not do this they will be referred to the pemmer's new chief, if they bring the matter to the Head-quarters' courts, in the absence of any very special reasons.

Chiefs are personally responsible for taking all possible steps to ensure this procedure is observed and any action by them interfering with parties pressing for settlement will not be tolerated.

The above are the general principle but Courts reserve the right to pass any special orders if the circumstances appear to warrant this.

(viii) All petitions to the address of the Superintendent or his Assistants must bear the forwarding note of the petitioner's Chief,

who should record his opinion on the petition. This rule does not apply when the petition is in connection with any allonged grievance against the chief himself or an order concerning a case with which the petitioner is connected.

Petitions not conforming with this requirement should usually be returned as failure to compliance, will quickly tend to undermine the authority of the chiefs over their villagers.

Chiefs are responsible that they support no frivolous or vexatious petition and failure to exercise proper control over this will entail liability to punishment.

Government servants still in service are not subject to this restriction.

(h) Orders regarding the method of dealing with cases in which Non-Commissioned Officers and Riflemen of the Military Police are concerned.

Criminal Jurisdiction.

(1) The Commandant and his Officers are vested with magisterial powers under the Assam Rifles Act I of 1920 to proceed judicially in the cases enumerated in this Act. Also they are authorised to deal departmentally with personnel of the Battalion. The Procedure governing appeals is dealt with in the rules for the administration of the Lushai Hills read with the Assam Rifles Act and the Manual.

Certain principles, however, should be followed when personnel of the Battalion become concerned with the Civil authorities or parties not under the jurisdiction of the Commandant and those may be indicated below.

(ii) A member of the Assam Rifles will not be arrested by the Civil Police unless he is caught in the act of committing a serious cognisable crime and his arrest is necessary for purposes of identification and to avoid the commission of further crime.

The ordinary procedure is for a proper report to be made in writing to the Superintendent, Lushai Hills or to an Assistant Superintendent, and if on enquiry it is the Commandant at Aijal or the Officer Commanding Detachment at Lungleh, a copy of the process with a brief report being sent by the Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh to the Commandant.

(iii) In the ordinary way when a criminal complaint is made to the Superintendent, Lushai Hills or an Assistant against a member of the Assam Rifles the matter should be investigated by the Superintendent or an Assistant and if after examination of all the circumstances it is found that the matter appears to be of such a nature that it is not possible to send the matter for disposal by the Commandant process for appearance of the accused should be issued through the Commandant of the Officer Commanding Detachment at Lungleh, a report of the circumstances being

at once sent by the Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh to the Commandant.

Process should only issue after a full statement of the case has been made by the complainant and the Officer recording the complaint is satisfied that a prima facie case has been made out against the accused of such a nature that it should be tried in a civil court of criminal jurisdiction.

(iv) When cases are sent to the Commandant a note should be made requesting a short report on the details of the findings and the action taken.

(v) The underlying principle in relation to disputes in which members of the Assam Rifles are concerned is that as far as possible it is better that the party be dealt with by the Commandant because a criminal conviction in a Court of Civil Criminal Jurisdiction is a very serious matter of personnel of the Assam Rifles and can often involve dismissal from service. There are many petty offences technically punishable under the Criminal Codes, which however, are far better disposed of by the Commandant under powers conferred on him by the Assam Rifles Act.

(vi) It is emphasized that where personnel of the Battalion are concerned in really serious crime and investigation on serious allegations is necessary and such investigation should invariably be carried out by the Superintendent or an Assistant with the Assistance of the Commandant.

It is undesirable that the Civil Police should be used to investigate such matters unless in theft cases or mischief cases when the Commandant may desire the services of an expert policeman.

Civil Jurisdiction.

(vii) Civil matters between members of the Assam Rifles and the public are generally settled by the Civil Courts.

(viii) The supply of goods to members of the Assam Rifles except for cash, as well as the giving of loans, are strictly forbidden.

Traders or others indulging in such practices will be liable to severe punishment possibly involving removal from Aijal.

(ix) Members of the Assam Rifles being specially vulnerable to claims of many kinds have the right to the very special care of the Courts in order to ensure that no unfair liability is imposed.

When, however, Civil Decrees are passed against personnel of the Assam Rifles, a copy of the order should be sent to the commandant with the request to expedite to the realisation of the decree as early as possible and left with the commandant for realisation.

(i) General Standing Orders Judicial.

(i) Only documents having the dates and signatures of the writer may be accepted as evidence in any Court in the District.

In the case of handnotes for cash or promissory notes for acceptance in a court they

must bear the date of the transaction and the signatures or thumb impression of the borrower, the writer and a minimum of two witnesses.

(ii) All clerks, Interpreters and Chaprasis are strictly prohibited from interfering in cases in any way, attempting to help parties to suit or giving any information to them unless directly ordered to do so by an officer. The attention of all clerks and chaprasis is drawn to rule 17 of the Government Servants' Conduct Rules and they are reminded that they are prohibited from giving any information acquired by them in the course of their duties to outsiders or to each other unless specifically ordered to do so by an officer. Any breach of this order will be punished with dismissal.

(iii) The following is the method by which cases will from time to time be classified:--

Miscellaneous :

Cases decided by tribal custom or civil claims between Lushais will be termed "miscellaneous".

Criminal

Only cases involving awards under the Indian Penal Code or Criminal Procedure Code will be termed "Criminal"

Civil.

Only cases in which awards are made on civil claims involving at least one non-Lushai who have been permitted to settle within a

Lushai village in accordance with Lushai custom.

Political cases

No case will be classed Political which can conveniently be classed under one of the headlines above and should ordinarily only include those in which a whole community is concerned such as failure to maintain roads or supply porters or possibly cases involving chiefs' inheritances or land dispute.

(iv) The following registers will be maintained in the manner directed below, the methods employed aiming inter alia at the easy compilation of the annual statement as required from time to time for Courts not under the jurisdiction of the High Court of Calcutta.

(1) Crime Register.

To be maintained as per Government form but the additional information for the purpose of annual statement requirements as to the number of accused, witnesses per case and number acquitted, discharged or sentenced.

(2) Miscellaneous Register.

As per Government form.

(3) Appeal Registers Civil and Criminal

As per Government form.

(4) Fine Register.

One for all officers combined.

Orders governing conduct of fine register.

(a) It is the positive and personal duty of an Officer passing an order for fine to ensure that the order is then and there entered up by the case clerk and initialed by the officer; any slackness in this respect by the case clerk should be severely dealt with.

(b) By the process of para (a) above this fine becomes a demand. It being a criminal fine this must be realised within a month and the case clerk is responsible for any further delay unless he is covered by an order in writing by the officers passing the fine.

Every effort should be made to avoid the dragging out of realisations or settlements or criminal fines.

(c) On payment or settlement of the fine the case clerk is responsible for obtaining the officer's signature in token of acquittal an appropriate entry being made by the officer in the record.

(d) At the close of any day fine money realised will be handed over to the head clerk who will initial and date each separate item in the fine register concerned, and will enter the total in the cash book.

(e) The fine collections so realised will be remitted to the treasury by the Head clerk at the first opportunity.

(f) The fine register must be signed once a month by the officer concerned and the case clerk is responsible that the register is put up accordingly.

(g) The officer in charge of the fine register should occasionally check credits into the General Cash Book as a check these are reaching the Treasury.

(5) Daily Register of Court Fees.

Court fees and petition fees are paid by non-Lushais. These fees will be entered in the process fee register and a running total of monthly receipts will be maintained and the monthly totals from time to time carried over under the signature of an Officer. This method will permit of constant check and easy compilation of the Annual Return.

(6) In entering up Civil Suits they will be classified as below at the time of entry which will greatly facilitate the compilation of the Annual Return :—

| | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|-------------|--|----------|
| Under Rs. 10/- | | | | "A" Case |
| Over Rs. 10/- | and under Rs. 50/- | | | "B" Case |
| Over Rs. 10/- | „ „ | Rs. 100/— | | "C" Case |
| Over Rs. 100/- | „ „ | Rs. 500/ | | "D" Case |
| Over Rs. 500/- | „ „ | Rs. 1000/- | | "E" Case |
| Over Rs. 1000/- | „ „ | Rs. 5000/- | | "F" Case |
| Over Rs. 5000/- | „ „ | Rs. 10000/- | | "G" Case |

Cases which cannot be estimated in money "Z" cases. Thus when four "A" cases have already been entered and another "A" case is for entry, it will be marked "A-5."

These classification marks will be entered in column 28.

For purposes of Annual Return therefore all that will be necessary will be to take the last entered in each of the figures in column 23.

(7) **Political and Border Meeting Registers in per form or as convenient from time to time.**

(8) **Ward Register.**

This is a register maintained separately to ensure the accurate and regular cases involving property or cash being kept by the Superintendent on behalf of Government until such time as the wards may come of age or under control of Government.

This is very important as many of the cases involve cash certificates and such certificates should be reviewed annually to test their ability to earn interest, steps being taken when necessary to renew or change these in consultation with the interested parties.

Such reviewing should be initialled by an officer in token that this has been done.

Care should also be taken to verify valuables which may be in the custody once a year on reviewing the items of this register.

(9) **Deposit Register.**

(a) Receipts should be shown on one page and payments on the other. No running total to be kept in this as it would serve no purpose.

(b) Each receipt entry from a judgement debtor will be numbered serially. Serial numbers

to run through a month only, numbering to start afresh at the beginning of each month.

(c) All receipts at the end of the day will be handed over to the Head Clerk in which Head Clerk will register his initial. These receipts will be shown in Head Clerk's Cash Book. On receipt of day's deposit from case clerk, the head clerk will initial deposit register total in token of receipt.

(d) The Head Clerk's Cash Book will show from time to time the total decretal money in hand. The deposit register receipts which constitutes this total in the Head Clerk's Cash Book.

(f) Actual payments of such amounts to decree holders will be made only in front of an officer, the Superintendent or an Assistant who will initial the payments made both in the record and in the Deposit Register.

(g) As each sum is made over to the decree holder the case clerk will write mark off in red ink each entry on the receipt side which has just been paid out.

The purpose of this action is to be able to see at a glance instead of having to search through records the exact details of all sums still due for payment to decree holders and the total of all sums on the receipt side of the Deposit Register not marked with a red mark should total up to the sum held in deposit as shown in the Head Clerk's Cash Book.

(h) The Head Clerk will report to the Superintendent when the decretal deposit exceeds

Rs. 500/- when special steps should be taken to make payment to Decree holders.

(i) Case Clerk is authorised to accept money from judgement Debtors and he will grant receipts to the parties and is responsible for the receipts till he hands these over to the Head Clerk on the close of the day's work on the day of receipt.

(j) Special steps to be taken when the total deposits shown in the General Cash Book exceed Rs. 500/-

(i) Circle Interpreters, Chiefs on visit to Aijal or recognised village Khawchhiars on visit to Aijal may be trusted with decretal money, which money will be handed over to them only in the presence of an officer who will cause to be written on the record for his signature the following entry in red ink for early and quick identification.

Paid to Circle Interpreter
Chief
Khawchhiar.

Rs. for payment to decree holder
.....

Balance due cash in hand
..... nil.

(ii) The case clerk is responsible that a receipt is obtained from Circle Interpreters for all sums entrusted to them and that such receipts are to hand within one month of money being made over to the Interpreter.

(iii) On production of the decree holders receipt by the Circle Interpreter the Case Clerk

will produce the Interpreter before an officer with the record Officer will record on the case sheet "receipt produced added to the record" and he will then sign the receipt as a precaution against its further use.

The case clerk should give Circle Interpreters details of all moneys and Khawchhiars which remain unacquitted after six months from the date of handing over the sums. It is anticipated however such cases will not be many or if the Decree Holder appears subsequently and verbally admits receipt of the sum he may be brought before an officer and on his admission, the officer should make a note accordingly which will acquit the chief or Khawchhiar concerned.

(iv) All deposits not claimed by decree holders within six months of receipt will be made over automatically to Circle Interpreters who will be permitted to retain 10% as payment for the additional responsibility involved in carrying a decree holders dues to his house for him.

(v) Execution cases will be kept circle by circle and will form part of the original record, the cases being finally disposed of when execution or settlement is complete.

(vi) Whenever feasible the plaintiff should be given two parwanas for the purpose of calling his parties and the defendant.

The plaintiff shall give one copy to defendant and obtain defendant's signature or mark

on his other copy. If the defendant refuses to sign, he is responsible for moving the chief.

(vii) Whenever cases involving Gurkha Customs are tried by chiefs in Aijal surrounds, the Gurkha Mauzadar must be asked to be present for consultation on customs. This affects cases for disposal by chiefs of Aijal, Tlangnuam, Chaltlang, Luangmual and Thakthing Panchayat.

(viii) A judgement Debtor offering any animal to a decree holder must be accepted without argument and at once. If decree holder wishes to contest valuation he may after receipt, but if he declines receipt at once and the animal dies or gets diseased the Judgement Debtor is relieved of all responsibility.

(ix) If the decree holder cannot point-out assets, the case must be struck off unless, in opinion by the court, the Judgement Debtor should be submitted to coercive measures as in cases where default is on account of some customary award of criminal nature.

(x) To sustain the Government's policy of discouraging the Lushai in litigation a fine upto Rs. 10/- will be pronounced in cases where the subject matter of disputes, on which final appeal orders have been passed, is again raised by any interested parties at a later date.

(xi) At the hearing of suits in which Lushais serving in the Assam Rifles are cited as defendants, the trying courts should be satisfied beyond any doubt, that the Rifleman concerned is the person liable for the claimed preferred before passing any decree against him.

Further, when decrees are used against rifleman, no court order of attachment of any portion of their can be issued, as this does not amount to Rs. 40/- per mensem.

A copy of the decretal order is to be forwarded to Commandant, 1st Assam Rifles, with a request to realise the amount from the rifleman concerned. The mode of realisation will rest entirely with the Commandant, who, I am sure, will do so as expeditiously as possible, and with due regard to the circumstances in each case.

(j) Rules for the disposal of original jurisdiction, subject to general provision of the above orders, by Panchayats, constituted as below for the purpose of reducing unnecessary litigation at Head Quarters Courts in accordance with the intentions of these rules.

(a) Authority shall vest in these Panchayats as for Lushai Chiefs appointed by Government to hold charge of villages, the usual appeals lying against all orders passed.

(b) The Panchayats should hear all witnesses named and produced by parties if necessary summoning those who may decline to appear voluntarily, and after hearing both sides of the disputes and cross examining the witnesses where necessary come to a decision, which should be put down in writing and signed by all members of the Panchayats. The parties should then be informed in open court of the decision. The President shall sign and date the Order recording what members were present

and who, if any, dissents from the majority decision. Below are given in detail, the details of the various Panchayats.

C. Sairang Panchayat.

(i) The jurisdiction of the Panchayat will extend to all the individuals and hamlets within a radius of two miles from the Police Thana, Sairang.

(ii) The Panchayat shall consist of an Upa to be nominated in writing by the chiefs of Hmunpui, Sakawrtuichhun and Chaltlang.

(iii) Decisions must be unanimous, in default of which a report must be made by the Panchayat to each of the three chiefs who will then fix a date for their joint appearance at Sairang for disposal of the matter under review.

(iv) The Upa of the party pressing for decision is responsible for informing his co-members that a court should be held and in no circumstances should the members delay more than a week from the date of intimation of the case for disposal.

d. Kolasib Panchayat.

(i) The jurisdiction of the Panchayat will extend to all the individuals who live within the villages of Kolasib, Tumpui, and Thingdawl, with the exception of foreigners who are mutually involved with each other in some Civil Disputes. Such parties already have a Panchayat to which they may take their cases at Aijla.

(ii) The Panchayat will consist of the chiefs of the three villages above and they may be assisted by one Upa each, who will have no official place on the Court.

(iii) Decisions will be by majority finding, the usual appeal lying.

(iv) The chiefs are jointly and severally responsible that complaints are taken up as soon as possible and in no case more than a week after the chief of the party pressing his claim gives intimation to the other members.

(v) The President of the Panchayat will be Vanhnuaia, Sailo, or his successor followed by Vankhuma followed by Ngurliana, Sailo or their successors in rotation yearly from January 1st. The resident is responsible for calling meeting of the Panchayat.

e. Champhai Panchayat.

(i) The following Head Men will constitute the Champhai Panchayat, or their successors Lusheia Chongthu of Chawnychhim and Chhungte.

Thanghlianga, Sailo of Tlangsam, Hmuntlang,

Sote and Khawlung.

Sridhan Rai of Chawnychhim

Thangthiauva of Chawnychhim

Sanga of Chawnychhim

Thansiamsa, of Zotlang.

(ii) The jurisdiction of the Panchayat will extend to all persons resident within the villages from which Leilet cultivation is carried on, and shall in any case extend to all settlements within two miles of Champhai Hospital.

(iii) The presidency of the Panchayat will be held in rotation for one year commencing from the 1st January each year. The hamlet having the greatest number of revenue paying houses will provide the first President and subsequent Presidents will be similarly chosen in rotation.

(iv) The President shall fix date for the sitting of the Panchayat and in no case will more than a week elapse from first intimation that a member has a party pressing for a claim.

(v) Decisions will be by majority, the President having a casting vote which when necessary should always be given in favour of the accused or defendant.

f. Thakthing Panchayat

(i) The following or their successors will constitute the permanent members of the Panchayat :—

Lushai Clerk.

Chief of Tlangnuam.

The following are the existing members of the Panchayat :—

Thanga, Second Clerk,

Hrangdawla, Lushai Superintendent's Head Interpreter.

Laldailova, Clerk, Civil Surgeon's Office.

Telela, Compounder.

Saikunga, Shopkeeper.

(ii) Changes in non-permanent members must have Superintendent's approval, which will

only be given on an unanimous recommendation of the members.

(iii) The jurisdiction of the Panchayat will extend to the residents of Tlangnuam, Kulikawn and Thakthing.

(iv) The presidency of the Panchayat will vest in the Lushai Clerk and the Chief of Tlangnuam alternatively and annually commencing from 1st January.

(v) The President shall notify when the Panchayat will sit and these Courts should be held not less frequently than once a fortnight.

g. Gurkha Panchayat, Aijal.

(i) Cases will be triable only on receipt from Superintendent, Lushai Hills, and such cases will usually only Gurkha social custom.

(ii) Members to sit on the Panchayat from time to time will be nominated by Commandant 1st Assam Rifles who has decided to publish convening orders and particulars in Battalion Orders.

(iii) Legal process demanding attendance will issue on the strength of the Battalion orders announcements under arrangements by the Commandant and the civil Police will serve all processes within their jurisdiction or report at once to Superintendent, Lushai Hills to effect service where party concerned lives at a distance.

(iv) The following gentlemen may be called on by Commandant, in his discretion :—

Two Senior Indian Officers of whom the Senior will act as President.

Lochman Chhetri Retired Subedar Sahib.

Joy Bahadur, Gurkha Mauzadar.

Randhoj Rana Retired Subedar Sahib.

Mota Rai Sriman Busti.

Hanjit Rai Survey tilla.

(v) Before a case is taken up, the Panchayat is authorised to levy a Salam from both parties of Rs. 5/- which will be kept in deposit till period of appeal of one month expires. If no appeal is lodged within a month of the passing of the order the salam paid by the loser may be eaten by the Panchayat Re. 1/- being paid to the writer. The remaining salam of the successful party will be refunded with no delay at the same time as the disposal of the local's salam.

(vi) The Panchayat will waive salam from really indigent persons and any party feeling aggrieved may move the Commandant for reconsideration of Panchayat's decision re. salam.

(vii) In the light of experience it may be necessary to revise those rules and Commandant may at any time raise points which give any difficulty. The intention of these rules is to vest as far as possible in the Panchayat the right of control of their social customs within the Gurkha Community, with the least interference by the Magistrates of the District.

Points of general explanation governing the jurisdiction of residents within the Lushai Hills not covered by the main rules.

(i) Lushais living within the Aijal or other special reserves are for the purposes of control

and administration under the chief whose land is nearest their habitation.

(ii) Gurkhas in the Aijal Reserve are under the Gurkha Mauzadar. Gurkhas living under a chief's control are subject to ordinary Lushai custom and chief's order.

Gurkhas having mutual disputes among themselves may refer to the Gurkha Panchayat at Aijal or the District Courts for orders.

(iii) No Lushai may reside within the hills without being subject to the jurisdiction of a chief or Head Man.

(iv) No special privilege can be extended to Government servants who are Lushais as regards their social and private lives but they will be given judicial safeguards in their position as servants of the Government, in their official position as such and no case may be brought against them except with the permission of the Superintendent or subject to his orders.

h. Gurkha Panchayat Mile 45 or nearby.

This Panchayat will consist of the Headman as President assisted by two members to be appointed by Superintendent, Lushai Hills on recommendation of the headman and its jurisdiction shall extend only to civil disputes concerning custom between non-Lushai members of his settlement only.

In cases of doubt where custom is concerned the Aijal Gurkha Panchayat may be consulted.

i. Lungleh Panchayat.

The Lushai Clerk is Ex-officio President and will operate as for the Thakthing Panchayat,

his jurisdiction covering the Lungleh Rasi Veng and any matters specially made over by the Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh.

j. Demagiri Panchayat.

1. The jurisdiction of the Panchayat will extend to those inhabitants within the Demagiri Thana jurisdiction.
2. The following or their successors will comprise the members :--
 1. Buana, Khiangte Sub-Inspector of Police.
 2. Saichhunga Sailo S. A. S.
 3. M. Hussain Khan of Azimkhan Bros.
 4. Taracharan Dey of N. K. Dey Bros.
 5. Lianhnuna Chief of Tianté
 6. Sanglura Chief of Lungo
 7. Vungdanga Demagiri

This is the only mixed Lushai and Non-Lushai Panchayat in the District and its survival will depend upon its achievements.

3. So far Lushais are concerned the jurisdiction will be as for all other Panchayats see (j) (a) page 138 above.
4. The Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh is authorised to refer for disposal petty non cognisable criminal cases between Non-Lushais, but not in cases where Lushais are concerned with non-Lushais. The powers of award in such cases will be limited to powers of a Third Class Magistrate.
5. Civil cases between Non-Lushais and Lushais are triable by Panchayat procedure and awards being subject to the powers and procedure

of Lushai chiefs and the conduct of the case should follow the lines laid down in J-(b) page 138 above.

6. The Panchayat make commence to sit only when there are a minimum of 5 members present. The President will be elected at each sitting subject to alternative selection of a Lushai and a Non-Lushai member. In the case of equal voting on a case, the President shall have the casting vote,
7. The Sub-Inspector of Police will, for the sake of simplicity, act as Panchayat Secretary and will discharge all routine matters necessitated by procedure always acting expeditiously to effect speedy disposal of any case.

He may issue summons for appearance before the Panchayat on parties within the Panchayat jurisdiction and he may take personal recognisance bonds for attendance from Non-Lushais only.

8. Appeals shall lie from orders of the Panchayat in accordance with the provisions of the directions as for Civil Justice see page 124 above.

K. Border Meeting Courts.

(a) Policy.

The Lushai Hills Territory is contiguous to the States of Manipur and Tripura and the Districts of Sylhet and Silchar, of Assam, Chittagong Hill Tracts of Bengal and Arrakan, Naka, Tiddim and Falam of Burma. This geographical encirclement results in cases arising

between the residents of Lushai and those of the above territories. The function of the Border Courts is to afford facilities for the settlement of litigation, civil principal, with the least formality and delay as possible. Border Courts are established rather in the nature of arbitration Courts - parties appealing for redress in a court of an administration to which they are in no way allied. It is important to bear this in mind because if Border Meetings were done away with men of one province or state would find themselves having to seek redress in a Head Quarter Court of an entirely different administration usually literally miles away which would result in concrete hardship inducing a felling of expression, which could easily have a cumulative effect on the people. If Border Meetings have defects they at least afford a regular and customary method of redress of grievances and any move to change this procedure should be resisted very strongly by Assam.

(b) An indication of the basis of procedure of Border Meeting Courts.

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Approved by Govt. of Assam for use of Lushai Hills, vide letter No. 1009 Gs of 8.3.38. | Description of disputes properly triable by Border Meeting Courts between Assam and Burma, Ben- gal, Manipur State before whom only parties indigenous to Hill Tracts should normally appear. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

The ensuing points are for guidance deviation only being advisable in exceptional circumstance.

1. Claims, Civil or Criminal, arising from visits by parties across provincial borders.
2. Civil Claims between parties resident in different provinces at the time the cause of action arose.
3. If a litigant has lived within Burma for a period of time which debars him from lodging a suit, due to the Act of Limitation being in force in Burma, he may not use a Border Meeting Court to raise litigation against his former associates in Burma concerning causes of action or claims which would have been time-barred had he remained in Burma.
(This will discourage Parties leaving Burma or Bengal to raise litigation, debarred in Burma, based on obtaining Assam's backing).
4. When a cause of action arises between two or more parties while resident in one administration but of whom one has since migrated, the Border Meeting Court will arrange for the production of the parties. The Court will arrange for the production of the parties but the officer who had jurisdiction at the time the cause of action arose will hear and decide the case in accordance with the laws and customs in force in the District in which the cause of action arose.

The Border Meeting Court will if necessary initiate Execution proceedings.

(This provision obviates the present rather objectionable position in which one Province's

Officer is placed in the position of more or less having to defend a new comer to his Province from claims incurred while he was in his old Province. Each Officer is far better qualified to deal with claims which arise from causes of action in his own jurisdiction and subject to treatment by his own Province's laws and custom).

5. These points are only for the main guidance or Border Meeting Courts to ensure consistency of dealing in the face of ever changing personnel, but it is not intended to fetter the general description of these important Courts when special circumstances render a deviation advisable in the interests of justice and equity. The Limitation Act has been withdrawn in certain cases as a measure of co-operation with the Government of Assam by Govt. of Burma Notification No. 126 Rangoon dated 26th July 1937.

SECTION L.

Loan Department

a. Policy.

From time to time crops fail either
Author over a wide area or areas or in odd
isolated lands. The first condition is very
difficult to deal with due to the number of days
march so many villagers are situated from
possible supply centres. The second condition
presents no great difficulty, and may be dealt
with first. When loans have to be given parties

should received clear orders of the procedure to be adopted based on these lines.

(b) Grants of loans to isolated villages in distress.

Let a list be made of those villages nearest to the distressed area which have rice to spare. This can be ascertained from the Circle Staff crop report, but the condition may be further confirmed by reference also to the chiefs locally. Let it be decided how much rice is required by the distressed village. Apportion out the demand among the adjacent villages with spare rice available, and let a calculation be made of the value of this rice at village rates in the actual villages concerned.

Let the distressed village be informed that on chits signed by their chief only may they obtain rice from the villages concerned, the chief being told he may only give chits for rice up to the value that has been decided it is strictly necessary to tide over the bad period.

A check out the distressed village the adjacent village chiefs may be informed each by special letter the maximum he may supply the supplying villages not to exceed that amount provided by the Superintendent as a loan.

Supplying chiefs will be paid at Headquarters on presentation of the signed chits they hold for rice supplied.

The above procedure meets all ordinary cases and ensures only genuine cases of distress are pressed and that when pressed that the Superintendent meets the case by seeing that

rice is made available at village sites, the distressed village being responsible for collecting the rice from the supplying villages.

(c) Grants of loans when famine conditions prevail on a large scale.

This presents a formidable problem. Money can not feed people so as far as possible let rice be supplied. If the shortage can be foreseen let large quantities be obtained and ordered in good time for delivery at suitable centres. If the rice is ordered before emergency arises, rates will not rise.

The centres should be along the banks of navigable rivers, stocks being placed in charge of chiefs or members of the Circle Staff. Distressed villagers should be called on to collect the rice from centres and arrangements made for controlled supply and the acceptance of receipts from recipients on the responsibility for identification of the recipients.

No one should be dealt with without a note from the chief which will be filed with the recipients receipt, which the Circle Staff appointed will have to produce to support disbursements.

Isolated villages will claim they have no rice and that they are too far away to carry it out from centres. For this reason they will ask for money. But money is useless to them unless they can buy rice, and if they can not take from Government centres it follows they

will contend they can get this rice from villages nearer to them. In this case the procedure outlined above for supply by adjacent villages may be resorted to.

If the above principles are earnestly pursued it should be possible to supply rice at rates not seriously above ordinary rates and it will ensure what only those in genuine need of feed will take any interest in the scheme.

It has been found by past experience that in such time about half the money given out was used for other domestic needs, purchase of cattle, marriage and other prices etc. The most of these cases it proved most difficult and dilatory to obtain repayment.

In all these dealings the Superintendent should deal only through chiefs as the chiefs are the only security Government has and it is not possible to give out loans without security.

It is worth recording in the experience of the last famine loans. No gratuitous relief was given out which means at the outset people dependent on charity were supplied with valuable loans for which the chief had ultimately to repay, quite an unfair burden on him. Again rice was supplied at a huge charge, about four times the price of rice in the villages in normal times. This ultimately involved the repayment of loans on a basis considerably in excess of the original accommodation given. It was not the chief's that the Government could not land imported rice except at exorbitant rates. Again large sums of cash over Rs. 100/-, sometimes

200/- were given to ordinary villagers near Aijal which should never have been done as a man who never handles more than a few rupees will never be able to repay hundreds. On the other hand about 80% of the loan was recovered by various means by given opportunities to loan owners to repay when this proved possible. This in itself is clearly an indication that the Lushai will try and repay his loan when he understands there is no question of writing off his liabilities.

But the above outline of the Principles of tackling these worrying calamities is intended to prevent, in the weakness of the moment, the borrowing of large sums of cash which can never be repaid, and to avoid the whole social structure of Lushai being plunged into a long and drawn out missma, which induces a falling off in enterprise and a general apathetic despondency.

(d) Standing Orders.

(1) Loans may only be given out in accordance with the terms of the Agricultural Loans Act XII of 1884 and subject to sanction and provision of funds by Government.

(2) Loans should be given only on the security of chiefs or Head men, loans being in their name and not in the names of the individuals.

(3) Accounts should be opened to show the amounts taken by the chiefs or Head men

together with the sums due as interest which should be called the individual accounts register.

(4) A running receipt register should be opened to show the course of recovery from time to time.

(5) Recoveries will be paid to the Loans Account Clerk who will credit the sums in each of the above two registers granting a receipt to the person repaying. At the end of the day's transaction he will hand over to the Head Clerk all collections taking his signature in his running receipt book as token of receipt by the Head Clerk.

(6) The Head Clerk will then and there take up this receipt in his General Cash Book and credit the collection to the Treasury at the first opportunity.

(7) The Loans Clerk is responsible for obtaining the Officer's signature to each item in the running receipt register and the Officer will see these amounts have been entered in the individual accounts initialling these as well.

(8) The object of the Officer signing in these registers is to date the transaction and minimise the change of credits being delayed.

The only check the Officer in charge of loans has is to call in the chief or Khawchhiar to show him the course of his repayments which may be checked once every six months or so against the individual account register.

(e) Methods of facilitating the repayments of loans which have proved fruitful.

(1) Instead of impressment of porters calling for volunteers, and accepting half the wage earned or more if the party is willing.

(2) Offering Forest Boundary clearing to loan owners on the same principle of recoveries.

(3) Placing P.W.D. contracts for camp buildings with loan owing chiefs on the same principle as regards recoveries.

(4) Filling Vacancies in the Transport Establishment for a period necessary for loan repayment.

(5) Employment of owner on river clearance work.

(6) Employment on dak carrying work.

(7) Attachement of half receipts in the case of decree money due.

(8) Prevention of pemming from one village to another by any loan owner without chief's permission. Should a chief accepts a loan owner as a pemmer to his village, whether allowed by the old chief or not, the new chief automatically accepts liability for half the remaining loan money due by the owner.

(9) Chiefs are expected to bring to the notice of the Officer in charge of loans cases where the owner acquires substance with which to pay in the form of marriage prices etc. Failure of chiefs in this direction will ultimately recoil on themselves as they have to make good

the default of owners for whom they are security.

(10) As a last resort attachment of property of the owner and, if this is barren, then of the chief.

(f) General.

Author It is of far more value to the welfare of the people if they can be got to repay willingly instead of being driven by force of the Government's might. A willing repayer of his due is a man, while a man, forced and harassed into repayment though this may be necessary, loses much of his manhood.

There is every hope, however, that the marketing facilities for Lushai indigenous weaving skill provided by the Lushai Hills Cottage Industries, which started in 1936, may do much in future years to tide over the evil days of crop shortage. It is significant to recall that when rats have destroyed rice crops, sometimes almost completely, the cotton crops has been left untouched. Thus if from 1936 the Lushais become industrious and more wise than in their early days it should be possible for the Lushais to earn regular cash during any future crop shortage. With this cash, earnable monthly, they will be able to buy month by month rice as required though it will probably be fair and advisable for Government to supply at a price more in keeping with normal rates, treating the excess import costs as gratuitous relief to an economically poor people.

SECTION - M

Forest Department.

(a) Scope and Policy.

Author and It is possible that interest in the
Manuals. Forests of these Hills may develop
as years go on as in some way
circumstances have been such as to discourage
much progress up to date.

At the time of preparation of these Rules
the Assam Forest Regulation does not apply
substantially to the District but certain Rules
were introduced by the Chief Commissioner
of Assam in Notification 75 Forests 1776 R
dated April 22nd 1904 which may be seen in
the Assam Forest Manual pages 164 onwards
which require no further explanation and dis-
close the method of control of Forests by the
Superintendent subject to general supervision by
the conservator of forests.

There is only one properly constituted
Forest Reserve within the Lushai Hills and this
borders on the District of Cachar and is known
as the Inner Line Reserve. This is described
below. A note of some interest recorded on
September 2nd 1933 in this connection can be
seen in the 1933 files under the title "Short
note on the progress of Forests affairs within
Lushai Hills District and an account of the
exact position at the present moment together
with a summary of the conditions and sanctions

governing the control of Forest villages and hamlets within the Lushai Hills Inner Line Reserve."

There is an executively created Reserve at Aijal recognised by the amendment No. 50 to the Assam Forest Manual page 167 to be read following rule 16. The only other reserves are those maintained by authority of the Superintendent at Champhai and all along the banks of navigable rivers to a depth of one mile on either side. The conditions applicable to these reserves are ventilated, where necessary, below.

Control of extraction lies, with the Divisional Forest Officer, Cachar for certain areas within the District but collection of royalty on extraction from the areas in the South Lushai Hills via the Karnaphuli are collected by Divisional Forest Officer, Chittagong Hill Tracts on a joint sharing basis little to no control or supervision of extraction as yet being practicable.

The Assam Forest Department has naturally been discouraged in attempts to extend much influence over the Forests due to the wasteful practise of jhuming throughout the District, a practise which is particularly avorse to all Forest ideals. Thus no machinery exists for afforestation any where within the District and revenue realised is the result of wholesale extractions dependent on the demands by Timber Traders. Most of the jhuming, however, takes place in areas which are situated so far from navigable rivers that extraction

would not be practicable without a very large outlay on roads.

Moreover, it will hardly be possible to curtail jhuming unless alternative facilities for cultivation can be devised because the existing humans must first be enabled to maintain themselves before Forests on which they rely can be reasonably reserved.

There is, however, scope for negotiation on a fairly wide basis with a view to adjusting the above interests within certain areas along the lower reaches of the Hill ranges.

There has been a tendency to facilitate the important of Chakmas and other tribes, who live in the low foot-hills, into these areas within the Lushai Hills. If this tendency is allowed to broaden any chances of the Forest Department's interests in those low areas, which offer good chances of extractions, being extended will be extinguished for ever. The tendency should be resisted specifically by Government in a clear direction.

Mention is made below of the activities which are encouraged with a view to broaden the field for cultivation and progress by the local people.

For the future negotiations are on foot for examination from time to time by the Forest Department of areas, specially along the banks of navigable rivers, which might be constituted into specific reservations based on natural boundaries by the nearest main ridges.

One of the objects being to increase control over specific areas and lessening restrictions on other areas. It is hoped that this will result in meeting the reasonable requirements of the Forest Department while relieving chief of a measure of rather irritating executive restrictions.

A similar policy is in view in relation to what is referred to above on the Inner Line Reserve with a view to releasing some areas from control while specifically reserving other areas--possibly on a Forest village control basis. But the opening up of the present Inner Line reserve to general jhuming is to be strongly deprecated. The relief so afforded to an increasing people would only mitigate but not in any way solve the need for additional cultivation or a change in method, and would have the effect of merely using up a last remaining buffer or forest reserve. Again this Inner Line Forest Reserve constitutes a protection forest for the plains of Cachar and if freely jhumed denudation would be accelerated to the disadvantage of plains cultivation.

Most of the jhuming in the Lushai Hills is fairly sensibly controlled by the Lushai chiefs and is not usually accompanied by loose burning and needless destruction more over, steep hill sides are usually avoided, as well as heights above 4000 feet so that there is a wide area of permanently preserved protective forest. In the lower reaches much of the jhuming takes place on self regenerating bamboo slopes so that the incident of denudation at any one

time is limited to the current year's jhums and those of the previous year before the regeneration results in any advanced growth.

(b) Unclassed and unreserved Forests within the Lushai Hills of which produce is not exported via the Karnaphuli.

1. Extraction for personal consumption is allowed free of all royalty vide Rule 18 page 16 Assam Forest Manual.
2. Extraction for sale is prohibited except under proper authority granted by Superintendent, Lushai Hills who is advised always to cause issue of such authorities only in the form of approval of the procedure by the Forest Officers of Cachar, Syhlet or Bengal. This is covered by Rule 18 page 167 A.F.M.
3. Those areas over which Divisional Forest Officer Cachar exercises executive control of extraction are divided into Blocks which are from time to time settled with a specified Timber Trader. The Superintendent must guard against giving authorities, unknown to Divisional Forest Officer, Cachar, to persons to cut produce for sale from such Blocks. Extraction is apt to suffer through Block holders being short of labour to exploit and if definite rates for labour could be fixed, due regard being had to the "carry" involved in the cutting and transport of produce to a

navigable river, Lushais might come forward more readily to work for these Block-holders. One difficulty in this respect is that the period of major timber extraction activity coincides with a busy period of indigenous cultivation.

- (c) **Unclassed and unreserved Forests, the produce of which is exported via the Karnaphuli.**

(1) Policy.

A note here is necessary to record the value of experience gained up to date. The Lushais are as yet poor Boatmen. Demagiri is a very long way from Borkal the first trading centre encountered on the way down the Karnaphuli to Chittagong. There are, moreover, dangerous rapids to be encountered. Most of the Traders and cutters are therefore men from Chittagong Hill Tracts. The Chittagong Hill Tracts territory borders on the Lushai Hills in the direction of the Boraharina and Thega and Karnaphuli rivers so that clearly it is not easily possible in practise to ascertain the origin of any timber within the Karnaphuli river south of the Boraharina Mukh. The only way this would be possible would be by reserving areas for extraction and premarking the trees for extraction. Until this is done the difficulty of assessing origin of timber will persist. The difficulty of assessing the origin of timber led to friction between the Governments of

Bengal and Assam when Assam created a Reserve Station at Boraharina due to the failure of the joint collection of royalty at Borkal when this was done by Bengal. To avoid and extensive policing staff and further friction, with the possibility of Bengal assessing additional royalty on all timber passing Borkal, even though royalty to Assam had been paid at Baraharina, this latter Reserve Station was done away with in 1934 in favour of the re-establishment of a joint Station at Borkal, which is the system of royalty collection now in force.

This system clearly should be the most efficient provided the collecting staff at Borkal are diligent and do not allow timber to pass on which royalty will be collected lower down resulting in a 100% credit of Revenue to Bengal on timber which may well have emanated from Assam. The present arrangement is Assam derives 50% of revenue while meeting none of the expenditure a fair proportion when based on previous collection figure excluding those during 1929 when the system then existing clearly broke down.

For the future it will always be wiser to compromise on issues concerning revenue apportionment and joint interests rather than revert to any policy of isolation for Bengal is placed geographically in an advantageous position and ultimately Assam must fail in any isolation Policy.

(2) Extraction is via the navigable rivers which flow into Karnaphuli. Traders and cutters operate under authority of the Divisional Forest Officer, Rangamati subject to general agreement by the Superintendent, Lushai Hills.

(3) The following order holds with a view to preserving control of non-Lushais under the Inner Line Regulations see page 49 while avoiding all possible encumbrances to free access to trade :---

As an experimental measure in future any one engaged in cutting or purchase of timber who has not specifically been debarred entry may enter the Lushai Hills without a Pass provided (1) he does not proceed more than one mile into the interior from any navigable river's bank (2) he builds no house.

If he has to proceed into the interior he must obtain a Pass from the Superintendent, Lushai Hills or Sub-divisional Officer, Lungleh in the usual way, as per Inner Line Regulations.

If parties visit Demagiri or Sairang they must report names and business personally at the Thana on arrival and any residence thereof over 2 weeks duration will entail need for a proper entry Pass on application to the Superintendent, Lushai Hills or Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh, without which party must leave Sairang or Demagiri.

(d) **Lushai Hills Inner Line Forest Reserve bordering on Cachar.**

(1) **Description of Reserve.**

(2) **Main villages within the Inner Line Reserve.**

Saihum
Mauchar
Tingmun
Sakordai

There are many villages either just outside or within the Reserve.

Within Reserve.

Bilkhawthlir Any hosue in excess of 30 to cultivate by leilet only.
60 houses in all are allowed and 30 may jhum.

Vairengte Maximum 16 houses

Outside Reserve.

Palsang May not cultivate within Reserve except with previous sanction.

Khawdungsei and Zohmun Not to jhum within Reserve.

Khawruhlian Boundary paper covers part of Reserve but jhuming not allowed within Reserve.

Vaitin and Khawpuar. Same conditions as for Palsang.

Dairep and Bhairabi No jhuming within the Reserve.
Boilum

Eight Dak men and one Phaltu for replacing casualties have been permitted to jhum at Bilkhawthlir, Purana Bangla, Kanglai on Dwarban Road.

Suangpui lawn is a land included in no one's boundary paper and may not be jhumed.

Fuller details and references can be seen in the note recorded in September 1933 mentioned at page 127.

(3) The boundary of the Inner Line Reserve is out annually under arrangements made by the Superintendent. This incidentally provides a means of assisting needy villages and no vested interests here have been permitted to accrue as competition is usually likely.

(e) **Orders concerning cultivation within one mile of banks of navigable rivers and areas executively reserved.**

(1) No rice cultivation is permitted on any account and no other cultivation except under valid pass signed by District Officer. The reason for this order is that sustained practise on these lines would merely result in widening of the area of customary cultivation and this would in turn result in a possible increase of population relying on an area which in effect is held in reserve. If the cultivation occasionally permitted in subsidiary the above danger is minimised.

(2) Orange cultivation is allowed on valid pass which prohibits any burning, or cutting of valuable timber, in accordance with terms of the Pass which reads as follows :—

..... is allowed to make an orange garden near the River on the following conditions :---

1. It is only made in bamboo or cleared area.
2. No burning takes place.
3. No tree cutting takes place.
4. All orders re. orange gardens are complied with.
5. Gardens thus made within the River Forest executive Reserve are made at owner's risk, no compensation lying against damage done by animals of Forest Timber Traders who are primarily engaged in timber extraction from these areas adjacent to navigable rivers.
6. All changes of ownership are subject to approval of the Superintendent, Lushai Hills or Sub-divisional Officer, Lungleh.

(3) A similar Pass is issued for cotton cultivation within bamboo areas except that burning is permitted provided no valuable timber is destroyed and no woodland fired, penalty for which is fixed up to a maximum of Rs. 10/- fine.

(f) Orders governing the extraction of timber for Dug Outs by Lushais for their own consumption.

Author and (1) In 1936 for a period of three Notification years in the first instance His Excellency the Governor of Assam has sanctioned the allocation of trees suitable

for Lushais is make dug outs free of royalty on the following conditions :---

(1) Applicants must apply for a Pass to Superintendent Lushai Hills or Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh for permission to cut one tree for purpose of making a dug out.

(2) The Dug out must be inspected and marked by Forest Staff within one year of issue of Pass in default of which Pass will lapse.

(3) If the owner sells the Dug Outs the seller will be called on to pay full royalty.

Any boat sold without permission of Superintendent, Lushai Hills or Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh will be seized and confiscated.

(4) A boat will only be written off as worn out after actual inspection.

(5) All Dug outs constructed by Lushais free of royalty within the Lushai Hills in accordance with District order No. 2 of 1936 must be marked with hammer with one year of issue of Pass in default of which Pass will lapse.

In Aijal Sub-division all Dug Outs so prepared will be marked by the hammer D.P. and in Lungleh Sub-division by hammer F.D. the number will be stamped serially with figures L.H. 1, 2 etc. with the Pass and this will facilitate the work of checking in future.

This concession has been granted to the Lushais to encourage them to take up boat craft and to stimulate Lushais to export their marketable produce by river at the cheapest possible rate and it is hoped that full advantage will be taken accordingly.

All leaders in Lushai are hereby reminded that the physical and moral welfare of a people depend greatly on their ability to create wealth.

Real wealth can only be created by the exploitation of the soil. The Lushai creates that wealth by extraction from the soil the wherewithal to live but by more expansive cultivation and industry he should aim at the production of real wealth by the sale of excess produce where to raise their standard of comfort and living.

(g) Orders to cover position of Assam Rifles and supply of Forest Produce at Aijal.

Assam Rifles are permitted to extract for all personal consumption from unclassified state Forests outside the Aijal Reserve free of royalty. A certain area has been made over within the Aijal of Forest's Reserve for their requirements letter No. K/ as well under rules as under ; 862 dt/1.8.33. but no produce may be extracted from the Aijal Reserve not covered by the area described below :---

Owing to the unavoidable requirements of the Assam Rifles for supply of timber for domestic purposes a tract of jungle at present held from unclassified State Forests as reserve by executive order will be released from reservation only in favour of the Commandant, Assam Rifles and no one else on the following conditions :---

It is understood that the Assam Rifles are in a position, according to reports from the Commandant, 1st Assam Rifles to conserve and regenerate this tract in such a way as to enable extraction to meet most requirements from now onwards. Should conservation after some year prove to be failure it is understood that the Rifles will have no further claim to preferential treatment and that requirements will have to be acquired from outside Aijal Station Reserve.

The area concerned is shown below to classify the description. All domestic requirements of the Rifles will be met from this area and no demand will be made on the Station Reserve except in any case of removal of dangerous trees.

DESCRIPTION OF TRACT

Details in Superintendent's District Cover.
(h) Orders concerning Orange Garden.

(1) Oranges may be exported on bamboo rafts free of royalty up to a scale of 10 bamboos per maund of oranges, royalty on excess bamboos being realised at ordinary rates.

Author and (2) Orange Gardens within any
D. F. O. of the Reserves above are subject
Cachar's letter to creation and maintenance
No. A/714 by Pass only.

dated 23.3.33 (3) The orders which ensure cover
the above orange gardens as well as
gardens made within lands outside the Reserve.

This order only applies to oranges and to no other produce of any kind.

The order is based on a desire to further encourage orange growing, to do justice to the Chief while safe-guarding the villager owner.

1. A collection of orange trees exceeding 200 shall be known as a garden and the price of orange trees in a garden is fixed at a rate of 4 annas large or small, the large being worth much more the young trees not being worth 4 annas till they are near bearing but 4 annas is a fair all over rate.
2. Owners of gardens must offer their gardens to the Chief first at an all over rate of 4 annas a tree.
3. A purchase is only legal if cash is actually paid and receipts given and taken.
No transfer will be recognised unless the above two conditions have been fulfilled and any litigation will be based on the assumption that no sale did take place.
4. In the case of all sales the Chief is responsible that the Khawchhiar writes any receipt given by a seller for money paid by the Chief.
5. No one may purchase a garden without the Chief's written permission, written if not by the Chief, by his Khawchhiar on his behalf.
No sale thus unsupported by a Chief's order will be valid and only cash sales are allowed; no credit being recognised on any account.
6. If neither the Chief nor any one else wishes or is able to buy the garden, the

Pemmer will have the option of removing all his trees from his garden any time up till Pawtlak December 31st of the year in which he pems but any trees not removed by the following Pawtlak will lapse to the Chief. After the following Pawtlak the late owner may not enter his old garden.

7. In the above transaction it will only be the trees themselves that are saleable, not the land.
8. This order in no way affects orange gardens held under a Pass by owners at Aijal or Sairang or any place in Lungleh Sub-division which the Sub-divisional Officer, Lungleh considers should be exempted from village control as exercised in the villages.
9. On no account will the practice of any villager in one village owning a garden in another be valid in any court, subject to the small period covered by para (6) above.
10. Any authorised orange garden Pass holder may build a house of any kind he likes actually within his garden and on any form of his house he will be assessed to Rs. 2/- from time to time that the trees begin to produce eatable fruit. This tax is levied to compensate Govt. for the trouble of having to check up scattered houses. Any orange Pass holder

who has not a house tax paying house in his main or Khawper village will pay Rs. 4/- tax on the house in the orange garden whether bearing or not bearing.

(i) **Order concerning areas within the Inner Line Reserve or Aijal Reserve which lie within any PWD road side lands or compounds of Government quarters.**

1. Trees within Government compounds are P. W. D. property and sale proceeds of trees which have to be cut are realisable by P. W. D.
2. Trees on P.W.D. road side lands are Forest property and sale proceeds of trees which have to be cut are realisable by Forest Department.
3. Superintendent, Lushai Hills or the Assistant Superintendent, Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh or Sub-Divisional Officer, P.W.D. only may authorise removal of any trees or bamboos constituting a danger to property, roads, or human life.
4. When authority is so given in writing the Forest Department should be requested to fell and auction the trees. If the Forest Department cannot do this the Forest Department should request the P.W.D. to do so.

(j) **General Forest Orders not included above.**

1. Bamboos may be used for rafts for export of cotton free of royalty upto a maximum of 10 per maund of cotton exported.

2. Permit book and Transit passes are valuable forms and stock must be accounted for in the forms Register no issue being allowed for current use or to individuals except under signed orders of an Officer.
3. No transit pass fee may be collected on Forest produce on which full royalty has been paid.
4. Medicine requirements of Forest staff are limited to Budget provisions and incidents within this provision may be submitted in duplicate to Civil Surgeon, the duplicate being returned by Civil Surgeon with a statement of actual cost of the medicines supplied.

(k) Orders for supervision of Forest matters in the Lushai Hills.

Author and Standing orders. Some duties for supervision by Deputy Ranger or Senior Forest Officer with the help of his Forest Staff.

1. Supervision of the cane mahal working by Babu Pulin Behari Deb for a period of 5 years vide Divisional Forest Officer, Cachar's letter No. 1741-42 dated August 2nd 1937 and all other subsequent or similar settlements.

2. Whenever Deputy Ranger enters an area included in a Forest Block he should report the name of the Block holder, should visit the working camp, report who is present at work by name, and give a report on what he sees has been done i. e. new extractions or

old and what old extractions remain unfloated down the river and the rate of floating down new extractions.

He should also report if he considers the Block is being worked in a methodical manner. He should make an examination of cut timber or stamps and see if any cutting has been done under the proper girth measure which he should quote in figures in his report. He should also check up timber to see if the contractor is using his property mark by stamping on the timber.

3. He will supervise the working of the settlements of the Lushai bamboo Mahal from time to time - bamboos being extracted via the Sonai River.

4. To make enquiries re. Agar Extraction from where this is being extracted—the price at which sold to the Mahaldar by villagers etc. vide Divisional Forest Officer, Cachar's letter of 19.3.1932.

In this connection Deputy Ranger is made personally responsible that all securities required from Mahaldars including this Agar Mahaldar vide Divisional Forest Officer's letter B. 2434 dated 15.11.1932 have been paid and actually credited to the Treasury.

5. Deputy Ranger is personally responsible that the Forest Reserve Aijal is patrolled from time to time by a day and by night and that offenders against the rules are properly brought to book.

He is responsible for seeing that every thing is done possible which will prevent trees from being but down from anywhere within the Reserve of Aijal bearing in mind that it is the trees and not the royalty Government wants from the Aijal Reserve. Particulars of auction sale procedure may be seen at page 66.

6. The Deputy Ranger Forests is personally responsible for all the Forest villages within the Lushai Hills boundary and for all activities within the Lushai Hills Reserve Forests by villages outside this Reserve.

He is personally responsible that the "Phari" is properly cut and he will himself take personal charge of all these arrangements and will allot the lengths to adjacent villagers who primarily owe money to Government on Loan Account. He will arrange to check up this work and to pay out the chiefs who have been responsible for the work.

In dealing with the Forest villages he must study the District order which covers their position and legal ventures and is personally responsible for detection of any infringement of the conditions of settlement of cultivation.

He will responsible for all paths between Forest villages.

He will take over the house tax books for Saihum, Mauchar, Tinghmun and Sakawrdai. He will assess and count and check up these villages on the same basis and lines as is done in the circle and he must study these rules but

he himself must actually make the assessment by counting up the houses.

He is personally responsible for taking steps to see that no Khawpers are started within the Reserve Forest without my express permission.

7. Deputy Ranger is responsible he initials all District orders in the Forest Department District Order Book as no responsibility for serving him with any other orders other than through the District Order Book rests with District Officer.

8. Deputy Ranger's Travelling Allowance bills will not be passed unless it is clear that he has performed useful work in Government's interests. Rushing round the country with no result is useless. If he makes halt near his scene of activity Travelling Allowance bills will be passed more readily provided he has something to show for his halts.

9. Forest conditions within the Lungleh Station Reserve may be seen at page 91.

(1) Orders for control of shooting of and preservation of game.

The particular of closed seasons in relation to fauna and flora may be seen by reference to Govt. Notification No. 154-R dated 19.1.1937. This is a lengthy Notification and is not printed here and must be read with Notification No. 8234-H dated 23.12.1937.

SECTION -N

Agricultural Department.

Author Spread of agriculture is an essential need Lushai and no efforts should be spared. Lack of any easy outlet for agricultural products renders efforts at encouragement largely infructuous. If the Lushai, however, desires anything sufficiently he will grow it, but unless he can sell his produce he will grow nothing he does not need.

A demonstrating staff carries out experiments at the Shobi Nullah Gardens in Aijal and Lungleh. The staff has shown a tendency to concentrate on experiments in crops which can not easily be grown in the Hills of the interior and which would be of more use for plain purposes. The staff is better employed in experiment on land near Lushai villages or jhums under conditions common to every Lushai House.

Orange growing is Lushai's outstanding success and with any ready outlet for this crop a considerable export could be worked up.

Cotton is now of increasing importance. There is great scope for careful research and for the encouragement of the results of this research. There are three main types of cotton known in Lushai as "Lapui khauh", 'Lapui nem", and "Lafang" botanically akin to.

1. GOSSYPIUM NEGLECUM VAR ASSAMICA, 2. GOSSYPIUM CERNUUM

3. **GOSSYPIMUM ARBOREUM** details of the Lushai Hills Cottage Industries can be seen at page 219-220. From this it is clear that if Lushai is wise the people will set themselves the aim of manufacturing up all their raw cotton rather than only exporting it for others to use. The type of cotton for Industries is not the same as that for easy export. It is in relation to what cotton can best be encouraged for manufacturing purposes which research can be applied. Initial research is being taken up to ascertain if cotton experts can prescribe a plant which in similar soil elsewhere is known to give a higher yield.

Sugarcane, potatoes, pine-apples, fruit of various descriptions are all possible crops for export if communication with the plains can be improved.

It might be possible to work up a silk cocoon export market from worms reared on local grown mulberry trees and the Salvation Army under Colonel Mackenzie's efforts have been working on this.

Jhuming is denuding a land valuable with timber and any crops or exports capable of producing money to buy imported rice which would relieve pressure on the land would be of inestimable value.

Due to the steep hill sides, and absence of running streams from high hills it has proved impossible to extend wet rice cultivation but where the conditions are favourable such as Champhai and Vanlaiphai or Tuisenhmar the

Lushai has shown himself as an able and clever cultivator.

To encourage more distant residents to grow flowers and fruits seeds are distributed annually to the P.W.D. Inspection Bungalows where any interested can watch the progress of the cultivation by the chowkidar. To improve the standard of horticultural ability among chowkidars new applicants are given six months training while on probation and their appointment is made contingent on showing ability in this direction.

There might be a great future for the soyabean as a means of overcoming malnutrition which is a serious menace to healthy progress and the Welsh Mission at Aijal is making constructive efforts in this direction.

Since the introduction of ginger to the Assam Rifles ration enterprising Lushais are attempting to grow ginger.

The course of agriculture generally will, however, be chiefly influenced by the Lushai peoples' general standard of living which is so low at present as to deprive the people of all enterprise, a state which one can only hope will change rapidly with the spread of education. But unless Education comprises more than mere academic trickery progress will be only too slow.

Mr. Parry I. C. S. sometimes Superintendent, Lushai Hills was the agriculturist par excellence that Lushai has ever had. The results of his work justified all his effort.

As, however, it is not possible for Superintendents all to be keen agriculturists the following rough indication is laid down of the lines on which the author thinks research should proceed.

It should be taken at once as exiomatic that a people living so near the bone as the Lushai Hill never be interested in expanding production of side lines unless there is a prospect of export for sale. This at once confines experiments for many years to non-perishable crops and cultivation.

Within this group are :

Cinchona

Cardamum

Coriander

Sesamum

Pomegranate

Ground Nut

Chillies

Cotton

For the local more wealthy non Lushai communities it would always be of interest and profit to improve tomatoes, peaches, apples, pears, pumilos and grape fruit and in fact all possible fresh fruit and vegetables.

Experiments should be on lands similar to those available to Lushais. The Dhobi Nullah is an artificial setting and the results have little bearing on the conditions in the Hills which is what really matters. Files should be kept of each crop sown - the time of sowing, manure afforded, ripening, treatment, yield,

and where improvement might be attempted for the ensuing year. At the time of writing there is no record of experiments made and their conditions which is a serious reflection on the author and the Executive Agricultural staff a fault dating from all time but one which must be put right at once.

It is essential that activity be confined to Aijal and Lungleh surrounds primarily for if progress is not possible where there are markets to experiment elsewhere is a pure waste of time and an unnecessary expense to Government.

SECTION-O

Education.

a. Policy.

It has been stated in the Quinquennial report to date by the Author Director of Public Instruction that the Education in Hill Districts should, as far as possible, be in Government's hands. The extent to which at this stage however effect can be given to this principle clearly depends upon finance available. When finance is available, for a beginning or for the whole, an approach will have to be found, so far as this District is concerned, by which Government can take over Education from the Missions. Since the earliest days Education has been left entirely in the hands of the Missions. Government making a comparatively small grant-in-aid only for use by the Missions. The Director of Public Instruction

however stated that the policy for Lushai was under consideration in 1938.

This is no place to enter into discussions on the merits of Mission Education as opposed to Government Education of vice versa but the point which it will be well to bear in mind is that it is not good business to interfere with a working arrangement of considerable magnitude unless or until it can be replaced, without upset or confusion, by a system as good, if not better than that now existing. The present system has in the past had a religious bias but in these Hills it has had the benefit of whole time and very able European management. Until finance is available to introduce a system which provides for efficient executive management not dependent solely on a District Officer charged with constant touring and multifarious duties any changes from the government side might well be slow as well as cautious. We may deplore Education with a religious bias but the people would prefer any Education to none at all which is what is what some Hill people have suffered.

In the meantime times change and conditions demand progress. In the past and even in the present the District has suffered from following a form of Education not ever well suited to the need of the villages and the people. There is no indication that Lushai possesses any special genius which will create a stirring demand for their services outside the Lushai Hills. Rather does Lushai labour under its

geographical restrictions which often deprive the Lushai of what scope for any genius he may possess. In such circumstances it is more than obvious that the Education which is necessary for this District is that which will result in the inculcation of elementary principles of obedience, discipline, self-control, tenacity, service, integrity and industry into as many children as possible while providing machinery for the study of the arts in the case of a very few brilliant students, studying on a scholarship basis or those who are prepared to spend their resources on Education in advance of the primary standard. Any Education after the primary which is not chiefly academic by the arts students should have for its bias all effort towards improving the whole basis and tenor of Lushai village communal life.

Education should in general be directed to meet the need of the people. The people have so few needs at the present time that academic Education on a wide basis is incongruous.

There will be little growth of any desire to raise the fundamental standards of living until the future mothers of the nation are taken more into the educational fold. There can be no contentment for a people, whose males may be academically highly educated, but who have to live intimately with women who do not understand or wish to understand the importance of elementaries like scouring clean the household's cooking pots.

(b) In all these circumstances it
Author. will condense the ground covered
by educational polity recommended
for the Lushai Hills if the salient points are
enumerated.

1. Government's main responsibility lies
in provision of free Primary education to all
and facilities for higher Education on a basis
sufficient to provide the District with the leaders
and executives required in all Departments.

2. Education is advance of primary to
be limited to primary scholarship students and
those in a position to pay fees which are in
economic keeping with the costs of establishment.
Great care must be taken to ensure that autho-
rities are not hurried into unnecessary expansion
of secondary academic Education merely to the
wishes of a few lucky salaried individuals.

3. Education in all stages to aim at in-
culcating the elements of character rather than
the acquisition of an academic trickery indigenous
village and communal life in Lushai providing
the surroundings in which Education is to be
applied.

4. English only to be taught after Primary
Standard students who enter the Middle English
organised on the lines of para 2 above having
reasonable expectations of continuing study to
the High School Standard.

5. For the attainment of a common
standard within the District examinations to be
held where possible under the mutual arrangements
of the Honorary Inspectors North and South.

6. The ages of entrants to the Primary Schools to be recorded every attempt being made to encourage early rather than late entrance to the primary, a maximum age for entry to any class in advance of the Primary Standard being fixed, aiming at 13.

7. No further expenditure on Secondary Education to be encouraged except in the direction of girls' Education until such time as some form of balance has been secured.

The order not to upset the social balance as between Lushai men and women the following form to be taken for any extension of women's Education :—

- a. Education in advance of primary to be at a village school for girls up to a maximum age of 16.
- b. Only a limited number of brilliant students to be accepted for academic Education at the Middle English Schools.
- c. Those in the advanced village schools to be taught chiefly hygiene of the home as practically applicable to Lushai village life, care of children 'elementary theory and practise of diet, improved and more hygienic cooking, improved methods of weaving and conservation of indigenous talent. Academic Education only just sufficient to sustain the practise of the above arts should be attempted at these schools.

The author is of opinion that it would be in the interests of the people as a whole if

some form of easy contribution from those villages fortunate in having a school was insisted upon as an obligatory contingency for the existence of a school. This should take the form of part of the Teacher's salary being paid by the villagers in the shape of two rupees worth of paddy made over to the teacher at his house. Villagers can, as a village, easily afford to pay this monthly contribution in kind, there they could not pay in cash.

The cash savings in teacher's pay disbursements could be utilised by those financing education to extend more primary schools. Villages varying in size and often, in fact nearly always far apart would be provided increasingly with the schools which all want. Now the absence of schools in some villages acts as a serious and often quite unfair drawback.

8. Finance.

If Government decide to take over Education and provide finance for small programmes there will not be any opportunity for extension of Educational Service. If Government make larger contributions on conditions of increased control, provided the Mission agree to the conditions, an extension of service can be hoped for.

Unless Government not only take over existing commitments and provide for an extension of service scope will remain limited at best while retrogression is not out of the question.

Alternately there remains an approach to the people for the levy of an universal Education cess in return for which increased facilities for women's education and an increase in primary schools could be offered.

9. If any financial reorganisation the principle of salary time scales and superior scales for some few selected posts, could well be applied.

If spread of Education service is achieved by levy of an Education cess initial and general primary school teacher's salaries to be kept initially at Rs. 5/- per month and Rs. 10 maximum, these rates to be contingent on a Provident Fund Saving Scheme with Government contribution or a pension scheme.

10. Education, while in the Mission hands with a Government grant-in-aid, will be looked upon progressively by the Missions as being an integral and exterior manifestation of their work in these Hills, the general improvement of the standard of studentship within the indigenous frame work of the people being the constant Educational aim.

11. The eldest sons of ruling chiefs generally being the administrative heirs of their fathers there is a great need for the introduction of a system which shall include training on those line which are calculated to fit them specifically for discharging the duties that fall on a chief in the Lushai Hills. Such a course should include an introduction to carpentering, garden work, cattle keeping, agriculture, military discipline and commerce.

12. The creation of a High School is a constant urge by articulate Lushai. In this connection the following points are of importance :—

- a. The demand for this is more by the few fortunate salaried employees in the name of the vast village population who have hardly benefitted by the creation of a few academically higher trained Lushais.
- b. The danger in giving free, or nearly free Education in advance of the Primary is that the motive for the demand may be a desire to try for a salaried job alternatively atleast to achieve relief from ordinary indigenous village life. It is essential the Educational system be conceived for the masses and not subordinated to meet the possible needs of a few students to proceed to higher education.
- c. Until those who have been given an opportunity for study in advance of the Primary themselves **create** among their fellows the industry and activity which alone can justify any extension of Education there is no case for giving higher education to meet a need which does not exist-- almost the encouragement of a gamble.
- d. There is in Lushai, as yet, little sign that Education has amounted to much more than the acquisition of a superficial superiority over less fortunate folk. There is little ability noticeable among Lushai

traders, who mostly fail financially, nor does the public seem prepared to support trained unofficial nurses and doctors or compounders. Till the general public evince more practical interest in improvement of Lushai Welfare, requirements, and conditions there is no need to create a black cloth class with no one who can, or will, use their service.

- e. Until girls are taught the elements of common hygiene on a general scale the conditions lacking vide para (d) above will surely persist, so that the spread of girls practical Education is the Education in advance of the primary Education which is now available. Miss Chapman of the South Lushai Hills is predominant in working along lines which are definitely just what Government desires.

c. **Rules for the issue of Chiefs' sons rations to students of the Middle English School, Aijal.**

1. Payments to be made to Honorary Inspectors monthly on receipt of Bills from them, supported by certificate that the pupil has attended school regularly and worked diligently on all days on which the school was opened.

2. The only absence permissible are those on account of sickness or when leave is granted by the Head Master.

3. Students leaving school out of hand may be called on to refund the price of rations consumed.

4. Parents of students dismissed for bad conduct will be liable to the same penalty as in 3 above.

5. Privilege of drawal of rations is always subject to proper progress in studies being achieved.

6. Grant of rations should be given with considerations as to the poverty and distance of a chief from the school.

In cases of grant for chiefs' sons rations while attending headquarters schools the procedure most desirable is that the award should be made on the recommendations of the honorary Inspectors, as regards the industry and capability of the boys in their charge, while the District Officers concerned would make the final allotment on these grounds, complied with the status and economic conditions of the chief concerned, not overlooking the distance of their village from headquarters.

d. Construction of buildings for village School and School Masters.

1. The erection of continuation of a village school house in any village is contingent on this building being maintained in accordance with requirements of Honorary Inspectors of Schools.

2. The teacher's house will be originally built by the villagers but subsequently maintained entirely by the teacher from time to time.

NOTE :—

The above statement of the case for education is generally speaking, the result of several

years effort on the part of the true Honorary Inspectors North and South and the Superintendent to come to a common and agreed policy, a policy which is substantially now agreed upon and one incidentally which follows very closely the director of the Public Instruction's on recommendations for reorientation of educational practise. That such unity as has been achieved locally has been possible in the delicate situation arising from the fact that the Government contribution is insignificant to that made the Missions itself speaks for the sincere efforts and desires of the Missions towards meeting every possible reasonable wish of the Government.

There is a need for Vocational Training to absorb those who at present Middle English course but who will eventually it is hoped be accomodated within village schools in a secondary sphere which has for its object the turning out of better citizens among normal Lushai surroundings. It is no use giving technical school training to boys if it is not in strict relation to local village life and local demands. The Honorary Inspector South, Mr. Carter, B.Sc. is the pioneer of this scheme and deserves encouragement.

The District has been fortunate in having the services of two Educational European experts in their Honorary Inspectors Mr. David Edwards, B.A. and Mr. H. W. Carter, B. Sc. a fact which should not be under-rated in any approach to reorientations of Education.

It would be of great value if the principles laid down in this note could be approved by Government as a Policy for the next ten years. Confidence and progress and an elimination of further searching for channels would at once be achieved.

SECTION P

Pound within the Lushai Hills.

These orders are lengthy and have no special local significance but are printed in full in the Superintendent's District Cover.

SECTION Q

Public Works Department.

a. Policy.

This Department operates technically under the Chief Engineer to the Government of Assam. Due to the extraordinary remoteness of most of the area in which work has to be done the technical difficulties are increased by those which arise from the lack of any means for rapid communication and supervision. A larger stock of material has to be kept, as stores are not obtainable usually under 2 months from Calcutta. The working season, for climatic reasons, is short and the above difficulties operate against even expenditure through the year. Due also to the distance from Shillong the late arrival of sanction not infrequently accentuates local difficulties.

Bridal paths are maintained under a system of fixed grants to road gangs in return for which certain specific jungle clearances and road dressings are performed, while emergency work is done, when required, free or on payment where the emergency is significant. It is important to realise that the work performed is extensive for the actual cash paid, and that the cash scale being fixed the road gangs can not be employed on improvement or extra work unless funds are specially provided for payment at usual contract rates. If this principle is not followed the road system might have to be replaced and this would recoil seriously on the Department from a financial point of view. The men work conscientiously and willingly and so long as they receive fair treatment, with protection from any avaricious or troublesome chief, there is no reason to anticipate that the system will fail.

Responsibility for the Department falls on the Superintendent, Lushai Hills in his capacity as ex-Officio Executive Engineer and technically he is aided by a technical expert, with technical responsibility. This chain must be preserved through the Superintendent should use all men as in his power to cause check of work in distant places by Officers capable of reading measurement books in relation to work done, within an early date of completion of the work. In this connection the Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh Civil can assist the Superintendent in the discharge of his P.W.D. duties

by bringing to his notice, confidentially where there is a suspicion of foul play, anything which makes him think there has been waste, loss of Government money or any misdirection.

The maintenance of Inspection Bungalows, suspension bridges, Government Buildings and roads out in the distance areas of this District together with the Headquarter responsibilities is no light work and it would never be possible for the Superintendent to give satisfaction without the assistance of a first class technical executive—a contention which has been emphasised by failure in this respect in the past.

It is generally recognised that in the circumstances in which the Superintendent, Lushai Hills is placed the administrative discharge of his responsibilities must be facilitated by relief from meticulous regulations. In relation to the P.W.D. relaxation in this respect is less easy though it must be recognised that it is not possible for him to give the same meticulous attention to all rules and orders and procedure as an Officer whose sole and only duties are those of a full time Executive Engineer technically and administratively trained to his work.

b. Details.

I. History

In the early days of the British administration in the district the Public Works Department in the North and the South Lushai Hills

was in the hand of the Executive Engineers Cachar and Chittagong Divisions respectively. With the amalgamation of the Civil administration in those areas, the Public Works Department was also amalgamated and transferred to the hand of the Superintendent Lushai Hills in the year 1898. Since then the arrangement has continued.

II. Constitution

In the early stage the Superintendent was assisted in the Public Works Department matters by one District Engineer and two Sub-Divisional Officers and four sectional officers. The District Engineer was however replaced in 1906 by a Supervisor. The arrangement continued substantially till 1933 when the Aijal and the Lungleh Sub-division were combined and one Sub-division called the Lushai Hills Sub-Division was formed with the Supervisor in charge of the new Sub-Divisions and the whole district being sub-divided into six sections-- two Overseers and four Sub-Overseers being placed in charge of these sections. Four of them are stationed at Aijal and two at Lungleh. The Superintendent Lushai Hills continues to be a Divisional Officer or Ex-Officio Executive Engineer in charge of the Lushai Hills Division. There is a combined Public Works Department Office for the Sub-Division and the division with one Head Clerk and Accountant and five clerks and the Supervisor is placed in charge of the Office. There are also two Storekeepers one at Aijal and one

at Lungleh-- who are responsible for the large stores in their hands.

III. Functions

The jurisdiction of respective duties of various Public Works Department Officers has been defined in the Department Codes like the Assam Public Works Department Code Public Works Accounts Code etc. Further, details will appear in the office Order No. 25 of 1933-34 which mainly shows as follows :---

1. The Supervisor and Sub-Divisional Officer is authorised to pass all bills up to Rs. 500/- each except the final bills and the bills for supply of stores.

2. He is also authorised to draw cheques on the Aijal and the Lungleh Treasury, the amount of the individual cheque should not exceed Rs. 2,000/- without Superintendent's countersignature. The cheques on the Reserve Bank will be drawn by the Superintendent alone.

3. The Supervisor is authorised to accept tenders for works amounting upto Rs. 500/- only. For works above this, the tenders must be sanctioned by the Superintendent.

IV. Verification

1. Bills (a) Seven percent of all bills have to be check measured by the Superintendent.

(b) Twenty percents have to be check measured by the Supervisor.

(c) Twenty percents have to be prepared by the Supervisor.

2. Stores (a) Ten percents of all stores have to be verified annually by the Superintendent.

(b) All at headquarters have to be verified by the Supervisor and Sub-Divisional Officer annually and those at outstations have to be verified by him once in every two years.

V. Communication

1. Classification -All important roads main bridle paths totalling a mileage of 803.75 in the district are in the charge of the district. These may be classified as below according to importance and specifications.

- a. First class roads---suitable for carts only. Mileage 13 at present.
- b. Second class roads—Bridle paths only 6'-8' wide with furnished bungalow.
- c. Third class roads—Bridle paths 4-6' wide with unfurnished Bungalows.
- d. Fourth Class roads—Village paths only with no Bungalows. These are in the Zongling area only.

2. Melvengs--The first class roads are maintained departmentally through fixed gang of labourers. All others except the Lungleh - Demagiri Road are maintained through the Agency of a fixed gang of villagers - termed locally as "Melvengs". The condition of their appointment, work and payment is regulated by the standing orders finally consolidated in the office order (serial No. 13/IX-54 of 1932-33).

This system was introduced in 1901 and has worked very satisfactorily and economically too and should be preserved. In very few cases the melveng having resigned the sectional chiefs have been made responsible for maintenance of the areas in their respective lands.

This practise may appear attractive in theory but it is unsatisfactory and every effort should be made to preserve the system vide remarks on Policy above.

These melvengs or the chiefs are paid twice annually at some fixed mileage rate—which is subject to alteration according to necessity though it is not ordinarily alterable except on special grounds. Due to scarcity of suitable mileage and labourers in the unhealthy area of the Lungleh-Demagiri Road, this is maintained through contractors.

3. Camp—The camp buildings on all roads are maintained through the sectional chiefs on payment at the district Schedule of rates. This should always be encouraged as this provides facilities for training villagers and distributing money among the villagers.

4. Awmpuis—Each of the camps is provided with a fixed gang of villagers locally termed as “AWMPUIS” attached to it. The conditions of their employment and their functions will be found in the orders consolidated in the standing order (Serial 13 of X-54/1927-32.) The strength in each camp varies with the variation of necessity. They are very useful elements

to all touring officers using the camps and should be maintained as far as possible, for where the people have refused such service Government has had to pay more for less efficient service.

5. Phaltus—The melvengs and awmpuis are always encouraged to form a separate hamlet and to stay as far as is possible near the road and the camps. But these hamlets should not be allowed to grow by harbouring non-workers who only desire to evade the discipline of chiefs and the village. In special circumstances, a very few houses called "PHALTUS" are allowed to stay in the melveng or Awmpui hamlets subject to the following conditions :—

- (a) They remain peaceful.
- (b) They fill up future vacancy.
- (c) They assist the Melvengs and Awmpuis in cases of emergency.

6. Road-side jhuming—A strip of land 150 feet (50 yards) on either sides of the road is reserved as Roadsides land and no jhuming is ordinarily permitted on the road reserve land so as to stop any possible land slip and preservation of Roadside trees for shelter. Roadside jhuming should be ordinarily discouraged. But in exceptional cases when a village is in the point of facing a famine or the Road being muddy needs clearance for more light and air, Roadside jhuming may be permitted on condition that the villages remain responsible for

any damage due to jhuming and keep the road clear.

Applications for roadside jhuming should be submitted through the Sectional Muhurer and the Overseer so that these officers may record their opinion about the safety or otherwise of the road. No direct application should ordinarily be entertained. This practise should be insisted on direct applications by chiefs to the Superintendent should be referred to the Superintendent in the P. W.D.

VI. Building

1. A general policy is being followed by which the quality of buildings will be improved by gradual replacement of turja walls and bamboos roofs with materials of a more durable quality so far as funds permit the worst ones being taken first and so on. This process is working satisfactorily and should be encouraged a ten year period being kept firmly in view.

2. All the buildings are divided into four groups and each group is taken by turn annually for thorough painting. Thus every building is painted invariably every fourth year. This is a very satisfactory procedure which has showed excellent results and should be adhered to.

3. The buildings of inferior quality belonging to other departments should not be taken over by Public Works Department for maintenance as this entails endless trouble in proper maintenance upto the occupant's satisfaction. With the limited grants available the

Department is never able to get square with an original poor specification while as soon as the Department is in charge demands and responsibility become more prominent.

VII. Contracts

The Superintendent is not required under Rule to call for sealed tenders when placing contract for any work. But in practice, sealed tenders are ordinarily called for in the case of any works in the station so as to create a healthy competition among the public. In doing so the spirit of the rules for calling and accepting tenders is followed as far as possible. Local Lushai contractors are always encouraged to come forward with reductions in rate.

As time goes on it should be inevitable that Lushai contractors should improve work and reduce rate but till then non-Lushai contractors with experience and long residence should not be discouraged and will usually have to be employed on the better class buildings.

In the case of ordinary repairs in out station areas, contracts are as a policy placed with the sectional chiefs so as to encourage them in coming forward with their villagers to do the work required so that thereby they can train their villagers under the Public Works Department's supervision and at the same time earn something at work within their easy reach. The eventual effect of the policy should result in an increase of trained men capable of work

at reasonable rates. This policy is having success and is a real improvement on the old practise of sending out head quarter contractors and mistries to distant places.

VIII. Work Establishment.

1. A regular time scale of pay has been fixed for all mohurers and Inspection Bungalow chowkidars and suitable Lushais are appointed as a policy to these services. This should always be encouraged. But in exceptional cases only when capable Gurkha pensioners capable of producing the required supply of milk are available they are appointed for Inspection Bungalows on the trunk road only. Such men should ordinarily be ex-Rifles men whose long and good service constitutes exceptional claims to settlement in Lushai Hills.

2. Lately a policy has been adopted to train, for six months only all prospective chowkidars in gardening, cow-keeping and petty painting etc. so that the successful man may prove a more useful chowkidar and save the department money by doing varnishing and painting and petty repairs where possible.

In selecting mohurers a test on Arithmetic and general intelligence is taken among the available matriculates and the selected man is placed on probation for sometime. Otherwise unpaid probationers are strictly discouraged, and no man is taken for temporary service who is not in any way suitable for the next permanent appointment.

IX. Relation with other Civil Officers :

1. The Assistant Superintendents stationed at Aijal have nothing to do with the administration of the Public Works Department in the district or payment of contractors' bills. Government does not authorise the Superintendent to delegate to his assistance any of the powers which he enjoys as a Public Works Disburser or Divisional Officer. These Officers should always therefore decline to deal with any P.W.D. papers brought to them as they will be signing documents the importance or significance of which they may not fully realise. The Supervisor is the immediate technical assistant to the Superintendent in all Public Works Department matters, and he being a Sub-Divisional Officer Public Works Department is usually entrusted with carrying out all orders and policies of the Superintendent in the Public Works Department matters. He is held personally responsible to the Superintendent and through the Superintendent to the Government as well for proper running of the Public Works Department in the district.

2. In case of Lungleh the Sub-Divisional Officer Lungleh has no responsibility to Superintendent or to Government for the Public Works Department matters and therefore he should not issue any orders effecting the Public Works Department finances ; but his suggestions will always be considered by the Superintendent on their merits and orders passed accordingly. He has however been authorised to check measure

any bills he likes and bring to Superintendents' notice all cases of discrepancy or doubt. The appointment of the personnel for Melvengs and Awmpuis and Chowkidars will also require Sub-Divisional Officer's approval before final acceptance by the Public Works Department. The Works Department should exercise towards the Sub-Divisional Officer Lungleh Civil the consideration and care which is his due from every and all departments operating under his administrative charge.

SECTION R. Office Administration.

(a) Policy

Author There are so many departments under the Superintendent at Aijal and the Sub-Divisional Officer Lungleh at Lungleh that it is not possible to follow system by which the Head Clerk has personal knowledge of all office papers. Moreover the Head Clerk has many duties of a personally executive nature some involving the custody and handling of cash. In these circumstances it is essential to ensure that no work is given to the Head Clerk that can be done by others and that the Head Clerk be made responsible for the Supervision of the work of each and every clerk machinery being evolved which enables an Officer to ascertain the supervision is being given.' In relation to all other clerks it is essential to ensure that they are

personally responsible for the files and departments in their charge. Ever since this practise was insisted upon the whole standard of work and the relationship with offices under the Departmental Heads of Government have definitely improved out of all measure.

With this policy in view the following standing orders have been followed and worked with great success and except for adequate reasons changes are not recommended.

(b) Duties of the Head Clerk.

I. Maintenance of the General Cash Book.

- (a) Head Clerk receives either direct or from other Department of the General Office has any right to keep receipts for a night even from the Head Clerk.
- (b) The Head Clerk will receive daily all receipts from the following Departments by 4 P.M. at the latest. Departments refusing to accept receipts after this hour ---

Loans Department

Grazing Receipts

Decretal Receipts

House Tax

Land Revenue

The following sources of receipts will be accepted direct by the Head Clerk :—

Establishment Bill monies

Contingent Bill sums

All Bill money drawn for disbursement.

All miscellaneous and other receipts not included in above Department.

(c) Loan Receipts.

These sums will be taken over from the loans Clerk whose register of running receipts will be signed by the Head Clerk. He will then post this sum in his Cash Book as a receipt, daily.

The same procedure will apply for receipts from all cases where peremptory receipts are given these must be checked at the time of checking in receipts into the Cash Book.

The Head Clerk will also post all other receipts he has to receive in the Cash Book daily.

(d) The following morning daily the Cash Book together with all running receipt register, subsidiary Departmental Registers and peremptory receipt counterfoils will be placed before the Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent who will see that all monies taken over by the Head Clerk the day before are actually entered in the Receipt side of the Cash Book. All these entries will be initialled by the Officer checking the Cash Book with the subsidiary Register.

(e) Payments shown will be either to the Treasury or to individual. The Officer passing the accounts must sign the daily payments side of the Cash Book when he has satisfied himself that the payments

shown as are properly supported by proof of payment or authorised disposal. In signing the payment side of the Cash Book the officer's signature will carry with it the certification that the remittances to the Treasury as shown in the cash book actually appear in the Treasury Remittance Register properly acquitted by the Treasurer and the Accountant or the Treasury Officer where necessary i.e. where the sum exceeds rupees five hundred. In the case of criminal fines the Officer will call for and sign the Record and Fine Register when he signs the Cash Book after checking the fine amount in the Treasury Remittance Register.

- (f) The Head Clerk is authorised to keep one register in which he may enter all receipts and payments he makes and from which he should post up the Cash Book after 4 p.m. ready for the check by an Officer the following morning first thing.
- (g) The cash in hand of the Head Clerk will be checked by the Superintendent or the Assistant Superintendent on the first Saturday or each month in accordance with item 3 Rule 34 of the Assam Financial Rules. This is a suitable day and will ensure a monthly check on a day when the Office and Officers are not over immersed in the usual excess of work caused by preparation of Bills this time.

The Officer will certify the cash in hand is correct.

- (h) It is anticipated that even during busy seasons provided the Clerks concerned come to Office at once with all their relevant registers and peremptory receipts it should be possible for the officer to sign up the Cash Book within half an hour at the most. This time spent will be well worth it as it practically constitutes a running audit and will eliminate any casual checks from time to time and will for practically certain, ensure that all cash which is being handled is being expeditiously accounted for properly and without delay.
- (i) When a refund is due the order for payment of refund may not be passed by an officer until the refund Voucher figures in the Register for payment orders for refunds—which will be signed then and there so that the story of the Refund Payment order cannot be forgotten.

II. Remittance by Head Clerk to Treasury.

Remittances are sent by Head Clerk to Treasury. The procedure is for this money to be accompanied by the Chalan book, and the Treasury Remittance Book.

The chalan is in duplicates First the Accountant signs both the Treasury Remittance Book as well as the 2 chalans. The money is

then taken to Treasurer who accepts money with one copy of the Chalan and returns the duplicate chalan signed and also the Treasury Remittance Book. Cash is paid into the Treasury in the case of Remittance Transfer Receipt to Lungleh. The money cannot be acknowledged for some days and unless there is a record that it is acknowledged it may be overlooked in the course of business. Therefore to facilitate easy check by eye. Whenever a Remittance Transfer Receipt entry is made now in the Treasury Remittance Book a bracket must be made and left blank till the acknowledgement reference is available for entering in the bracket. When this entry is made the Remittance Transfer Receipt transaction can be said to be closed from the point of view of this office.

This Treasury Remittance Book must be checked and initialled by the Officer passing the Cash Book for the day in token that the remittance to Treasury shown in the Cash Book has actually been attested by Treasury Official.

III. Permanent Advance :

(a) This is fixed at Rs 400/-

(b) The Head Clerk is responsible that at no time he spends more than Rs. 350/- and expenditure must be held up till pending vouchers are recouped, except with the special permission of an Officer, which however should ordinarily never be given as it is directly against Government Orders.

(c) The Head Clerk will obtain pay orders on all vouchers.

(d) He will then prepare a contingent Bill and obtain signature of an Officer. The Bill will not be signed by the Officer unless

(a) the bill is entered in the contingent Register.

(b) the pay order is produced with the bill.

(e) On signing the Bill the Officer concerned is responsible that he signs the Contingent Register, and cancels all vouchers over Rs. 25/- destroying these under Rs. 25/-.

He will not sign the Bill till he has satisfied himself that the money has been paid and receipted.

(f) The Contingent Register will be checked daily by an Officer and will be compared with the Head Clerk's Cash Book to see that the signed Bill has encashed at the Treasury and that the sum has been taken up for account in the Cash Book.

On this check being made the Officer will attest the Contingent Register suitably and will initial the entry in the Cash Book.

(g) The Superintendent while in the station will do this work in his incapacity or absence the Assistant Superintendent.

(h) The Head Clerk is responsible that when Contingent Bills are encashed at the Treasury he brings up the Contingent Register concerned for a second acquittance of the Superintendent, which will mean that he has

seen the amount of the Bill actually entered up in the receipt side of the Cash Book to the credit of the Permanent Advance.

IV. In addition to the above duties the Head Clerk is responsible for the following main executive duties ---

Check of each clerks method of progress once a month. Preparation of and scrutiny of Superintendents' Budget.

Reception of all correspondence, its subsequent docketing and passing to all Departments concerned. Maintenance of Stock Book of valuable forms.

Financial Returns.

Control of Leave Ledgers of which Assistant Superintendent should check 10% annually initialling the ledger in token of check.

V. Budget.

As the Superintendent is in charge of so many departments unless proper machinery exist for careful noting and dealing with requirements of each Department at times of touring of inspection it will invariably mean that in August at the time of submission of Budget proposals the demands will be incomplete and in an inadequate form. To meet this defect a Budget file will be kept by the Head Clerk, Superintendent's Office in which will figure papers in connection with consideration of all proposals for inclusion in the ensuing Budget for each Department - or when papers can not be placed finally a slip will be preserved to

remind Superintendent of the currency of all proposals under consideration.

As proposals are ultimately submitted direct to Heads of all Departments a final Composites statement of all projects submitted will be sent to the Secretary to His Excellency to facilitate his dealing with this District's proposals.

VI. Orders by Superintendent and Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh.

It is from time to time necessary to pass orders, some of which affect all and someone more clerks. In practise it is very difficult to ensure that orders passed reach their destination. It has been found essential, therefore, to ensure there can be no possible excuse for non receipt of any order or for the order being left ineffective and ignored. The following orders ensure the sucess in handling orders.

(a) Each clerk in charge of department will maintain his own order book. He is responsible for entering up each order passed by an officer, to him direct as a Departmental order. He is also responsible for entering up each order which is of a general nature and affects in any way his department.

(b) Any general order made over to the Head Clerk by an Officer will be at once entered in the general office order book by the clerk in charge who will be given this by the Head Clerk. The clerk in charge of the General Office Order Book is personally

responsible that he obtains the initials of each clerk in the office to the order concerned. It is the duty of these clerks to then enter up such orders as concern them in their own order books.

(c) All circle orders concerning villages and cases must be dealt with by the Lushai Clerk who will see that the Circle Interpreter concerned gets the order and enters it into his Temporary or Permanent order book. All clerks are responsible that they show any such orders with which they are dealing to the Lushai Clerk.

SECTION S

(a) General

Author and Standing Orders. 1. Cartmen found asleep while playing carts on the Sairang Road or if found not to have their carts under control will be held liable on all accounts.

2. Circle Interpreters or Chaprasis stationed outside Aijal or Lungleh are not expected to build houses worth more than Rs. 75/-. The rate of deterioration will be taken as Rs. 15/- per year and relieving Officers will be required to take over buildings on the above scale.

3. Any person found guilty of committing adultery with the wife of a touring Government servant will be liable to a fine of Rs. 100/-.

4. It has been held by Commissioner that payment of stamp duty by Chakmas and Tripuras is illegal under the provisions of Noti-

fication No. 1541 F(a) dated 10th April 1930 as amended No. Notification No. 2962 F(a) dated 29.7.1930 page 265 Assam Stamp Manual which provides for payment of stamp duty by non-natives of the district.

5. Burials.—In any settlement where there is a dispensary or Thana no burials must be permitted within the station limits. Where a Thana Officer is stationed the responsibility for prevention of the abuse of this order fall on the Officer in charge Thana. In other cases on the Medical Officer in charge of the Dispensary.

In villages chiefs aided by the Circle Staff should do all that they can to persuade the people to bury in some picturesque spot outside the precincts of the village site and in a direction away from the water supply and such that the prevailing winds will blow from the village towards the burial ground and not vice versa.

In Aijal, Lungleh and the Mission settlements similar practise should be adopted under the advice where necessary of the Senior Medical Officer.

6. Drugs—The importation of Ganja, opium or other dangerous drugs into the Lushai Hills is strictly forbidden and failure to observe this direction will be treated as an offence.

7. Shooting of Elephants—No private elephant may on any account be shot or damaged by anyone except in defence of human life.

Anyone shooting an elephant which has not been previously declared a rogue by the Superintendent personally, will be held responsible for proving beyond all reasonable doubt that the animals who shot or damaged in defence of life or property or actual crops and that his action was unavoidable. In case of rogue elephants declared and proclaimed disposal of the tusks will be considered when the proclamation is made.

In all other cases of unproclaimed animals the tusks will be the property of the Government.

It must be noted that Elephants Preservation Act and Rules thereunder apply to Lushai Hills.

Chiefs sometimes report Elephants as wild ones when they are really Forest Mahaldars' Elephants. It is advisable therefore ordinarily not to take such petitions on their face value as a difficult situation would result if permission was given to shoot and Elephant that in effect was privately owned.

8. The setting of "Kar" or trap is prohibited. Any breach of this rule is punishable with a fine amounting to Rs. 40/-.

9. Pensioners unable to attend Treasury. In accordance with provisions of Assam Finance Department letter No. 3205 dated September 16th 1933 the following procedure will be adopted :—

The Accountant Treasury is responsible for noting against each pensioner permitted to

draw pension without personal appearance the date when Superintendent last certified his existence and is responsible that certification is effected not less than once a year. All verifications due must be reported to Superintendent and care taken by the Accountant that he obtains the necessary certificate.

10 Quarrying by anyone in areas not allotted specifically by Superintendent Lushai Hills in charge PWD in writing is not allowed and parties concerned will be held liable for accidents or damage done thereby.

11. No Officer has any authority to permit gambling which is against the Law. Passes may be given during Dewali or other festivals for customary games involving skill.

12. Clerks and other officers are responsible that they do not allow the public to enter the Offices.

13. The contents of all Official correspondence are not the possession of any clerk or office inmate and on no account should Government or District Officer's papers be disclosed to anyone.

14. House Building Advances

House Building advance may be given only under special orders of Government in accordance with the rules to Lushai Government Officers provided the houses are erected at either Aijal or Lungleh at a cost ordinarily not to exceed Rs. 200/- and provided two acceptable sureties are offered and accepted to guarantee

payment in case of any default and provided such sureties have not stood for any other case without Superintendent's personal permission and further provided the Officer obtaining the advance will first agree in writing that he will revert to where he joined from or elsewhere if and when he goes on pension or that his family will vacate the house on his death to go to the village from where he came or any other village to his liking. In such a case the house would be valued by the Superintendent if there was any dispute between the vacating party and the successor.

The building or houses by Government officers in sites at Aijal and Lungleh will be subject to the same conditions i.e. vacation in the event of retirement or death.

Provided there are no strong reasons to the contrary on vacation of these quarters by Government Officers or their families these should generally be accorded special permission to settle in villages near Aijal or Lungleh even though there may be controlled villages, in view of the service rendered as Government servant.

(b) Trade.

1. It is hereby ordered that no Government servants should be allowed to trade in this district without the Special sanction of the Superintendent Lushai Hills.

2. The Bazaar is the proper place for villagers to sell their wares and supplies.

On any day prior to a regular Bazaar day or on any Bazaar day sales or purchases of supplies on any road within two miles of Aijal or Lungleh is prohibited.

3. Boats entering the Lushai Hills are playing for hire in return for delivering of Goods.

The practise of sales of privately owned wares and supplies at Sairang free of any tax constitutes an anomaly in relation to established shopkeepers. In these circumstances to place such sales on a basis of some equality with established shopkeepers the following Notification No. 644 A.P. dated 23rd January 1936 is a temporary measure subject to reconsideration in December 1936 and road as follows :--

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 35 of the Chin Hills Regulation 1896 (Regulation V of 1896 as extended to the Lushai Hills district by Notification No. 2194 A.P. dated the 13th March 1933 the Government of Assam are pleased to prescribe as an experimental measure for one year with effect from the 1st April 1936, a tax of Rs. 2/- per boat consignment on goods imported for sale by boat to Sairang or to any points on the Tlawng river in the Lushai Hills District.

This privilege of unrestricted sales should stimulate arrival of wares and encourage export

of cotton and oranges from the Lushai Hills, but sales must be on a cash or barter basis and subsequent claims are liable to be ignored.

4. No due known as Rampawmman or levy by chief on sale or purchase of cattle is permitted by Lushai custom. Any chief found infringing this order will meet with exemplary punishment. The policy being pursued by Superintendent Lushai Hills on behalf of the people aims at increasing trade and this due acts as a preventive and so operates against District Policy and will not be tolerated.

(c) Circuit Houses

1. In accordance with instructions contained in Commissioner's letter No. 1329 G dated May 1st 1934 the rent for occupation of the Circuit House when occupied by parties other than those covered for by the Rules for occupation of Circuit Houses in Assam will be Re. 1/- per day, a charge which will cover use of room, furniture and crockery only.

The above order does not apply to Officers of the Assam Rifles.

In all cases however the Rules for the occupation of Circuit Houses in Assam will be followed.

2. The provisions of the Government of Assam Rules for management of the Circuit Houses in Assam will be followed.

3. Chowkidars are personally responsible for all articles on charge.

4. He must only give out that stock required by an Officer and articles may not be given to any servants of touring Officers for their own use.

5. He will be responsible for all breakages and deficiencies not brought to notice of an Officer before departure of the occupant.

6. He may on no account lend any Circuit House articles without permission of an Officer in writing. Damaged articles or deficiencies on return must be brought to notice of Officer in charge.

7. Chowkidar is responsible for arranging a Naga Sweeper when required by visitors.

8. He will supply milk at -/4/- a seer and fire-wood at -/4/- a maund to all visitors.

9. He will collect Dhobi charges as per current scale.

10. Chowkidar is responsible for cleanliness of the Bungalow and upkeep of compound and may impound stray cattle found within the compound.

11. The Assistant Superintendent will hold charge of the Circuit House on behalf of Superintendent.

12. As approved by the Commissioner in his letter No. 1329 G dated the 1st May 1934. When rent is charged for staying in Circuit House Aijal Re. 1/- per day will be charged except in case of Assam Rifles Officers this Re. 1/- to cover only use of room furniture and crockery.

(d) Medical

1. Qualified compounders may be given passes from time to time to sell medicines as permitted by the Civil Surgeon and a pass will be issued in the form below. When such passes are issued count should first be taken as to how many passes have been issued for sale within the area stated by the applicant. As far as possible passes should be restricted to those who are prepared to undertake the sale of medicines in area where there is no Hospital firstly, and secondly where there are no compounders already selling, passes usually being issued on a circle basis for easy administrative control.

Pass

..... is permitted to practise within the terms stated in the Compounder's certificate and only those medicines to the sale of which the Civil Surgeon has given his prior permission. No poison may be sold and the pass holder is not exempt from any liability to damage caused by the sale of any medicines he prepares.

2. Any person calling on the services of a Government Sub-Assistant Surgeon from a distance of more than five miles from Headquarters will be liable to a fee of Rs. 5/- per day, which fee will include the charges for portage.

3. Persons calling out Compounders for medicines assistance when employment of porters is necessary will be liable to pay for porters at the following rates.

As. four if porters are supplied by patients' family.

As. twelve if porters are not supplied by the patients' family.

If such porters are not available then transport department porters may be supplied at rates for private supply.

4. Medicines sellers stocking medicines under a pass should enter their stock alphabetically in their stock register.

5. The control of sales of medicine by private parties duly authorised by pass issued by Superintendent, Lushai Hills or the Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh shall be subject to any rules and orders the Civil Surgeon finds necessary to issue.

The Civil Surgeon will exercise supervision from time to time at his convenience of such private medicine sellers. The possession, transport or sale of white arsenic or sulphate of copper is specially forbidden.

6. In stations where there is no Thana the Medical Officer in charge of the Dispensary is responsible that burials do not take place in the station limits.

General.

Though the Medical Department has nobly and very successfully met disease as it has come along there appear to be no records of progressive research or of the various experience of those Officers who have been in charge. Much remains to be done to improve the nursing

staff - and fruitful fields of recruitment lie with those who have been through the four years strict practical and theoretical training which they are fortunate in having at the hands of highly qualified Sisters (European) working at the non-Official institutions at Durtlang and Serkawn.

Little is known of the methods by which the villagers' diets could be improved from local resources and if more were known practise could be started within the educational hostels, and authoritative directions could be issued for instructional purposes through the auspices of the Red Cross Committee.

Without a deeper knowledge of the causes of disease in various localities malnutrition the treatment, merely, of the sick is not over satisfactory.

This Department has lacked authoritative direction, but by the Government recognising the need for the best available doctors by the intended posting of an Indian Medical Service Officer Government has taken a much needed lead.

The Educational authorities could well make an important contribution by employing whole or part time Medical Inspectors for the general and regular look over of children in their schools as far as this was practicable.

(c) Supplies.

1. Clerks preparing indents for supply of rations must endorse on the indent a certificate to this effect :—

Certified indent is according to current scale of rations and that I am responsible for any loss of Government caused by issue of rations in excess of scale.

2. Requirement of Officers of fowls, eggs or rice should be recorded in monthly totals desired - the indent to reach Superintendent or Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh by 15th of the previous month in which supply is desired. If this is not done requirements may not be obtainable in time.

3. The Excise Act is not in force in Lushai Hills. Supply of alcoholic liquor will be permitted on authority issued by Superintendent, Lushai Hills to selected dealers only.

4. The usual rates at which supplies will be available at impressed rates are as follows :—

Paddy Rs. 2/8/- a maund.

Fowls Rs. -/6/- each.

5. Epidemics of disease among fowls must be reported to Superintendent at once and in default of such reports no excuses for failure to supply fowls ordered on indent can be taken into consideration.

(f) Boats.

1. When accidents have occurred to boats plying in the Dhaleswari these have usually been due to overloading.

Boats plying within the Lushai Hills may not carry a load exceeding 55 maunds on pain of punishment.

2. The only occasion when a boat would be at the disposal of an individual and not subject to impressment would be if anyone declared the order for such a boat to come empty to Sairang and it arrived empty. Such a case might happen for purposes of export of perishable goods.

In the case of emergency involving danger to life even such a boat would be considered liable to impressment.

3. Boats lying at Sairang are required to ferry Government servants across the river free of charge when on legitimate Government business.

(g) Rules for dealing with outbreaks of epidemics diseases in the Lushai Hills modelled on Notification No. 2333 L.S.G. dated June 10th 1936 - the details being made applicable to the conditions prevalent in the Lushai Hills in accordance with Para XIV of the above Notification :—

1. Chiefs will report the outbreak of any epidemic disease to the Circle staff immediately and at the same time if within one says march of a Dispensary to the Doctor in charge of the Dispensary.

2. The Circle staff will report at once to the Lushai Clerk who will inform the Senior Medical Officer and the senior Civil Officer at Headquarter.

3. All concerned are under an obligation to avoid all delay and inexcusable delay may involve liability to punishment, in the public interest.

(g) Migration and Border Meetings.

1. In 1925 it was mutually agreed between District Officers of Lushai Hills and Chin Hills that no claims by parties residing in one District to lands in another would be considered and that the District boundary marked the clear division. This view explained to the chiefs of both Districts.

2. The above District Officers in 1907 who agreed that the functions of a Border Court were not intended to extend to claims by plaintiffs who had recently entered one District without attempting to obtain justice in the District in which the cause of action arose. Such claims should usually be declined at the Border Courts parties being directed to lay their claims in the Courts of the District in which the cause of action arose.

3. In 1905 it was also mutually decided that residents of one District should not hunt in territory in an adjacent District within another province.

4. No specific migration fee is any longer claimable as between people of the Manipur State, Assam or Burma, but customary liabilities by residents incurred while one resident in one District would be considered on their merits as between people of the Manipur State, Assam or Burma, but customary liabilities by residents incurred while lately resident in one District would be considered on their merits.

5. Attempts by chiefs to induce people to leave a village is illegal and not in accordance with custom and is only possible under settled conditions of Law and order therefore such attempt if clearly established are punishable with a minimum fine of Rs. 40/- her one mithan.

(h) Restrictions on Cultivation.

No jhuming is permitted within any area which has been specially reserved except under special sanction. Such Reserves are :--

- A. Aijal Station Reserve.
- B. Lungleh Residence Surcharge area.
- C. Champhai Reserve.
- D. Any specially defined "Station" in the interior.
- E. Lushai Hills Inner Line Reserve.
- F. One furlong either side of all Government Roads.
- G. One mile of any navigable river.

Special sanctions exists in case of certain villages within (e) above i.e. Inner Line Reserve and details may be seen under Forests, page 132.

Cultivation may be permitted in discretion of Superintendent, Lushai Hills within reserve under (g) above provided only cotton or fruit is grown and only bamboo area cultivated and that requirements of Forest Department as laid down under Forest page 127-139 in relation to the various reserves are complied with.

(i) Jhums within one mile of Dhobi Nullah.

Parties jhuming within one mile of Dhobi Nullah in any direction must put up fencing capable of resisting attacks by cows or other animals in default of which no claims for compensation will lie.

(j) Registration.

In accordance with the requirements of Government letter No. Pol. 1815/7204 A.P. dated 24.9.1935 the following procedure will be followed.:-

1. It will be explained to parties that the Registration being effected is not valid for evidential purposes in areas under the High Court.

2. A note will be made that Registration is "Registered by desire of the applicant".

3. Documents will be prepared in duplicate, one of the copies being permanently filed in the Present Register copied as at present.

4. Formalities and Fees prescribed by the Indian Registration Act will be followed.

(K) Wild animal rewards.

The rates for rewards vary and are principally governed by the ability of the Government to make adequate provision. Not long ago Rs. 25/- was the tiger reward, but this has been reduced and even done away with over a period of years.

The grant of adequate reward is a necessary adjunct to any agricultural policy. The people

have no conception generally of the value of improved living conditions. No obstacle to the uplift and improvements of the people should ever be placed in the people's way. So far as animal rewards are concerned unless these are attractive these lethargic people will not make any effort to Shirkar to preserve cattle which is as yet of no great importance in their lives. Unless wild animals, tiger, leopard, and wild dog are systematically tackled the people will never make any head way in keeping domestic cattle.

As an experimental measure the rates for individual animals has been reduced to the lowest on record by provision has been for paying an equal rate for full and Govt. letter partly grown animals. The object No. 56 G.S. of this is to encourage widely hunt- of 5.1.1938 ing expeditions which will extinguish these animals before they either grow up, propagate, or kill, which is clearly and obviously common sense way of meeting any really genuine desire of a people to be freed of vermins and rests. It is, however, doubtful if the rates being offered are sufficient to induce the effort necessary to make the principle being followed a success.

1. Political Report.

Govt. letter Government require a Political Report confidentially twice a No. 752-53 cal Report confidentially twice a C.B. dated month in the following form due 1.5.33. on 12th and 27th of each month :--

1. Weather and conditions of crops and noticeable price movements.

2. Progress of Revenue collections - whether backward, up-to-date, difficult etc.

3. Crime.

4. Political Development.

5. Local affairs of any interest or significance.

6. General to include earth-quake, Flood, unusual occurrence or any social or other clashes etc.

2. Extra Assistant Commissioner will collect reports and compile for Superintendent delivering those on the 7th and 22nd of each month collected as follows :—

Para 1. Lushai Clerk.

2. Revenue and Forest Clerks.

3. and 6 Sub-Inspector Police.

4. and 5 by Extra Assistant Commissioner himself in light of information of which he is in possession.

3. Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh will proceed on similar lines adapted to his conditions reports reaching the Superintendent, Lushai Hills by the 7th and 22nd of each month without fail.

m. Specimen of suitable allocation of duties between Officers at District Headquarters. Distribution of works of Officers in the Lushai Hills.

Superintendent, Lushai Hills.

1. P. W. D.
2. Appeals including appeals from chiefs' village orders not specifically sent to the Assistant Superintendents.
3. Control of new and changes of gun licenses.
4. All exemptions of Taxes or "AWL" of any kind.
5. All correspondence and matters not apportioned specifically to any Officer.
6. Issue of passes for permanent settlement or buildings.
7. All Auditors' objections of all Departments must be submitted under Superintendents' final signature only.
8. All annual Return.
9. All papers re :—
 - (1) Policy.
 - (2) Concession.
 - (3) Punishment.
 - (4) Appointment.

will be put up to the Superintendent, Lushai Hills by the Assistant Superintendents.

Note:—No original papers in Departments where Assistants are doing primary work must go to Department Heads without Superintendents' prior approval and orders.

Assistant Superintendent I

- (1) Jail Department.
- (2) Transport Department.

- (3) Personal Residence Surcharge and Foreigners, petitions for permanent settlement to be put up to Superintendent.
- (4) Lushai Clerks file.
- (5) Renewal of gun licenses, issue of ammunition slips and check of Vendors in accordance with Local Rules from time to time including supervision of surprise checks by Sub-Inspector of Police.
- (6) Border Meeting execution cases.
- (7) All Civil cases Lushai or Foreign where one party is within 5 miles radius of Aijal and where one party is not originally triable by chiefs panchayat.
- (8) All criminal cases not specially taken by the Superintendent.
- (9) Original Cases between village parties not triable originally by chiefs - these to be shared with Second Assistant Superintendent, (Mr. Buchhawna).
- (10) Forest Department---disposal of application for issue of cultivation Passes according to Rules - permission for disposal of rotted timber within the terms of the rules. All ordinary papers not involving Policy, Financial settlement or expenditure.
- (11) General Cash Book and Fines Registers.
- (12) Circuit House.
- (13) Police Department.

All duties of an Assistant Superintendent of Police including control of clothing within budget grant - correspondence involving Policy, or expenditure will be under Superintendent's

signature only except in emergency while Superintendent is on tour when action taken may be reported as early as possible.

He will put up all papers re :-

1. Policy.
2. Concession.
3. Punishment.
4. Appointment.

for orders to the Superintendent, Lushai Hills.

Assistant Superintendent - II.

1. Treasury.
 2. Supply of boats.
 3. Postal Department.
 4. Sanitation.
 5. House Tax.
 6. Land Revenue.
 7. Grazing Tax.
 8. Execution suits except Border Meeting cases and Deposit Cash Book.
 9. Weather and crops report.
 10. Civil suits sent to him for disposal.
 11. Checks of all Departments' stamps accounts, monthly with despatch Registers.
 12. All Departments records for annual disposal including general charge of Record Room.
 13. General charge of Forms and Stationary and stores in charge.
 14. Agriculture and Veterinary Department.
- He will put up all papers re :-
1. Policy

2. Concession
3. Punishment
4. Appointment

for orders to the Superintendent, Lushay Hills.

n. **Treasury.**

Order for safe custody of boxes in the Treasury.

Guard.

1. Only Cash boxes authorised in writing by Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh may be kept in the large wooden chest in the Treasury Guard with the exception of Assam Rifles boxes which will be legislated for by the commandant 1st Assam Rifles.

2. Each box kept will be numbered.

3. The boxes permitted till further orders are as follows :--

Box No. 1 P.W.D.

„ „ 2 P.W.D.

„ „ 3 Civil.

„ „ 4 Civil.

„ „ 5 Civil Surgeon.

„ „ 6 Assam Rifles.

4. A list of these boxes will be kept correctly maintained pasted in the lid of the big wooden chest inside. This list will show the only person authorised by the Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh to withdraw respective boxes.

The persons authorised until further orders are as follows :—

- Box No. 1 Babu Janaki Kar
- „ „ 2 Babu Janaki Kar
- „ „ 3 Hmara
- „ „ 4 Hmara
- „ „ 5 S.C. Gupta
- „ „ 6 Subadar Tysing Bhist.

No. 6 is subject to approval of the Commandant. The list will also contain a column giving the signature of these Officers. The names of Officers will be written in the language best understood by Guard Commanders.

Alterations in the list of boxes held by others than the Assam Rifles may only be made on a written order by Sub-Divisional Officer who will give a copy of this order to Officer Commanding Detachment Ist Assam Rifles for communication to the Guard Commander.

5. No box be taken out of the wooden chest without a slip being handed in personally by the Officer named in the list.

6. Procedure to be followed by the Guard Commander subject to approval of Officer Commanding Ist Battalion Assam Rifles and subject to the system working satisfactorily for a month, these orders to apply forthwith :—

A. On receipt of the slip for a box Guard Commander will see if the bearer of the slip is an authorised person.

- B. If authorised he will check the slip signature with the signature on the inside of the wooden chest lid.
If in doubt he can apply to Officer Commanding Detachment or Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh.
- C. If the slip signature tallies with the slip beater in person the bearer may be permitted to withdraw the required box and the Guard Commander should see that the slip produced actually refers to the actual box removed. This is important.
- D. Guard Commander will keep the slip inside the wooden chest as token the box covered thereby has been taken out.

7. The Guard Commander is in no way responsible for contents of boxes but he should refuse any box which shows signs of having been tampered with or which is not locked.

With reference to Government of Assam Finance Department letter No. 3205 dated 16th September 1933 the following procedure will be adopted :—

Pensioners so excused will only be authorised by Superintendent, Lushai Hills by means of District Orders to be recorded in Treasury and General District Order Books. The Lushai Clerk must be informed by the Clerk in charge General Office District Order Book. It will be the duty of the Lushai Clerk to draw attention of Touring Officer the presence of such pensioners whose existence can be verified in

the course of tours. The Accountant Treasury is responsible the existence of each such pensioner is certified by Superintendent personally in the month of December yearly in the Treasury District Order Book.

Circle Interpreters will be responsible for reporting death of any pensioner in their respective circles at once to Superintendent and Treasury Officer to which end Circle Interpreters are responsible for entering in their registers the names of all such pensioners.

o. Officer Recess.

By Government Order Apptt. No. 600/3431 A.P. dated 21.4.1933 recess has been sanctioned in favour of the Superintendent Lushai Hills and Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh.

This recess should be availed whenever possible as the isolated nature of the District operates against a continuity of efficiency unless an Officer insists on arranging that he has a complete annual change.

In the case of sub-divisional Officer, Lungleh it would be advantageous if the conditions of recess were relaxed to permit of a change away from any Government station as the isolation at Lungleh is even worse than at Aijal.

p. Religion in Lushai Hills.

Author The Lushais have taken to Christianity at the hands of the Welsh and London Baptist Missions, Lakher Pioneer Mission and latterly the Salvation Army. Those who

are not Christians remain animists or alternatively usually without any form of worship.

The policy of Government is not to interfere in religion at the hands of the above bodies, who have authority to practise their teaching in the District, unless or until the effects of their teaching call for administrative action to prevent breaches of the peace or the upsetting of any Community.

There are Lushais who from time to time imagine they have authority to interpret the Bible against the recognised leaders of the above Churches. Government is not in a position to undertake the risk involved by an excitable people being subject to the practical demonstrations of immature and literal interpretation of the Bible.

History and incidents have shown that the only policy which has any degree of safety both for the Government and the Law abiding people is to support the responsible leaders of the authorised Churches, while exercising sympathetic consideration of the views of any and all.

From time to time it is necessary to pass repressive orders which should include provisions as follows :—

1. The chief must be made responsible for consulting the Superintendent in the case of any Christian practises which have not the sanction of the appropriate responsible leaders.
2. The European Mission Leaders are responsible for decisions on what practises can

be sanctioned in the name of christianity, subject always to consideration of the possible effects of doubtful sanctions on those persons either within or without their influence.

3. Promiscuous Christian preaching by unauthorised persons must be prohibited by chief acting with the support of the Superintendent, Lushai Hills.
4. Itinerating parties preaching Christianity without sanction from the responsible Church leaders must be prohibited and chiefs made responsible for prevention as well as for the outcome of any slackness or indulgence on their part which might result in a disturbance.
5. The guiding principle is that the Mission are responsible for what goes on in Christian Churches but that a chief is responsible for the safety and protection and good rule of all his people while outside the Churches. Unless and until the Churches take action to disallow and practices which cause the undue excitement of those people they remain responsible for the outcome of their teaching.

q. Relationship between Missions, Lushai Churches and the Administration.

Author. The Missions are hereby sanction of the Government a sanction which to all intents and purposes is irrevocable in the absence of unauthorised undermining of the

administration. Within their authorised activities is included the right to persuade the people to their ways or thinking, religiously. In so far as this is disruption of indigenous Lushai it is counter to Government's desire to preserve indigenous custom. But in so far as the Missions and the Churches have sanction to proceed on these lines Executive Government Officers fully discharge their responsibility if they so advise the people and do all in their power legitimately to prepare the people in such a way that the people will be in a position to weight the pros and cons of proposals with wisdom and intelligence. One way by which Executive Officers can safeguard the people from making unwise decisions is by seeking the Co-operation of the Leaders, European and Lushai, to desist from teaching which would accelerate changes unduly, such as the discouragement of marriage prices or any drastic change in the whole relationship fabric of the people. The approach to effect this protection for the people is best made direct to the European and Church Leaders. The author has always found in them a great willingness to avoid any precipitation of confusion and that the leaders have always evinced a co-operative attitude with the administration and, usually, the wisdom which is borne of a long and intimate contact with the articulate leaders of Lushai, advantages not often enjoyed by transitory District Officers of Government. So long as this happy condition exists the author would deprecate most emphatically

any move, intentionally or unintentionally, by Government Executives to undermine the Executive of the Missions by direct counter propaganda against all that the Missions by their very "casus foederis" stand for. It follows, consequently, that it is up to the European Mission Leaders to control and direct their Lushai Executives on such lines that their approach to the people will be scrupulously free from any subversive influence against the measures which the administration may adopt from time to time.

Let leaders deal direct with leaders and both ensure the strict propriety of their executives. Therein only will lie harmonious working. If the Leaders can not come to an agreement on some subject it is always open to them to refer the matter for decision by higher authority, but where such a line is not taken the author commends the procedure outlined above and one which he has scrupulously followed to the very real advantage of the whole of the people committed to his charge. In dealing with a people easily approachable spiritually, without a culture so established and so firm as to be capable of real resistance to change, materially or spiritually, a zealous executive can go too far in his efforts to save a people from themselves.

In point of fact much as the author might regret that the people have thrown over their indigenous beliefs so easily there can be no two ways about admitting that the people have

received a material benefit and opportunities which would never have been theirs had it not been for the money influence, and care that the supporters of the Missions have put in on behalf of the people. One may not like many of the changes but the administrator is in the difficult position of wondering whether it is justifiable to deny such material advantages, in an ever-changing and condensing world, in order to protect the people from changes and upheavals.

On the whole provided the Missions can take a broad view and extend their energies towards the material uplift of the people, as opposed solely to spiritual demands, without demanding a **too rapid, disruption** of the fundamental of tribal culture and integrity there is no doubt these people would well repay sustained effort and service on the above line to the benefit of the country and humanity at large.

Such specific instructions as Government have issued in relation to the Policy to be followed by District Officers are Contained in the letter of Government conveyed by Commissioner's No. 2680-82 G dated 6.8.1938 which for constant and easy reference is given in full below :---

Copy of letter No. 3348-50 G.S. dated Shillong the 28th July 1938, from J.P. Mills, Esq., I.C.S., Secretary to the Governor of Assam, to the Commissioner, Surma Valley and Hill Division.

I am directed to forward a copy of the proceedings of the Hill Officers' conference

held at Shillong on the 21st July 1937 on the subject of relations between Officials and the Missions working in their jurisdiction and to say that His Excellency the Governor is pleased to approve generally for the excluded areas the principles recommended by the Conference in their resolutions. I am, however, to communicate the following remarks on certain of the resolutions.

Resolution (4) - His Excellency is not prepared to issue orders on this, and will consider each specific case on its merits.

Resolutions (7), (8) and (9) :- It is intended that specific instances should be report to His Excellency the Governor who will decide in each case whether the Home Board of the Mission should be addressed and by whom.

Resolution (10) :- It is not intended that the communal representation tables and rules should be complicated by dividing the Tribal people into two categories - Christians and non-Christians - but simply that in making appointments district officers should remember the need for fairplay and avoidance of discrimination in favour of Christians who may be educationally more advanced.

Memo No. 2680-82 G.

Dated Silchar, the 6th August, 1938

Copy with a copy of the Hill Officer's Conference held at Shillong on the 21st July, 1937, forwarded to the Superintendent, Lushai Hills.

Sd/- G. D. Walker,
Commissioner,
Surma Valley and Hill Division.

Hill Officer's Conference.

Relations with Missions.

On the 21st July 1937 the Hills Officer's Conference discussed the relationship between officials and missions working in their areas.

(1) Resolved unanimously that an attitude of absolute neutrality is essential, and that the utmost care should be taken to avoid giving the impression that Government or its representatives regard any Faith as inferior or superior to any other.

(2) It was recognised that there is an unceasing and inevitable conflict between the Missions, which day in and day out undermine local customs, whether connected with religion or not, and District Officers, who are bound to uphold local customary law. It was recognised that changes must come, but it was strongly emphasized that changes detrimental, ill-considered and premature and frequently demanded by elements which are as vocal as they are unrepresentatives.

Resolved that no change in custom in criminal or civil matters be sanctioned in any excluded area until His Excellency the Governor has approved the change after a full enquiry by the District Officer as to the extent, natural and intensity of the demand for the change.

(3) Resolved that Rule 114 of the Executive Manual be brought to the notice of Officers in Excluded Areas and strictly enforced.

(4) Resolved that since there are Missions in every hill district it is undesirable that any others should be allowed in.

(5) The hill districts when allotted to the various Missions were not as extensive as they are now, and it is not considered advisable that Missions should automatically be allowed to expand their fields as new areas are added. For example the Konyak area added to the Naga Hills in 1913 has not yet been occupied by the American Baptist Mission, and the inhabitants differ widely from those of other parts of the districts and have said definitely that they do not want a Mission. Or again, if a hill area were added to Sadiya Frontier Tract it by no means follows that a mission hitherto permitted to work in the plains should automatically be allowed to work in the hills, where their presence might be bitterly resented.

Resolved that the entry of mission into any area not originally part of a district the list of excluded areas and not at present containing any mission representatives be forbidden except by the express permission of His Excellency the Governor.

(6) Resolved that all missions be asked that, when a polygamist applied for admission to their church, they refuse admission until they are satisfied that adequate provision has been made by the would be convert for the wives he is about to discard.

(7) Numerous instances were cited in which converts have been accepted by local

pastors on grounds so dishonest as to lead to an open scandal.

Resolved that when it comes to the notice of District Officer that a missionary has been misled into accepting a convert on grounds which are scandalous and subversive of all stability that the officer lay his information before the missionary concerned, and, if the missionary declines to take suitable action, that he seek the approval of Government to lay the matter before the Home Board of the Mission.

(8) Resolved that instances of flagrant immorality or scandalous conduct in the guise of Christianity be reported by the District Officer to the Missionary concerned and that, if the Missionary declines to take adequate action, that, with the approval of Government, the matter be reported to the Home Board of the Mission.

(9) Attention was drawn to the practice in certain areas of appointing to paid posts of spiritual supervision men known to the Mission concerned to have been dismissed or discharged from Government service for such offences as embezzlement, falsification of accounts etc. It is well nigh impossible to expect such men to co-operate with Government and the practice is inimical to discipline and good Government.

Resolved that when such cases occur the District Officer should draw the attention of the local Mission authorities to them, and failing satisfaction should seek the permission of

Government to lay the matter before the Home Board.

(10) In some hill districts Christian have a complete or almost complete monopoly of posts, owing chiefly to the fact education is or has been in the hands of Mission who see to it that the sons of non-Christians are converted while they are being educated. The non-Christians are forced into a position of inferiority and made to feel that no one who does not at least profess Christianity has any hope of obtaining a post.

Resolved that District Officers do their utmost to ensure that of the posts at their disposal a number to non-Christians in proportion to their numerical strength in the District.

Sd/- J. P. Mills,
Secretary to the Governor of Assam.

r. Lushai Hills Cottage Industries.

Author. The opportunity for the inauguration of the Industries lay in the gift, inherited by the Lushais from their fathers and their forefathers, of skilled weaving, an art that may less fortunate have today to learn afresh but one in which the Lushais traditionally, almost instinctively, are well versed.

Although the Lushais have possessed this great skill all through the years it has never been possible to divert this into commercial or marketable channels. Before the Industries lies immeasurable scope for placing Lushai

weavers all over the hills in touch with sub distant and hitherto unknown market as Calcutta, Madras, Bombay, even London and America, together with all the ground that such ventures would cover.

The policy recommended and being practised is the development of utility lines, characterised by the beauty that lies in this indigenous Lushai art of weaving. Rather than superimpose imported designs let the Lushais be encouraged to develop indigenous designs in such shapes and fashion as will give opportunity for their self-expression while being readily and suitably adapted to meet market demands on a utility and not only a luxury basis, and at prices in line with the world's domestic markets.

Two main products are being encouraged at the outset of this venture, one rugs and the other table mats. the rugs are the result of an adaptation of indigenous weaving skill to an article which, when reasonably priced, is assured of an extensive and expanding market. The mats give scope for the preservation of indigenous Lushai design translated to an utility article which is in constant demand in the open market. As the people become more industrious and increases production it will be possible to devise and develop many additional lines.

As individuals situated in these Hills are not in a position to obtain markets marketing arrangements are necessary and these include a central buying depot at the Industries Head-

quarters, equipped with packing, clerical, and development facilities. All these functions can best be discharged by a skilled lady capable of holding the confidence of the people while being technically capable of judging and controlling standards of products and maintaining and increasing markets. The book-keeping invoicing, despatching, and correspondence also all call for a high standard of ability.

Prices must be so arranged as to achieve advertisement through sales on only a nominal profit basis on certain important avenues of large offtake, while showing sufficient payability on all other lines to maintain overhead charges and to increase capital for further purchasing. After provision for commission on profits achieved, housing, medical, and leave provision for the Manageress, repayment of any capital borrowed from Government, the creation of adequate reserves later profits should be available for distribution in the form of capital grants to meet the expanding needs of the people in the fields of Welfare, Medical, or social requirements.

Such a price policy will ensure work and profit for the greatest number of Lushai homes while raising sufficient profits to ensure the continued maintenance of the Industries on sound and progressive lines, a situation which will only be possible if the Lushais themselves prove industrious and the Manageress employed is technically capable of the drive, energy, and patience which are inseparable from the requirements for success. The Manageress will be

employed by, and be responsible to the Local Lushai Hills Cottage Industries Committee when this Committee takes over from the original Joint Organisers, who initiated the Industries in May 1936, and found the capital required for meeting staff charges, samples, training expenses both in weaving and in dyeing, and generally caused the production and marketing of these goods which are now in greater demand than the supply. The files in the Industries contain records of most of the progress of the Industries since its initiation.

The advantages which lie within the grasp of Lushai include the following among many others :--

(a) Improvement of material condition of the people by sale of their skill and use of their spare time.

Material conditions can be improved by improvement in housing, keeping of milk and pack cattle, and poultry ; purchases of mosquito nets to ward off fever in the jhums and thus to help to retain good health and power for further industry.

Provision and better use of medicines, warm clothes and spare clothes for changing when returning hot iron hard work to cool, draughty, houses. Acquisition of literature, and improvement in cooking materials etc. Employment of Nurses and Doctors for the safeguard of families.

(b) Rostering a true pride, as opposed to boasting and conceit, in the progress of Lushai and the beauty of Lushai art.

(c) Encouragement of the art of sustained application and the fostering of public dislike of work badly done crooked lines, dirty handling, imitative and insincere production.

(d) Due to C and improvement in character of the whole people and development of a pride and joy in industry rather than the sanction of mischievous talk and waste of good time.

(e) Development of cooperative spirit among the homes of Lushai — all working together for the common success.

(f) The discontinuance of begging as a recognised method of patrimony.

(g) The provision of many activities at which the old or infirm can earn a living honestly by spinning or cleaning cotton and generally helping a skilled worker in return for good or assistance. On no account should the desire for a hurried advance by the Industries and for early spectacular success be permitted to induce "industrialisation" as opposed to the Cottage Industry basis. Industrialisation might result in increased output but this would only be possible by concentrating at some centre a few individuals, working under central supervision for wages. What is desired rather is to keep people happy and contented in their own villages preserving Lushai indigenous life while still

bringing to distant villages the means for enjoying that relief, for which the outside world increasingly looks.

The position of South Lushai Hills is less easy. At the time of writing there is none who is willing or able to take up this exacting work. If success attend the efforts of the North it should be possible to put in a Sub-Manageress in the South, a venture which should be most fruitful for the talent of the South is in no way inferior to that of the North while the poverty is far greater. Until a reliable management can be established in the South all that can be done is to offer all possible facilities to individuals in the South to benefit from the opportunities existing in the North.

SECTION T

Postal

P.M.G.E.B. 1. The Superintendent Lushai and Assam Hills is the authority as Ex-Circle No. Q Officio Superintendent of Post 215 E, dated Offices, Lushai Hills so far as 6.10.1908. the mail lines in the Lushai Hills is concerned, assisted by an Assistant Superintendent, Lushai Hills as Ex-Officio Assistant Superintendent of Post Offices, Lushai Hills at Aijal and also the Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh as Ex-Officio Assistant Superintendent of Post Offices for the Lungleh Sub-Division.

2. The Department consists of the following

establishments and are carrying out their normal business functions :—

- (1) One Clerk who is in charge of the office of the Ex-Officio Superintendent of Post Offices Lushai Hills.
- (2) 3 Mail Overseers in charge of different sections of the lines.
- (3) 68 runners working on the Dwarband-Sairang line, 20 runners on Aijal - Lungleh line and 10 boatmen and 11 runners on the Demagiri - Barkal line.

3. The work of the Ex-Officio Superintendent of Post Offices is mainly in running of the mails in the Lushai Hills Division. And the appointment, punishment etc. of the Mail Overseers and the runners are vested in him by the Director of Post and Telegraphs of India conveyed in Post Master-General Bengal and Assam Circle Calcutta's letter No. Q 215 E dated 6.10.1908 which was reaffirmed in the Postmaster-General Bengal and Assam Circle, Calcutta's letter O.S/A.A. 227 dated 3.5.1938.

4. The policy adopted for the appointment of the runners so far as the Lushai Hills is concerned is to appoint Lushais in all vacancies as far as possible, in accordance with the Postmaster-General, Bengal and Assam Circle, Calcutta's letter No. S 7 dated 25.4.1935 in reply to Superintendent's letter No. 454/I-D dated 12.1. 1935.

5. Appointment of Postman from the rank of runners is under consideration with the Postmaster General, Calcutta but it is clearly

desirable that hard working Lushai should attain Postmanship from runner grade and that Mail Overseers be recruited from Postmen. This chain is eminently suitable for Lushai Hills and the people.

6. The main Post Offices and their staff are under the control of Central Government.

SECTION U. Welfare.

(a) Policy.

Author The standard of living of Lushai is proverbially low and the very method of their living is such as to disclose that in tackling question of Welfare we have to commence at the beginning of things. The only sustained and close contact which the Lushai can have with any manifestations of an advanced standard of hygiene and Welfare lie at the Headquarters of Governments and the Mission at Aijal and Lungleh. But any improvement possible would only touch the fringe of the problem. To create a machinery by which the leaders of progress resident at Aijal or Lungleh can convey to the distant villagers all information of value the system of Village Welfare Committees has been set up operating under the guidance and direction of the Lushai Hills Red Cross District Committee.

The intention is that the Red Cross Committee should operate as far as is possible in accordance with the Society's rules while concentrating in its efforts on stimulating uplift work

by contributing in propaganda work to the vitalising of the Village Welfare Committees.

This District committee should be so arranged as to represent the main leaders within the Lushai Hills from the Government, Missions, and the people so that advice and suggestions to the Village Welfare Committees can be confined to non controversial points on which agreement is unanimous and which are sufficiently topical and appropriate for application to existing village conditions. It is essential that propaganda to Village Welfare Committees should have the full support of all those in responsible positions in the District working for the uplift and Welfare of these interesting people.

The Civil Surgeon should always be accepted as the final technical adviser to the District Red Cross Committee.

There is so much to be done within the Hills in the matter of Welfare which costs no money or need cost no money that it is hoped and believed the Welfare Committees can be moved to do much which can help towards the improvement of fooding, hygienice, health, child welfare, anti-Natal and post Natal care and all the multifarious matters that require attention.

Subscriptions to Village Welfare Committees should be spent within the subscribers jurisdictions until such time as these committees gradually grow in wisdom and strength to such a measure as to be able to raise themselves to the full status of Red Cross organisations. Without spreading Welfare work throughout the isolated stretches of this

extensive District no hope can ever be entertained of recruiting the more go ahead members of the community to the great army of Red Cross workers.

The Village Welfare Committees should be purely voluntary and the measures they decide also voluntarily chosen within the restrictions imposed by the procedure rules, which are given below :---

(b) Village Welfare Committee Procedure.

1. Responsibility for decision whether chief desires to start a Welfare Committee rests primarily with the chief himself who is responsible for the preservation of his people and their general welfare.

2. If he desires to start a Committee he will invite the following :---

Head of the Church

Head of the School

Head of Member of Medical, retired compounder, or non-official doctor

Retired Battalion Pensioner.

2 Hnamchawm men selected by chief but not village officials.

Heads of special Vengs where there are villages with mixed clans.

3. The person represented by the above will then come to a decision if they are agreeable to run a Welfare Committee with these members.

4. This Committee should not carry out any village Welfare measures until they have obtained

sanction from the Lushai Hills District Red Cross Committee. This precaution is necessary to avoid any misdirection.

5. On receipt of a suggestion from the District Red Cross Committee the Committee will decide if it is agreeable to this suggestion- and if they are agreeable to follow out this suggestion personally. If they do so agree the village will be consulted.

6. The village will be consulted at a monthly meeting held in the first week in each month and at this meeting the suggestion will be explained in detail to the villagers. The villagers after hearing all will then be asked to give their consent or register their disapproval at the next following monthly meeting.

7. If the villagers at the next meeting give their consent the suggestion will then and there be adopted and it will be recorded in a village Proceeding Book specially kept for the purpose.

All suggestions adopted will be reported to the Honorary Secretary District Red Cross Committee.

8. No penalty for non-observance is permitted. The observance will be in the spirit of Tlawmn-gaihma only - because the Committee is a welfare or humanity Committee and does not belong specially to the Government, Church, Chief, Medicals or anyone else because members of all these "Pawls" can all die of similar epidemics, can all suffer with the same stomach pains, and can all suffer similar disabilities at birth.

It is for these reasons the village meetings in the first week of each month should be held in the

village streets as the streets are the property of all and not the prerogative of a few.

9. Once a village agrees to a suggestion or a custom any Committee Member who later denies the practices will render himself or herself liable to be requested to leave the Committee.

It is for this reason that Committee Members should only accept suggestions they are themselves determined and desirous of following.

We all desire sincere rejection of fresh ideas rather than insincere acceptance.

10. The Red Cross Committee is composed of the leaders of the Church, Medical, and Government and enjoys the assistance of Ladies, Traders, Chiefs, Church men and many others and there need therefore be little cause for doubt in accepting suggestions made from time to time by this Committee.

1. It is necessary to make clear that the Welfare Committee has no executive power - it is a consultative body only, interested in conveying to the public of the village every information which comes to their hands from the District Red Cross Committee in order to elicit from the public whether they wish to adopt such ideas as village custom to be supported without levy of penalty, in a spirit only of Tlawmn-gaihna.

The executive duties of the chief will remain as before and include in the main, in addition to the Government specific instructions, the following functions :—

1. Discharge of Government order re. porters and urgent matters.

2. Litigations, exclusively.
3. House sites - and village lay out.
4. Supervision of migration.
5. Jhum allotments.
6. Village rates.
7. Punishments.
8. Fires.
9. Epidemics.
10. Chief's tributes and Zawlbuk.
11. Control of gardens.
12. Control of animals.
13. General Village discipline

But chiefs are commended to use the Welfare Committees to enlist support of the village as far as possible in discharging their above executive duties. The chiefs can obtain much advice from these Committees as the Superintendent relies on the advice of his chiefs. But the Welfare Committee are consultative and advisory and their main function is to enlist the support of all the public to measures calculated to sustain the health, wealth, and social standards of the community as a whole. A chief, Pastor, Doctor, Villagers or Superintendent all die of the same diseases and all are vitally interested jointly that humanity should, by co-operative and co-ordinated action, be spared as many of the dangers of this world arising from human negligence, as possible.

12. Subscriptions will not usually be asked for but if collected will be used within the jurisdiction of the Welfare Committees making the collection.

On the other hand subscription from prominent gentleman who wish to help the Red Cross

Society will always be gratefully accepted for organisations cannot subsist without financial help.

13. Welfare Committee members should never advice or suggest a measure to the villagers which they themselves have not firstly agreed among themselves to adopt.

Note on subject of Motor Road within the Lushai Hills.

Marginal It is clearly not possible to discuss the
Note strategic issues involved in any question
Author. concerning the linking of the interior
 of Lushai Hills with the plains in a
publication of this nature, but suffice it to say
that in the opinion of the author the strategic consideration will inevitably become more important even though this may demand an unwelcome re-orientation in relation to this Hills.

Unless it is, at the outset, recognised that a motor road link with the plains is primarily a strategic matter it would hardly be possible to justify any such expenditure on the anticipation to justify any such expenditure of the anticipation of any immediate economic return.

As the results of such a road would depend so much on its location it would be advisable to pursue, superficially, the merits of approach from the Chittagong side and from the Silchar side. It would be necessary to turn to more confidential files to explore more fully the strategic issues involved. But we may now proceed to make points concerning both. But before doing so it is necessary to obser-

ved that these ideas are not very authoritative because up to date there has been very little real examination of any terrain difficulties, chiefly because much of the country is impassable unless cleared by labour, all of which requires funds. It may conceivably be advisable in the course of time to make budget provision for a yearly reconnaissance of possible traces - a process which would have the merit of ensuring that progress, if slow, would lead to the creation of a road over the most suitable line of country.

Points concerning the linking of Lungleh with the plains of Bengal.

To attempt to perpetuate communication with Bengal by the present line via Demagiri would be inadvisable in the opinion of the author. The road connection Lungleh-Demagiri involves negotiation of four very unreliable rivers involving at least three considerable bridges which it would not be too easy to secure flood ravages—and all to reach Demagiri, from where a river connection downwards would lead to Rangamati—involving always a length of river liable to overpowering floods.

If it were possible to negotiate these rivers nearer their sources aiming at a more southerly line to reach, say Borkal, there might be something to be said for the approach. But even so from Borkal the same river has to be tackled when it is bigger and quite frequently in the rain launches cannot face up to flood waters.

This river it will be seen from the map is the Karnaphuli.

Alternatively if some line could be found to approach Rangamati from an easterly or south-easterly direction then the link would be most promising. But the author fears that this country which includes the Uiphum Ranges, will prove unnegotiable - for it goes as through so much dense and rocky terrain that it has not up to date been possible to get settlers to attempt opening it up and cultivating it.

The outlook then is pretty dismal - and, frankly the author thinks it is. Desultory efforts, without of course incurring any labour costs, have been made on the author's own initiative to try to ascertain what hopes exist, and reports have always so far been quite discouraging.

This link has the objection further that approach to Lungleh would always be from the Chittagong side a base situated within Bengal, another province - and it would operate through another hill area, the Chittagong Hill Tracts - and at best would always be dependent on the unbroken service of a bridge or ferry at the point where Rangamati is separated by the Karnaphuli from the Lushai approach line.

Moreover, this line would perforce have to penetrate much low and unhealthy ground - even now very sparsely inhabited on this account. Sandflies, insects, and every kind of tribulation to man exist - and the approach would by the very terrain be one of constant ups and downs against a continuous line of ridges running

North and South and directly counter to the line along which it would be desired to create the road.

Thus certainly from a trade and economic point of view as well as constructional there is nothing to be said for such an approach. Moreover, if every such a road were launched it would serve only one third of the district as against the two thirds that remain further North and which are contiguous to two Indian States, Tripura and Manipur, and an area which incidentally is contiguous to Assam's own territory, Silchar. It might now be as well to turn to others obvious alternative viz. the connection of Aijal with the plains of Assam.

Aijal - Silchar Motor Road.

For sheer simplicity of construction this line probably presents one of the most simple propositions for creation and maintenance which could be hoped for in any enterprise involving a penetration into a hill area from the Plains. In fact a detailed trace has been fully prepared up to Kolasib stringing the Rengte Ridge at mile 68 on the present bridle path from the direction of Boga Bazar - which is connected with Silchar by an odd 20 miles of road - at present Local Board specification.

The continuance from Kolasib, towards Aijal is probably comparatively more simple - if more rocky.

It is unlikely that anything more than perhaps 1 small bridge, at the most 2, would be

necessary along this whole stretch Aijal to the plains, about 80 odd miles.

Once the hills are reached there are no hills so high above the likely trace to cause constant wash outs and slips, which means that one could look forward with reasonable certainty to a very cheap form of maintenance.

We have it then that constructionally this line is almost a Providence sent gift to the hills.

The line would give direct contact with the plains of Silchar a district of Assam capable of supply from Assam via the Hills section of the Assam Bengal Railway, the Sylhet side, Calcutta by rail or steamer, and Chittagong. The very presence of such a road would, in itself, secure almost two thirds of the District for traders are not going to quarrel with their bread and butter. Mails to Lungleh could be delivered to Lungleh via Aijal with greater reliability and speed than is now the case from Chittagong. If mails can thus be supplied more quickly it can be taken that it would be sound in every way to reckon on being able to reach Lungleh from Aijal as quickly as from the Chittagong side, with the additional advantage that between Lungleh and Aijal there is no natural obstacle of any serious dimensions.

Moreover, the line would penetrate through higher country at present well populated—would fit in with Aijal, the largest and most familiar market, and would in time result in a not inconsiderable export market for oranges, potatoes, chillies, sesamum, cotton manufactures, pine-

apples and many things of constant demand in the plains.

This line would also have as a second string, one which by the way does not exist in the case of the Lungleh to Rangamati possibilities, viz., the Dhaleswari River. It might be as well here to consider this matter of the Dhaleswari River.

Dhaleswari or Tlawng river.

The river is, with difficulty, navigable up to Sairang connected to Aijal by a stretch of 13 miles of gravelled road, which with some expenditure could be converted into a Motor Road.

Ten miles down the river is a place Changsil. Between Sairang and Changsil are very serious rapids, rapids which involve accidents of varying natures and gravity each year. Below Changsil the river is fairly clear, but for drought periods which occur yearly navigation here even if difficult. Only below Guturmukh the river frequently gets so low as to be hardly negotiable.

The river then is a patchy affair. To be of any solid value, therefore, in the general scheme of things we have to visualise a road running out northwards from Aijal and ambling in the direction of Guturmukh from whence it might be possible to speed up, at least during the rains, but not in the cold weather, by the use of motor boats to the rail head Lalaghat. But subject to proper reconnaissance, any such ideas appear to the author to be a purely academic proposition. The Dhaleswari river accepts

the whole of the run off from the main Rengte Ridge right up to Aijal, and beyond, for that matter. The terrain near the river is interrupted by gullies and fast wash outs—in some cases steep precipices and along is low land dominated by the main ridges. Instinctively one is prejudiced against such country when it comes to the making of permanent line of communication. The map bears out what can be seen by the eye and what has in research been found broadly to be the case.

Even if we reach the rail head are we much further on?—that is if it has involved a transshipment into a motor launch and from the launch into a branch launch train, when by a car direct to Silchar one manhandling can deliver all goods and passengers to the main line direct.

We can, I think, at best hold that the river is a useful second string to a motor road to Aijal, and follows country so situated that for so long as there was no difficulty in the approach to Aijal there would be no human difficulty in the approach to Sairang.

General

One realises only too well the difficulties and disappointments which a motor road would bring to Lushai, but as one who has been responsible for the administrative machine the author considers that there is the analogy of the father or mother of the son who would often do all in their power to preserve their son from

the evil and ravages of the world. Where this has been attempted it has usually been found that in their undue solicitude the parents have brought ruin on the son, due to his complete unpreparedness for things to come. In this lies the moral. After many years of doubt the author has come to the firm conclusion that one can not stem the tide of changes and that as an administrative his chief duty is to convey to the people his support of all that is indigenous theirs within the ordinary tenets of what Government condones and to create machinery which will enable the people of the land to progress on a firm natural basis in such a way that when they were faced with the instructions of a more facile culture they will have such strength and belief in their own institutions that they will be able to sort out the good from evil.

On this account the author considers that there is nothing to be said against a motor road to Aijal from the plains of Silchar. He would like to be able to that the people would be his to lead up to the standard of integrity and efficiency which is so desirable. But when one comes to consider the problem it is clear that such ideas are purely theoretical for after all it will be only from the lessons, the heart-burnings of disappointments, the failure of business deals, the shattering of the teachings they hold so dear that the Lushais will ever

develop the strength which will be their making. The alternative is too dismal to contemplate till all is threatened.

Finance.

Having found without doubt that the road is really necessary, unavoidable, and in many ways desirable there remains but finance. The author has always felt that responsibility for finance should lie apportioned between.

The Government of India, on strategic grounds The Petrol Board, as such a road would not compete with a Railway, would open up new country, would encourage petrol consumption.

The Government of Assam, for a minor share in recognition of the solicitude of the Government for the people of the excluded areas and on provincial development account their contribution taking the shape of savings from the removal of the Battalion which would not be wholly necessary if Aijal was linked by road to the Plains.

The first two should clearly be the prime movers as regards finance.

Chakma Settlement in South Lushai Hills.

The following principles will be observed in dealing with Chakma (and Tripura) settlement and best is in the South Lushai Hills.

(i) Owing to the large number of Chakmas now settled in the South Lushai Hills, most of whom have considerable families, no further applications for settlement will be considered but for the most exceptional reasons.

(ii) Passes for new separate houses will be considered except where the applicant is

(a) the grown-up married son of a Chakma who has been settled for at least ten years in the Lushai Hills.

(b) the grown-up married grandson of such settler.

In both these cases the applicant himself must also be a permanent resident of the Lushai Hills. Passes for daughters will not be considered. If those marry outside Chakmas, they must go to their husbands' villages. If they marry Lushai Chakmas the husband will be covered by the rules above.

(iii) The site of each Chakma basti will be decided by the chief in consultation with the karbari and will be reported to the Circle Interpreter. This site will not be changed without permission from the Sub-Divisional Officer, or Superintendent. The name of the karbari with the location of the basti will be reported for record in this office.

(iv) The basti shall consist of not less than 15 houses which are to be concentrated in a village site, or along a lane which shall not be more than half a mile long. No dwelling houses shall be built outside this site other than jhum houses, granaries etc.

(v) The Chakmas will make and maintain throughout the year a foot-path from their basti to the chief's village.

(vi) The rules about cutting jhums on the river banks will be strictly observed and orders from this office will be obtained before any departure is made from these rules.

(vii) Chiefs will be responsible for the general control of Chakmas in their ram. They will normally work through the karbari, who will be removable on the recommendation of the chief if he found to be either ineffective or of bad character.

(viii) Mass movement of a whole or the large part of a basti from one chief's ram to another will require the sanction of the Sub-Divisional Officer or Superintendent. Individual perming of houses and families will be allowed as in Lushai villages.

Dated Lungleh,
The 21st March, '44.

Sd/- E. S. Hyde,
Superintendent,
South Lushai Hills, Lungleh.

Copy to Supdt. L. Hills vide No. 173D/C/III-19
of 22.3.44