

## Appendix G.

### REPORT OF THE REGISTRAR OF THE SUPREME COURT FOR THE YEAR 1926.

#### 1.—ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

Five hundred and fifteen (515) actions were instituted in this division of the Court during the year 1926, as against 650 in 1925. Two hundred and eighty three (283) were disposed of during the year and 95 were settled or withdrawn before trial as against 263 and 104 respectively in 1925.

The claims amounted to \$7,383,659.55 (not including nine amounts in foreign currency to the approximate value of \$214,881.00).

The debts and damages recovered, including amounts converted from foreign currencies into Hong Kong dollars, amounted to \$4,459,824.74 as against \$2,358,349.51.

The fees collected amounted to \$20,605.75 as against \$22,931.70 in 1925.

Tables setting out in detail the figures contained in this and the following paragraphs are printed at pages 01, 02, Y2 and Y3 of the Blue Book for the year 1926.

#### 2.—SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

Two thousand nine hundred and one (2,901) actions were instituted during the year as against 3,171 in 1925.

The cases were disposed of as follows:—Settled or withdrawn 867, Judgment for the Plaintiff 1,342, Judgment for the Defendant 71, Nonsuit 18, Struck off, Dismissed, or Lapsed 54 and Pending 549; as against 950, 1,328, 48, 25, 72 and 748 respectively in 1925.

The claims amounted to \$728,417.75 as against \$784,383.51 in 1925, and the amounts recovered were \$353,745.39 as against \$353,052.31 in 1925.

The number of Rent Distress Warrants issued was 1,623 representing unpaid rents amounting to \$437,268.48, of which \$128,283.06 were recovered, as against 1,644, \$311,361.95 and \$77,138.04 respectively in 1925.

One thousand and sixty (1,060) Warrants were withdrawn on settlement between the parties as against 950 in 1925.

The fees collected amounted to \$28,253.60 as against \$29,302.25 in 1925.

### 3.—CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

There were 73 cases and 118 persons committed for trial at the Criminal Sessions, as against 148 and 190 respectively in 1925.

The number of the persons actually indicted was 118 of whom 74 were convicted and 18 were acquitted. Against 25 persons the case was abandoned. One person was found insane. In 1925 the figures were respectively 190, 141, 32 and 16.

### 4.—APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

Eleven Appeals were lodged during the year.

Of the Eleven, one was dismissed, two were granted, two are pending and the remaining six were withdrawn or settled.

### 5.—ADMIRALTY JURISDICTION.

Thirteen actions were instituted during the year.

Two were tried, nine were settled and the others are pending.

The fees collected amounted to \$612.25 as against \$1,876.65 in 1925.

### 6.—BANKRUPTCY JURISDICTION.

Fifty six (56) petitions were filed, 35 being creditors' petitions and 21 debtors' petitions. The figures for 1925 were respectively 45, 20 and 25.

The number of Receiving Orders made was 37, being 26 on creditors' petitions and 11 on debtors' petitions. The figures for 1925 were respectively 26, 10, 16.

The number of Public Examinations held was 19 as against 2 in 1925. There were 37 Adjudications as against 10 in 1925.

There were 3 Schemes of Arrangement. Two petitions were withdrawn, one bankrupt obtained his discharge, 1 Receiving Order was rescinded, 16 petitions were dismissed, and no adjudication annulled.

The estimated assets, in cases where Receiving Orders were made and not subsequently rescinded, were \$644,739.00 and the estimated liabilities \$1,645,327.00 as against \$1,058,303.54 and \$3,196,166.54 respectively in 1925.

The fees collected amounted to \$5,103.75 as against \$2,675.20 in 1925 and the Official Receiver's Commission as Trustee, where no Trustee had been appointed by the Creditors, was \$7,837.43 as against \$3,373.58 in 1925.

#### 7.—PROBATE AND ADMINISTRATION.

Two hundred and seventy three (273) grants were made by the Court being:—

Probate .....	120
Letters of Administration .....	152
Declarations for Commissioner .....	1
	<hr/>
	273
	<hr/> <hr/>

The figures in 1925 were respectively 124, 116 and 3, total 243.

Court fees amounted to \$22,225.15 and Official Administrator's Commission to \$3,119.99. The figures in 1925 were respectively \$33,956.95 and \$1,736.83.

There were 139 Estates vested in or administered by the Official Administrator during the year, representing an aggregate value of \$103,962.31. The figures for 1925 were respectively, 122 and \$124,616.47.

Twenty seven (27) Estates were wound up during the year of the total value of \$38,987.61 as against 26 in 1925 of the total value of \$16,046.21.

Forty four (44) new accounts were opened during the year amounting to \$18,333.45.

#### 8.—OFFICIAL TRUSTS.

The number of Trust Estates in the hands of the Official Trustee at the end of 1926 was 21 with Trust Funds amounting to \$84,427.62. In 1925 it was 20. No trust was wound up during the year, and one new trust was opened.

The amount of commission collected was \$81.34 as against \$107.89 in 1925.

9.--REGISTRAR OF COMPANIES.

On the 31st December there were 497 companies on the Hong Kong Register, of which 58 were in course of liquidation. During the year 38 new companies were put on the Register and 44 struck off. One company was transferred from Shanghai to the Hong Kong Register and no company from Hong Kong to the Shanghai Register.

The fees collected in respect of "China" companies amounted to \$122,479.13, and those in respect of other companies to \$11,305.00.

One firm was registered under the Chinese Limited Partnership Ordinance, 1911, and no firm under the Limited Partnership Ordinance, No. 18 of 1912, was registered.

Deposits of the total value of \$3,935,000 have been made by Insurance Companies under the Fire and Marine Insurance Companies Deposit Ordinance, 1917.

10.--FEES AND COMMISSION.

The total sum collected during the year by way of fees and commission amounted to \$117,252.61 as against \$121,606.21 in the previous year.

11.--STAFF.

Mr. J. V. Dodd was appointed Interpreter as from 1st January.

HUGH A. NISBET,

*Registrar, Supreme Court.*

26th July, 1927.

Table showing total number of Cases dealt with and Expenditure and Revenue of the Supreme Court.

(From 1916 to 1926).

Year.	Total Number of cases dealt with	Expenditure		Revenue		Percentage of Revenue to Expenditure
		Total	Increase	Total	Increase	
1916	753	\$ 105,252.44	...	\$ 56,719.68	...	53.88
1917	764	99,662.88	...	*48,334.81	...	48.48
1918	931	98,281.40	...	*68,032.72	19,697.91	69.22
1919	982	98,844.23	562.83	*61,305.87	...	62.02
1920	872	113,082.79	14,238.56	*55,957.31	...	49.48
1921	851	118,782.72	5,699.93	*58,830.97	2,873.66	49.52
1922	827	126,424.34	7,641.62	*60,448.59	1,617.62	47.83
1923	962	128,838.62	2,414.28	*69,955.20	9,506.61	54.29
1924	1,549	136,136.69	7,298.07	*89,624.99	19,669.79	65.83
1925	1,908	150,698.14	14,561.45	*121,606.20	31,981.21	80.70
1926	3,416	133,680.40	...	*117,252.61	...	87.71
				\$ 17,017.74	4,353.59	

\*Not including amounts paid direct to Treasury for fees in respect of Licences to keep Local Registers and China Companies Fees by the Registrar of Companies under the Companies Ordinances, 1911 and 1925.