

LEAGUE OF NATIONS

Communicated to the  
Council and the Members  
of the League.

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(O.C./A.R.1944/40)  
(Issued in English only)

Geneva, October 24th, 1945.

TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS.

ANNUAL REPORTS BY GOVERNMENTS FOR 1944.

J A M A I C A.

Communicated by the Government of the United Kingdom.

Note by the Acting Secretary-General.

In accordance with Article 21 of the Convention of 1931 for limiting the Manufacture and regulating the Distribution of Narcotic Drugs, the Acting Secretary-General has the honour to communicate the above-mentioned report to the parties to the Convention. The report is also communicated to other States and to the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and other Dangerous Drugs.

(For the form of annual reports, see document O.C.1600).

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A. GENERAL.

I. Laws and Publications.

1. There were no new laws, orders or regulations during the year 1944.
2. None.
3. None.

II. Administration.

- 1.(a) None.  
(b) None.  
(c) No difficulties encountered.
2. None.

III. Control of International Trade.

1. The import certificate system is working satisfactorily. There were no difficulties.
2. No changes.
- 3, 5, 6, 7, 8. None.
4. Not an exporting country.

IV. International Co-operation.

1. and 2. None.

V. Illicit Traffic.

1. Please see information given hereunder also under 12. There has been no illicit traffic in dangerous drugs during 1944 so far as is known.
2. The opium poppy and coca plant are not cultivated in the Island. The plant Cannabis sativa is illicitly grown more or less in eight out of the fourteen parishes in Jamaica. Owing, however, to the vigilance of the police and the heavy fines imposed when persons are found cultivating the plant, or in possession of ganga, the cultivation is carried on mostly in isolated places, difficult of access and outside the usual beat of the police. The cultivation being prohibited by law, no reliable estimate of the quantity can possibly be given.

Suspected cultivations are raided by the police under warrants, the ganga is destroyed and the parties are arrested and brought before the Court. It frequently happens, however, that, when the police succeed in discovering the cultivations, they cannot find who is responsible for planting as the cultivation is on Crown lands and waste spaces, so that all that they can do in such cases is to destroy the cultivations.

3. There were 283 prosecutions and 282 convictions for illegal possession and cultivation of ganga; fines amounting to £ 278 were imposed. There were two prosecutions and two convictions with regard to opium; fines amounting to £ 40 were imposed.

The fines imposed ranged from £1-1-0 to £60: accused had the option between being sentenced to a fine or to imprisonment for terms varying from ten days to two years. In the majority of instances the fines were not paid. All quantities confiscated were burnt, except in cases still undisposed of.

The occupations of the accused varied from the labouring classes to cultivators and tradesmen.

4. There were not important cases.
5. None.

VI. Other information.

None. The traffic is prohibited by law, and no information of any value can be given.

B. RAW MATERIALS.

VII. Raw Opium. VIII. Coca Leaf.

The opium poppy is not cultivated, nor is Jamaica a coca producing country.

IX. Indian Hemp.

- 1 - 4. Please see information given under V (2).
5. No preparations manufactured.
6. Tincture and extract are in use. The consumption is about two kilogrammes per year of the tincture and one ounce of the extract.
7. and 8. None.

C. MANUFACTURED DRUGS.

X. Internal Control of Manufactured Drugs.

1. Not a manufacturing country.
2. No change. Import permits and local permits to withdraw are working satisfactorily.
3. Not a manufacturing country.
- 4(a) Medical practitioners, dentists, veterinary surgeons and druggists. No manufacturing firms.  
(b) At present supervision of druggists only. Narcotic drugs are stored in locked cupboards and examined yearly. There are eight wholesalers who employ druggists. A record of the consumption is kept and is examined quarterly. The books of all druggists keeping dangerous drugs are examined yearly.

D. OTHER QUESTIONS.

XI. Chapter IV of the Hague Convention of 1912.

No trade with China.

XII. Prepared opium.

- 1(a) Opium smoking is not practised by the native population.  
(b) It has not been found possible completely to suppress opium smoking among the alien Chinese population. Smoking of prepared opium and ganga is prohibited, but is carried on in private premises and successful raids by the police are very difficult. Opium and ganga smoking are confined to alien Chinese and East Indians and as immigration of these has now stopped, the smoking habit will practically disappear with the present generation.
2. Offenders are tried under the Dangerous Drugs Law. Premises are raided under warrant. Utensils, etc. are confiscated and users are arrested and brought before the Court.  
Number of prosecutions, convictions, etc. appears under V (3).
3. None.
4. No confiscations.

XIII. Other Drugs.

None.