

Communicated to the
Council and the Members
of the League.

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Geneva, December 7th, 1944.

TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS.

ANNUAL REPORTS BY GOVERNMENTS FOR 1942.

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.)

A. GENERAL.

I. Laws and Publications.

The Dangerous Drugs Law 1942. Law 22 of 1942. There were no new orders or regulations during the year.

III. Control of International Trade.

1. The import certificate system is working satisfactorily. There were no difficulties.

4. Not an exporting country.

V. Illicit Traffic.

1. There has been no illicit traffic in dangerous drugs during 1942, as far as is known.

2. Opium poppy and the coca plant are not cultivated in the Island. The plant Cannabis sativa is illicitly grown, more or less, in eight 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 done 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 505 prosecutions and 410 convictions for illegal possession and cultivation of ganga, and fines amounting to £527.16.0 were imposed. There were no prosecutions, convictions or fines with regard to opium.

The fines imposed ranged from £1.1.0 to £60 and were alternatives to sentences varying from 10 days' to 2 years' imprisonment. 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 those of the labouring classes to those of cultivators and tradesmen.

4. There were no important cases.

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. See information given under V.2.

5. No preparations are manufactured.

6. Tincture and extract are in use. The consumption is about four kilogrammes per year of the tincture and one ounce (28.4 grammes) of the extract.

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 8 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.

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 go 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.

4. No confiscations.
